

Vehicle Safety Questions – Show Me / Tell Me

Combination	Show / Tell	Question	Answer
1	Show	Show me how you would check that the direction indicators are working.	Apply the indicators or the hazard warning switch and check the functioning of all the indicators. (You may need to switch on the ignition, do not start the engine).
1	Tell	Tell me how you would check that the breaks are working before starting a journey.	Brakes should not feel spongy or slack. Brakes should be tested as you set off. Vehicle should not pull to one side.
2	Show	Show me how you would check that the brake lights are working on this car. (I can assist you, if you need to switch the ignition on, please do not start the engine).	Operate the brake pedal, make use of reflections in windows, garage doors, etc – or ask someone to help, i.e stand at the rear of vehicle and check functioning of the lights.
2	Tell	Open the bonnet. Identify where the windscreen washer reservoir is, and tell me how you would check the windscreen washer level.	Identify where the reservoir is and explain how the level should be checked.
3	Show	Show me / explain how you would check that the power assisted steering is working before starting a Journey.	Before starting a journey, two checks can be made – 1. Gentle pressure maintained on the steering wheel while the engine is started will result in a slight but noticeable movement as the system begins to operate. 2. Turning the steering wheel just after moving off will give an immediate indication whether the power assistance is functioning. If the steering becomes heavy the system may not be working.

3	Tell	Tell me where you would find the information for the recommended tyre pressures for this car and how the tyre pressures should be checked.	Information is in the manufacturer's guide. Use a reliable pressure gauge. Check and adjust pressure when the tyres are cold. Don't forget the spare wheel. Remember to refit the valve caps.
4	Show	Show me how you would check the parking brake (handbrake) for excessive wear. Make sure you keep safe control of the vehicle,	Apply the footbrake firmly. Release and re-apply the parking brake (handbrake) so that when it is fully applied it secures itself, and is not at the end of its working travel.
4	Tell	Open the bonnet. Identify where the windscreen washer reservoir is, and tell me how you would check the windscreen washer level.	Identify where the reservoir is and explain how the level should be checked.
5	Show	Open the bonnet. Identify where you would check the engine oil level and tell me how you would check that the engine has sufficient oil.	Identify the dipstick / oil level indicator, describe check of oil against the minimum / maximum markers.
5	Tell	Tell me where you would find the information for the recommended tyre pressures for this car and how the tyre pressures should be checked.	Information is in the manufacturer's guide. Use a reliable pressure gauge. Check and adjust pressure when the tyres are cold. Don't forget the spare wheel. Remember to refit the valve caps.
6	Show	Open the bonnet. Identify where you would check the engine coolant level and tell me how you would check that the engine has the correct level.	Identify minimum / maximum markings on the header tank where fitted or radiator filler cap, and describe how to top up to the correct level.
6	Tell	Tell me how you would make sure that your head restraint is correctly adjusted so that it provides the best	The head restraint should be adjusted so that the rigid part of the head restraint is at least as high as

			protection in the event of a crash.	the eyes or top of the ears, and as close to the back of the head as is possible. N.B. Some restraints might not be adjustable.
7	Show		Open the bonnet. Identify where the brake fluid reservoir is and tell me how you would check that you have a safe level of hydraulic brake fluid.	Identify reservoir, check the level against the minimum / maximum markers.
7	Tell		Tell me how you would check the tyres to ensure that they have sufficient tread depth and that their general condition is safe to use on the road.	Not cuts and bulges around the walls of the tyre. At least 1.6mm of tread depth across the central ¾ of the breadth of the tyre and around the entire outer circumference.
8	Show		Show me how you would check that the horn is working (off road only).	Check is carried out by demonstrating the horn (turn on ignition if necessary).
8	Tell		Tell me how you would check the tyres to ensure that they have sufficient tread depth and that their general condition is safe to use on the road.	Not cuts and bulges around the walls of the tyre. At least 1.6mm of tread depth across the central ¾ of the breadth of the tyre and around the entire outer circumference.
9	Show		Show me how you would clean the windscreen using the windscreen washer and wipers.	Operate the control to wash and wipe the windscreen (turn ignition on if necessary).
9	Tell		Tell me how you would check that the breaks are working before starting a journey.	Brakes should not feel spongy or slack. Brakes should be tested as you set off. Vehicle should not pull to one side.
10	Show		Show me how you would set the demister controls to clear all the windows effectively, this should include both the front and rear	Set all the relevant controls; including, fan, temperature, air direction / source and heated screen where applicable. Engine does not

		screens.	have to be started for this demonstration.
10	Tell	Tell me how you would check that the headlights and taillights are working (no need to exit the vehicle).	Turn on ignition if necessary. Operate switch, then walk around the vehicle to check lights. (As it's a tell question there is no need to physically check the lights).
11	Show	Show me how you would switch on the rear for light(s) and explain when you would it / them (no need to exit the vehicle).	Turn on ignition and dipped headlights if necessary. Operate the switch. Check the warning light is on. Explain use.
11	Tell	Tell me how you would know if there was a problem with your anti lock braking system.	A warning light should illuminate if there is a problem with your anti lock braking system.
12	Show	Show me how you would check that the brake lights are working on this car. (I can assist you, if you need to switch the ignition on, please do not start the engine).	Operate the brake pedal, make use of reflections in windows, garage doors, etc – or ask someone to help, i.e stand at the rear of vehicle and check functioning of the lights.
12	Tell	Tell me how you would check that the headlights and taillights are working (no need to exit the vehicle).	Turn on ignition if necessary. Operate switch, then walk around the vehicle to check lights. (As it's a tell question there is no need to physically check the lights).
13	Show	Show me how you would switch your headlight from dipped to main beam and explain how you would know the main beam is on whilst inside the car.	Turn on ignition or engine if necessary. Operate the switch. Check the main beam warning light.
13	Tell	Tell me how you would know if there was a problem with your anti lock braking system.	A warning light should illuminate if there is a problem with your anti lock braking system.