



Sample Questions and Position Descriptions for Automotive Mechanics and Technicians

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Position Descriptions
for
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Technicians**

Sample Questions

Examination 943

The questions on the facing page are examples of the types of questions that will be used on Examination 943 for Automotive Mechanic. Study these questions carefully. Each question has several suggested answers. You are to decide which one is the best answer.

On the Sample Answer Sheet below, find the answer space that is numbered the same as the question, then darken the space that is lettered the same as the answer you have selected. After you have answered all the questions, compare your answers with the one given in the Correct Answers to Sample Questions provided.

SAMPLE ANSWER SHEET

1	A	B	C	D
2	A	B	C	D
3	A	B	C	D
4	A	B	C	D
5	A	B	C	D
6	A	B	C	D

Sample Questions

Examination 943 — Automotive Mechanic

1. A spongy brake pedal usually indicates:
 - A. Worn shoes or pads
 - B. Defective brake booster
 - C. Brakes out of adjustment
 - D. Air in the system
2. A battery load test determines if the:
 - A. Voltage meets a minimum standard
 - B. Amperage meets a minimum standard
 - C. Charging system is defective
 - D. Cold cranking amperes are sufficient
3. Oil pressure gauges may be of the _____ or _____ type.
 - A. Thermistor, primary
 - B. Magnetic, bimetallic
 - C. Secondary, property
 - D. Cadmium, electrical
4. All of the following could cause tire wear if not within manufacturer's specs EXCEPT:
 - A. Steering axis inclination
 - B. Toe-in
 - C. Caster
 - D. Camber
5. A hydro-boost system provides assisted power to the steering and which other system?
 - A. Electrical
 - B. Air-ride suspension
 - C. Air conditioner
 - D. Braking
6. No cranking and no lights when the key is turned to the START position may be caused by all the following EXCEPT a/an:
 - A. Dead battery
 - B. Open fusible link
 - C. Burned-out headlight
 - D. Open circuit

The correct answers to questions 1 through 6 are: 1D, 2A, 3B, 4C, 5D, and 6C.

Sample Questions

Examination 944

The questions on the facing page are examples of the types of questions that will be used on Examination 944 for Automotive Technician. Study these questions carefully. Each question has several suggested answers. You are to decide which one is the best answer.

On the Sample Answer Sheet below, find the answer space that is numbered the same as the question, then darken the space that is lettered the same as the answer you have selected. After you have answered all the questions, compare your answers with the correct ones provided.

Sample Answer Sheet

1	A	B	C	D
2	A	B	C	D
3	A	B	C	D
4	A	B	C	D
5	A	B	C	D
6	A	B	C	D

Sample Questions

Examination 944 — Automotive Technician

1. In addition to vacuum, which of the following represents one means of opening an Exhaust Gas Recirculation (EGR) system valve?
 - A. Electricity
 - B. Hydraulic pressure
 - C. Manual linkage
 - D. Compression spring
2. A technician is performing a four-gas analyzer test on a vehicle and finds a high hydrocarbon (HC) reading, with the engine misfiring only at idle. What is most likely the cause?
 - A. Leaking intake manifold
 - B. Exhaust Gas Recirculation (EGR) valve that does not fully close
 - C. Secondary ignition wire shorting
 - D. Partially clogged fuel injector
3. When a transmission in the park position emits a high-pitched whine that increases with engine revolutions per minute (RPM), what is the most likely cause?
 - A. A bad front pump
 - B. A loose torque converter
 - C. Misadjusted park pawl
 - D. A worn sprag unit
4. It is **NOT** necessary to remove an automatic transmission to make which of the following repairs?
 - A. Front pump seal
 - B. Governor assembly
 - C. Rear clutch pack
 - D. Stator support assembly
5. A wet compression test is used to isolate which engine defect?
 - A. Leaking head gasket
 - B. Worn valve seats
 - C. Worn valve seals
 - D. Worn piston rings
6. Which three of the following are most likely to be caused by excessive fuel-pump pressure?
 1. The carburetor float needle held off its seat
 2. High gasoline level in the carburetor float chamber
 3. Air lock in the fuel line
 4. Increased gas consumption
 - A. 1, 2, and 3, but not 4
 - B. 1, 2, and 4, but not 3
 - C. 1, 3, and 4, but not 2
 - D. 2, 3, and 4, but not 1

The correct answers to questions 1 through 6 are: 1A, 2B, 3A, 4B, 5D, 6B.

AUTOMOTIVE MECHANIC, PS-06

FUNCTIONAL PURPOSE

Troubleshoots, diagnoses, and performs routine repairs and scheduled maintenance on all types of motor vehicles used in the postal fleet.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Removes and replaces defective and worn parts as necessary; disassembles, cleans and replaces re-useable parts; requests replacement parts.
2. Changes fluids and filters; performs routine adjustments necessary to maintain safety, operational performance, and vehicle driveability.
3. Performs maintenance and repairs resulting from normal preventive maintenance inspections.
4. Performs electrical repairs and/or replaces electrical items and system components.
5. Performs road calls; road tests vehicles as necessary before and after maintenance and repairs.
6. Reviews historical records of service performed on vehicles; prepares and updates vehicle service records, annotates repairs and other pertinent data on work orders.
7. Operates standard automotive test equipment necessary to perform routine service and repairs.
8. Repairs air, mechanical, and hydraulic brake systems as required; removes and replaces engine blocks, transmissions, drive shafts, universal joints, rear end differentials and other major drive train components including the removal/replacement of wiring, hoses, etc.
9. Removes, replaces and adjusts vehicle hardware and other related parts.
10. Follows all established safety practices and procedures; complies with all postal, local, state, and federal environmental regulations and policies.

SUPERVISION

Manager, Vehicle Maintenance; Supervisor, Vehicle Maintenance; or other designated supervisor.

AUTOMOTIVE TECHNICIAN, PS-07

FUNCTIONAL PURPOSE

Performs routine and complex repairs and maintenance on all types of motor vehicles used in the postal fleet; troubleshoots and diagnoses more complex vehicle malfunctions using a variety of computerized test equipment; may provide assistance to lower level employees.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Diagnoses operating difficulties on a variety of vehicles and performs operational checks on engines; its major supporting systems, parts, components, assemblies; including emissions systems, electrical, computer and electronic controlled components.
2. Performs various computerized and electronic diagnostic tests using specialized equipment; interprets trouble codes and other information from electronic scanners and test analyzers; uses reference materials such as service manuals and wiring schematics to determine operational difficulties, driveability problems and evaluates performance efficiency.
3. Conducts visual and auditory vehicle inspections, road calls and road tests before and after maintenance and repairs; annotates vehicle problems on work orders.
4. Provides technical guidance and instructions to mechanics and technicians on more difficult repairs and in the use of specialized computer-aided diagnostic equipment.
5. Performs maintenance and repairs resulting from normal preventive maintenance inspections.
6. Prepares and updates vehicle records, maintains vehicle records; annotates labor time, parts, and/or equipment and other pertinent data on work orders.
7. Performs engine tune-ups; removes, replaces, adjusts, cleans parts, components, assemblies and accessories; uses a variety of specialized test equipment to adjust systems and components to prescribed operating tolerances.
8. Troubleshoots malfunctioning vehicles resulting from road calls and identifies improperly functioning part (s) and repairs or replaces.
9. Repairs and replaces major components including transmissions, differentials, brake systems, power assist units, steering and suspension assemblies.
10. Performs other job related duties and responsibilities in support of primary duties.
11. Follows all established safety practices and procedures; complies with all postal, local, state and federal environmental regulations and policies

SUPERVISION

Manager, Vehicle Maintenance; Supervisor, Vehicle Maintenance; or other designated supervisor.

LEAD AUTOMOTIVE TECHNICIAN, PS-08

FUNCTIONAL PURPOSE

Serves as a working group leader for lower level technicians and mechanics in a vehicle maintenance facility or an auxiliary garage; personally performs the most complex repairs and maintenance on all types of motor vehicles used in the postal fleet; provides work guidance and direction to lower level employees.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Diagnoses operating difficulties on a variety of vehicles and performs operational checks on engines; its major supporting systems, parts, components, assemblies; including emissions systems, electrical, computer and electronic controlled components.
2. Performs various computerized and electronic diagnostic tests using specialized equipment; interprets trouble codes and other information from electronic scanners and test analyzers; uses reference materials such as service manuals and wiring schematics to determine operational difficulties, driveability problems and evaluates performance efficiency.
3. Conducts road tests before and after maintenance and repairs; annotates vehicle problems on work orders.
4. Troubleshoots malfunctioning vehicles resulting from road calls and identifies improperly functioning part(s).
5. Conducts vehicle inspections, determines necessary repairs, annotates established estimated repair time (ERT); assigns and schedules work for individual employees or a group of employees engaged in vehicle maintenance.
6. Performs maintenance and repairs resulting from normal preventive maintenance inspections.
7. Provides technical guidance and instructions to mechanics and technicians on more difficult repairs and in the use of specialized computer-aided diagnostic equipment.
8. Maintains, prepares and updates vehicle maintenance records, annotates repairs, labor hours and other relevant data.
9. Assists in training personnel in the repair of vehicles and the use of specialized computer-aided diagnostic equipment.
10. Personally observes and monitors compliance of established safety practices and procedures of vehicle maintenance activities; complies with all postal, local, state, and federal environmental regulations and policies.

SUPERVISION

Manager, Vehicle Maintenance; Supervisor, Vehicle Maintenance; or other designated supervisor.

LEAD AUTOMOTIVE TECHNICIAN (AG), PS-09

FUNCTIONAL PURPOSE

Serves as a lead automotive technician working group leader for lower level employees at a maintenance facility or an auxiliary garage without dedicated supervision; personally performs the most complex automotive maintenance and repairs on all types of motor vehicles used in the postal fleet as necessary.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Maintains time-keeping and attendance records; assigns and schedules work for individual employees or a group of employees in work related to vehicle maintenance.
2. Diagnoses operating difficulties on a variety of vehicles and performs operational checks on engines; its major supporting systems, parts, components, assemblies; including emissions systems, electrical, computer, and electronic controlled components.
3. Performs various computerized and electronic diagnostic tests using specialized equipment; interprets trouble codes and other information from electronic scanners and test analyzers; uses reference materials such as service manuals and wiring schematics to determine operational difficulties, driveability problems and evaluates performance efficiency.
4. Conducts vehicle inspections, determines necessary repairs, annotates established estimated repair time (ERT).
5. Troubleshoots malfunctioning vehicles resulting from road calls and identifies improperly functioning part(s).
6. Performs maintenance and repairs resulting from normal preventive maintenance inspections.
7. Provides technical guidance and instructions to mechanics and technicians on more difficult repairs and in the use of specialized computer-aided diagnostic equipment.
8. Maintains contact with designated supervisor or VMF manager regarding management of VMF or auxiliary garage operations and provides support on maintenance matters.
9. Maintains, prepares and updates vehicle maintenance records, annotates repairs, labor hours and other relevant data.
10. Assists in training personnel in the repair of vehicles and the use of specialized computer-aided diagnostic equipment.
11. Personally observes and monitors compliance of established safety practices and procedures of vehicle maintenance activities; complies with all postal, local, state, and federal environmental regulations and policies.

SUPERVISION

Manager, Vehicle Maintenance; Supervisor, Vehicle Maintenance; or other designated supervisor.

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