Highway Driving
Module 6

Instructor Answer Guide

Lesson 1 - Expressway Characteristics

1. List the basic characteristics of a multiple-lane roadway or expressway.

• High-speed roadways that typically carry a high volume of traffic.
• Usually divided by a barrier of some type.
• There are multiple lanes going in the same direction.
• They are controlled-access.
2. Match the typical expressway interchanges found in Texas by providing the correct number with the name.

3 Trumpet Interchange
2 Diamond Interchange
4 Frontage Road Interchanges
1 Cloverleaf Interchange
3. List four common expressway signs.
   1. The “Interstate” sign
   2. Guide Signs
   3. Warning Signs
   4. Regulator Signs

4. List two special traffic signals used on expressways.
   1. A green arrow over a lane
   2. A yellow “X” over a lane
   3. A red “X” over a lane

5. List four common markings used on expressways.
   1. Solid Yellow Line
   2. Broken White Lines
   3. Solid White Lines
   4. HOV Lanes
Lesson 2 – Entering, Changing Lanes, and Exiting

Topic 1 - Entering the Expressway

6. List the steps to merge onto the expressway.

**Step 1** – Entrance Ramp; Evaluation of traffic conditions.

**Step 2** – Acceleration Lane; Get speed up to or near speed of traffic on expressway.

**Step 3** – Merging Area; Move onto the expressway.

**Step 4** – Gap Selection; Accept the gap and use appropriate mirror checks.

**Step 5** – Enter Traffic Flow.

**Step 6** – Select Appropriate Lane; and enter.

Topic 2 – Changing Lanes

7. List 4 times when reduced risk lane changes are used.

1. Entering or exiting

2. Changing lanes to allow another vehicle to enter

3. Following large or slow-moving vehicles

4. Lane ahead becomes blocked

Topic 3 – Passing / Being Passed on Multiple Lane Roads

8. List three concerns when being passed.

1. Be aware of the position of the vehicle that is passing you.

2. Do not increase your speed when another vehicle is trying to pass.

3. Move over to the right lane if you notice many drivers passing you on the right.
9. List the steps to exit the expressway.

**Step 1** – Check to the rear and right rear; use all mirrors and check blind-zones; and use your turn signal to alert drivers you plan to exit.

**Step 2** – Adjust your vehicle to lane position three; maintain your current speed; and check mirrors again.

**Step 3** – Enter the exit area; turn signal off; and release the accelerator and check the rear zone again.

**Step 4** – Reduce speed and check new path of travel to the front.

**Problem Areas**

10. Describe special problems in a weave lane when exiting.

The weave lane is both an entrance and an exit for an expressway. This causes conflicts for both drivers in both speed and space adjustments. The driver entering from the entrance ramp shall yield the Right-of-Way to the driver leaving the expressway.
Lesson 3 – High Speed Considerations

Topic 1 – Potential Dangers

11. List four choices that drivers should not make on an expressway.

1. Drive over or across median
2. Make a left or U-turn
3. Use left lane except for passing
4. Change lanes without signaling and checking for an open gap

12. List four dangers faced by new drivers on an expressway.

1. Higher speeds with greater braking distances
2. The field of vision is narrowed
3. Highway hypnosis is prominent
4. Windy sections of the roadway

13. Explain the purpose of a ramp-metering device.

This is a system of lights and sensors that allows only one car at a time to enter a limited access highway.

14. List four of the crucial times to increase the following interval on an expressway.

1. Following a motorcycle
2. When driving in adverse weather conditions
3. Being tailgated
4. Pulling a trailer
High Speed Considerations

15. Explain the term Velocitation.

The affect – after driving many hours – that makes the driver feel as though his vehicle is traveling at a slower speed than it actually is.

16. Explain the term “Ramp Overflow.”

This dangerous situation is caused when there is a back up of vehicles getting off an exit ramp.
Lesson 4 – Driving Environment

Topic 1 – Heavy Traffic

17. Explain the term “Special Occasion Traffic.”

Heavy traffic times (such as holidays) where drivers who may not be familiar with heavy driving conditions are more likely to cause accidents.

18. List two of the most common reasons for traffic jams.

1. Rush hour
2. Special Occasion Traffic

Topic 2 - Special Rural Driving Conditions


Less traveled roads with open spaces cause relaxed driving habits, and require an increased awareness of tractors, farm trucks, and farm animals in the roadway.

Topic 3 – Road Surfaces

20. List two hazards of driving on a gravel road.

1. Gravel tends to shift under your tires and can cause traction loss.
2. Be prepared for flying gravel that may come from passing or leading motorists.

Topic 5 – Mountain Driving


These ramps are designed for large vehicles, but you may use them should you experience a runaway situation.

22. List two tips to desert driving.

1. Reducing glare with good sunglasses
2. Stop more frequently