



Show Me, Tell Me. DSA Questions and responses

All driving test candidates will be required to answer two questions concerning the operation and maintenance of their vehicle, one explanatory and the other demonstrative. Here we print the full list of DSA Show Me (shown in blue) – Tell Me (shown in red) questions for car tests, together with the required responses.

Car Tests

- **Show me/explain how you would check that the power steering is working before starting a journey.**

If the steering becomes heavy the system may not be working properly. Before starting a journey two simple checks can be made. Gentle pressure on the steering wheel, maintained while the engine is started, should result in a slight but noticeable movement as the system begins to operate. Alternatively turning the steering wheel just after moving off will give immediate indication that the power assistance is functioning.

- 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 dipstick/oil level indicator, describe check of oil level against the min max markers.

- Open the bonnet, identifying where you would check the engine coolant level and tell me how you would check that the engine has the correct level.

Identify high/low level markings on header tank where fitted or radiator filler cap, and describe how to top up to the correct level.

- Show me how you would check the parking brake for excessive wear.

Demonstrate by applying parking brake that when it is fully applied it secures itself, and is not at the end of the working travel.

- Identify where the windscreen washer reservoir is and tell me how you would check the windscreen washer level.

Identify reservoir and explain how to check level.

- 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 level against high/low markings.

- Show me how you would check the horn is working (off road only).

Check is carried out by using control (turn on ignition if necessary)

- Show me how you would check the direction indicators are working.

Applying the indicators or hazard warning switch and check functioning of all indicators.

- Show me how you would check that the headlights and tail lights are working.

Operate switch (turn on ignition if necessary) walk around vehicle.

- Tell me how you would check that the brake lights are working on this car.

Operate brake pedal, make use of reflectors in windows, garage doors, etc or ask someone to help.

- Tell me how you would check that the brakes 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.

- Tell me where you would find the information for the recommended tyre pressures for this car and how they should be checked.

Manufacturer's guide, use a reliable pressure gauge, check and adjust pressures when tyres are cold, don't forget spare tyre, remember to refit valve caps.

- 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.

No cuts or bulges, 1.6mm of tread depth across the central three quarters of the breadth of the tyre and around the entire outer circumference.