



UK PCV Bus Theory Prep

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Practice Questions

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1. A police officer stops a bus driver and requests production of their driving licence and Driver Qualification Card (DQC). The driver does not have them in the vehicle. The officer issues a HORT/1 form. Within what timeframe must the driver produce these documents at a police station?

- A. 5 working days
- B. 14 calendar days
- C. Before the HORT/1 expires
- D. 7 days

2. A driver's current DQC is valid until September 2026. They complete their required 35 hours of periodic training in June 2025, which is 15 months before the current card expires. When will the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency (DVSA) issue the new DQC?

- A. Nearer the current expiry date
- B. Immediately after the final course
- C. Within 20 days of course completion
- D. Upon payment of the renewal fee

3. During a roadside inspection, a driver does not have a hard copy of their insurance certificate. They offer to show the officer the certificate on their smartphone via their employer's web portal. Why might this be considered insufficient?

- A. Only watermarked paper is accepted
- B. The officer cannot check the registration
- C. It may not satisfy legal production rules
- D. Smartphones are banned during inspections

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4. A driver's DQC expired on the 10th of the month. They are stopped at a roadside check on the 15th of the same month. Using standard exclusive counting (excluding the expiry date itself), for how many days has the card been invalid?

- A. Exactly 6 days
- B. About 4 days
- C. At least 7 days
- D. Nearly 3 days

5. A professional driver is stopped and found to be driving a bus without a valid Driver Qualification Card (DQC) and is unable to produce their driving licence. What is the likely immediate penalty for the DQC offence?

- A. Automatic disqualification from driving
- B. A fixed penalty notice
- C. Permanent revocation of PCV entitlement
- D. Immediate custodial sentence

6. A driver loses their Driver Qualification Card (DQC). They successfully report the loss to the DVSA and pay the required fee for a replacement. When are they legally permitted to resume professional driving?

- A. After a mandatory 7-day wait
- B. Upon receipt of the cover letter
- C. When the employer verifies the status
- D. Immediately upon application

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7. You have applied for a replacement Driver Qualification Card (DQC) but it has not arrived. According to DVSA guidance, how many days must you allow for delivery before the card is considered lost in the post?

- A. 20 days
- B. 10 working days
- C. 15 calendar days
- D. 5 business days



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8. A driver is assigned to drive a coach on an international tour. They hold a valid PCV licence and Driver Qualification Card (DQC). However, their passport expires in two months, and the destination country requires at least six months' validity upon entry. What is the legal position?

- A. They can drive because their PCV licence is valid
- B. They can drive if they carry a full birth certificate
- C. They cannot undertake the journey
- D. They can drive provided they remain with the vehicle

9. A qualified mechanic is driving a bus on a public road solely to test the braking system after repairs. The vehicle is not carrying passengers. Which statement is true regarding the Driver Qualification Card (DQC)?

- A. A DQC must be carried for any PCV driving
- B. The mechanic must hold a DQC but need not carry it
- C. A temporary DQC must be obtained from the employer
- D. The tachograph record exempts the driver from holding a DQC

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10. A driver completes their final 7 hours of Periodic Training on a Saturday. Their current DQC expires the following day, Sunday. The training provider does not upload the course data until Tuesday. What is the driver's legal status to drive professionally on Monday?

- A. They have a seven-day grace period to receive the card
- B. They cannot legally drive
- C. They can drive as training was finished before expiry
- D. They can drive provided they carry the course certificate

11. A driver is issued a fixed penalty for a drivers' hours offence. They notice the fine amount is different from a colleague's fine for a similar type of breach. What is the primary reason for this variation?

- A. Discretion of the enforcement officer
- B. Gross vehicle weight of the coach
- C. Nationality of the driving licence held
- D. Severity of the offence



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12. A police officer stops a coach and requests to see the vehicle's MOT certificate. The driver does not have the document on board. What is the standard legal requirement in this situation?

- A. Produce it within 7 days
- B. Fax a copy to the operator within 24 hours
- C. Immediately present a digital copy at the roadside
- D. Surrender the vehicle until the document is found

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13. A driver's DQC expires on 1 September 2025. They complete their 35 hours of Periodic Training on 1 August 2024. When will the replacement DQC be issued?

- A. Exactly six months before the expiry date
- B. On the first day of the following month
- C. Nearer the current card's expiry
- D. Immediately upon completion of the training

14. A professional driver has lost their Driver Qualification Card (DQC). Under what specific condition are they legally permitted to continue driving while waiting for the replacement?

- A. Immediately after notifying their employer
- B. As soon as they book an appointment
- C. Only after receiving a temporary receipt
- D. Once a police reference number is issued

15. A coach driver is preparing for a journey to a non-EU country. In addition to a valid PCV licence and Driver Qualification Card (DQC), which document might be specifically required for the driver to carry?

- A. The driver's original birth certificate
- B. International Driving Permit
- C. A certified copy of the operator's licence
- D. The original vehicle registration document

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16. A driver is stopped at a roadside check and asked to produce their Driver Qualification Card (DQC). They offer to show a clear photograph of the card on their smartphone. How is this regarded by enforcement officers?

- A. It is valid if accompanied by a photo licence
- B. It is accepted if the QR code is scannable
- C. It is valid for domestic journeys only
- D. It is not accepted as valid

17. A PCV driver's DQC expired on 10th March. They are stopped at a roadside check on 15th March. How many days is the card overdue?

- A. 5 days
- B. 7 days
- C. 4 days
- D. 6 days

18. A driver is stopped at a roadside check and cannot produce their Driver Qualification Card (DQC) or driving licence immediately. If the officer decides not to issue a fixed penalty on the spot, what is the standard procedural requirement?

- A. Immediate payment of a deposit fine
- B. Scanning and uploading to the portal
- C. Production at a local police station
- D. Submission by post to the DVSA office

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19. A driver has successfully completed their 35 hours of periodic training, but the new Driver Qualification Card (DQC) has not yet arrived. Is the driver legally permitted to drive professionally during this interim period?

- A. No, they must wait for the physical card
- B. Only if they carry the course certificates
- C. Only with a written exemption from the DVSA
- D. Yes, but only for domestic UK journeys



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20. During a roadside inspection, a Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency (DVSA) examiner asks to see the documents that you are personally required to hold. Which of the following falls into this category?

- A. Vehicle insurance policy document
- B. Driver Qualification Card
- C. Vehicle registration certificate
- D. Operator's maintenance records

21. A driver moves house but fails to update the address on their driving licence. They subsequently complete their periodic training, triggering the automatic issue of a new Driver Qualification Card (DQC). What is the likely consequence?

- A. A penalty fee is charged for redirection
- B. The training hours are declared invalid
- C. The licence is suspended pending update
- D. The card is mailed to the wrong address

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22. Enforcement officers stop a driver who has committed a traffic offence. If the driver cannot provide a satisfactory UK address for the service of a summons, what specific enforcement measure may be used to secure the penalty?

- A. A financial deposit notice
- B. An immediate vehicle impoundment
- C. A court summons for a later date
- D. A standard fixed penalty notice

23. A driver has applied for a replacement Driver Qualification Card (DQC) and is driving using the application receipt. If the replacement card does not arrive within the validity period of the receipt, what action must the driver take?

- A. Record the delay on the tachograph
- B. Renew the application fee payment
- C. Contact the authority immediately
- D. Continue driving for 15 more days



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24. A driver realizes they have left their Driver Qualification Card (DQC) at home but has a letter from their employer confirming their training status. How is this letter viewed during a roadside inspection?

- A. It acts as a temporary permit
- B. It validates the journey officially
- C. It is acceptable with a tachograph
- D. It serves as secondary evidence

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25. A driver's current DQC expires on 10 September 2024. They complete their 35 hours of periodic training early, on 1 June 2024. What will be the expiry date of their new DQC?

- A. 31 December 2029, end of the year
- B. 10 September 2029
- C. 01 June 2029, based on training date
- D. 10 September 2025, one year later

26. A UK-licensed coach driver is planning a journey to a non-EU country. Depending on the specific destination's regulations, what additional document might the driver be required to carry to validate their driving licence?

- A. European circulation document
- B. Customs carriage authorisation
- C. Visa waiver for professional drivers
- D. International Driving Permit

27. You are checking your driving licence before starting work as a coach driver. Which specific category entitlement must appear on your licence to legally drive a vehicle with more than 16 passenger seats?

- A. Category D entitlement
- B. Valid Operator licence disc
- C. Digital tachograph card
- D. Periodic training certificate

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28. You are parking a heavy coach on a steep downhill gradient. In addition to applying the parking brake, which action provides the most effective protection against rolling away?

- A. Park sideways across the slope to stop the vehicle
- B. Engage a high gear and keep the steering straight
- C. Select reverse gear and use wheel chocks securely
- D. Select neutral and turn steering to the road centre

29. You are conducting a pre-journey security check on your vehicle. Which areas must be included in your visual inspection for suspicious items?

- A. The internal parts of the engine management system
- B. The hydraulic fluid levels and brake pad thickness
- C. The tread depth and air pressure of all road wheels
- D. The coolant reservoir and windscreen washer bottle

30. You must evacuate passengers from your bus due to a vehicle fire. Where should you direct them to assemble?

- A. Inside a nearby building regardless of distance
- B. Upwind and at least 20 metres away
- C. Downwind and at least 10 metres from the vehicle
- D. Behind the vehicle to use it as a shield from the fire



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Answer Key & Explanations

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1. D — 7 days

If a driver cannot produce their documents at the roadside, they are typically issued a HORT/1 form (commonly known as a 'producer'). This legally requires the driver to present the specified documents at a police station of their choice within 7 days. Failure to do so is an offence.

2. A — Nearer the current expiry date

When periodic training is completed more than 12 months before the expiry of the current card, the new DQC is not issued immediately. Instead, it is issued nearer to the expiry date of the current card to ensure the driver receives it just before the new validity period begins.

3. C — It may not satisfy legal production rules

An officer may require a certificate to be produced in a specific way for offline verification or retention. Relying on a temporary view of an online portal may not meet the strict legal requirement to 'produce' the document if the officer cannot retain it.

4. A — Exactly 6 days

To calculate the number of days the card has been invalid using exclusive counting, subtract the expiry date from the current date: $15 - 10 = 5$ days. This accounts for the 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, and 15th as the days of invalidity.

5. B — A fixed penalty notice

Driving a professional vehicle without a valid DQC is an offence that can result in a fixed penalty notice. While not carrying a licence is also an issue (usually handled via a 'producer'), the lack of a valid DQC attracts immediate financial penalties or potential prosecution.

6. D — Immediately upon application

Once a driver has reported their DQC as lost, stolen, or damaged and has applied and paid for a replacement, they are legally allowed to continue driving immediately. They do not need to wait for the physical card to arrive in the post.

7. A — 20 days

The DVSA advises applicants to allow 20 days for a DQC to be delivered. If the card has not arrived after this period, the driver must contact the agency. Reporting it significantly later than this may result in the driver having to pay for another replacement.

8. C — They cannot undertake the journey

Drivers must possess a passport meeting the destination country's validity requirements. Valid driving documents do not override immigration rules. Without a valid passport, the driver cannot legally enter the country. Birth certificates or operator permission cannot bypass these national entry laws.

9. A — A DQC must be carried for any PCV driving

Driver CPC regulations provide exemptions for vehicles used for non-commercial purposes, such as



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road-testing by mechanics after repairs. Since this driving is for technical development or repair rather than commercial carriage, a DQC is not required.

10. B — They cannot legally drive

Drivers cannot legally drive professionally without a valid DQC. Even if training is completed, the entitlement is not valid until the record is updated. There is no grace period for driving with an expired card while waiting for administrative updates or card issuance.

11. D — Severity of the offence

Fixed penalties for drivers' hours offences are graduated, meaning the fine scales according to the severity of the breach. The penalty increases based on how much the driver exceeded the limit. It is not based on income, vehicle weight, or officer discretion.

12. A — Produce it within 7 days

Drivers unable to produce documents like an MOT certificate at the roadside are issued a form (HO/RT1). This requires them to produce the valid document at a police station of their choice within seven days. It avoids immediate penalties if the document exists but isn't present.

13. C — Nearer the current card's expiry

When training is completed more than 12 months before the current card expires, the new DQC is not issued immediately. Instead, it is dispatched closer to the existing card's expiry date. Immediate issuance only applies if training is finished within the final year of the current card's validity.

14. A — Immediately after notifying their employer

If a DQC is lost or stolen, a driver may continue driving only if they have applied for a replacement and paid the fee. Simply notifying an employer is not enough. The formal application validates their legal status to drive until the new card arrives.

15. B — International Driving Permit

For travel outside the EU/EEA, drivers may need an International Driving Permit (IDP) alongside their national licence. This document is recognized internationally. Other documents like the V5C or operator's licence relate to the vehicle, not the driver's specific authority to drive in foreign jurisdictions.

16. D — It is not accepted as valid

Drivers must carry the original physical DQC while driving professionally. Digital copies or photographs are not accepted as valid during roadside checks. Enforcement officers require the physical card to verify security features. Digital versions do not meet the legal requirements for document production.

17. A — 5 days

The card expired on the 10th, meaning it was valid until the end of that day. The overdue period counts the days the driver was without a valid card: 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, and 15th. This totals 5 days.

18. C — Production at a local police station

If documents cannot be produced at the roadside, an officer may issue a form requiring production at a police station. This must typically be done within 7 days to allow the driver to prove legality without an immediate penalty.

19. A — No, they must wait for the physical card

Drivers are permitted to drive while waiting for their card, provided the training has been completed and the



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training provider has uploaded the details to the DVSA database. The existence of the digital record validates the driver's entitlement even if the physical card is in transit.

20. B — Driver Qualification Card

The Driver Qualification Card (DQC) is a personal document that links to the individual driver's entitlement and training. In contrast, documents like the V5C (registration) and MOT certificate relate to the vehicle itself and are typically held by the operator, not carried personally by the driver.

21. D — The card is mailed to the wrong address

The DVSA uses the address on the driver's main licence record to issue the DQC. If this is not updated before the card is generated, the DQC will be sent to the old address, causing potential loss and delays.

22. A — A financial deposit notice

When a fixed penalty cannot be issued because the offender cannot verify a suitable UK address (often involving non-UK drivers), enforcement officers can issue a financial deposit notice. The driver must pay this deposit immediately; failure to do so can result in the vehicle being prohibited or immobilised.

23. C — Contact the authority immediately

Drivers are responsible for ensuring they possess a valid card. If a replacement does not arrive within the expected timeframe (often indicated on the receipt or guidance notes), the driver must contact the issuing authority (DVLA/DVSA) to resolve the issue rather than continuing to drive without valid cover.

24. A — It acts as a temporary permit

Employer letters, training receipts, or certificates are not legal substitutes for the DQC. The law requires the driver to carry the official card while driving professionally. Such paperwork does not satisfy the inspection requirement and may lead to penalties for failing to produce the card.

25. B — 10 September 2029

The new DQC is valid for five years from the expiry date of the current card, not from the date the training was completed. Therefore, if the current card expires on 10 September 2024, the new card will be valid until 10 September 2029, preserving the original cycle dates.

26. D — International Driving Permit

While a UK photocard licence is widely accepted, some countries (especially those outside the EU/EEA) require an International Driving Permit (IDP) to be carried alongside the national licence. This document translates the licence details into multiple languages to aid local enforcement.

27. A — Category D entitlement

Category D is the specific entitlement required for driving buses and coaches with more than 8 passenger seats (often used for vehicles with >16 seats). A standard car licence (Cat B) or smaller bus licence (Cat D1) is insufficient for full-sized coaches. Drivers must verify this specific code is valid.

28. C — Select reverse gear and use wheel chocks securely

When parking downhill, relying solely on the parking brake is insufficient. Select reverse gear to use engine compression against forward movement. Use wheel chocks for a mechanical stop. Turning wheels towards the kerb is also recommended.

29. A — The internal parts of the engine management system

Security checks focus on concealed or suspicious items. You must inspect areas where items could be



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hidden, such as luggage holds, overhead racks, under seats, and toilets. Mechanical checks like fluid levels or tyre pressure are maintenance, not security.

30. B — Upwind and at least 20 metres away

The priority during an evacuation is to move passengers to a safe location away from danger. They should be at least 20 metres from the vehicle to ensure safety from explosions or heat. Crucially, they must be positioned upwind to avoid inhaling toxic smoke or fumes carried by the wind.



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