



Driving Test Tips

BEFORE THE DRIVING TEST:

- **MAKE SURE YOU HAVE YOUR DRIVING LICENCE**
Don't leave it until the day before, as without it the examiner will refuse to start the test and you will lose your money.
- **NERVES ARE NORMAL**
Almost everyone is a little nervous beforehand - try to put the test into perspective. It's not the end of the world if you make a mistake or even fail the test - the test can always be taken again.
- **DO YOU FEEL READY FOR THE TEST?**
You need to be able to show the examiner that you are able to drive safely in a range of different driving situations, just as you will have to do on your own after you have passed. If you do not feel you can do this without help, you might need more practice – however remember that I would not allow you to attempt the test if I did not think you were ready.

DURING THE DRIVING TEST:

- **THE EXAMINER**
They might not talk to you that much – they're not being grumpy, they just want to let you concentrate on your driving. If you spot them writing on their paperwork don't panic, as they have to record a lot of information (test routes etc) about your test for their records.
- **PLAN AHEAD AND DRIVE WITH CONFIDENCE**
Plan ahead as far as you can so that you don't get any nasty surprises. Drive with confidence, as it is good to keep up with the flow of traffic. However, when you spot a hazardous situation make sure you react in good time to stay safe. Never squeeze through tight gaps without slowing down!
- **DON'T BE AFRAID TO ASK**
If you are unsure what the Examiner has said, or the direction you are supposed to follow - ask them to repeat their instruction. This is fine even during the independent part of the driving test.
- **MISTAKES**
If you make a mistake on your test, don't give up - put it to the back of your mind and persevere. You can get away with a surprising amount. If a manoeuvre goes wrong, say to the Examiner "I'm just going to try this again". Get it right, and the chances are you will pass.
- **WRONG TURN**
If you do take an incorrect lane or direction, remain calm and try to take the correct lane by using the appropriate observation and indication. If it is too late or unsafe to take the requested route, then continue on your current path. A wrong turn is no problem if driven safely - the examiner will then alter the route to put you back on track. However abruptly changing lanes without proper observation is dangerous and will fail the test.