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The driving test

- Have the option of your instructor accompanying you
- Read a number plate at 20.5m
- Answer 2 "show me, tell me" questions
- Drive for 38-40 minutes
- Perform one reverse manoeuvre
- May include Emergency Stop
- Drive independently for 10 minutes
- Result given immediately the test has finished

The first driving test was conducted in Britain in 1935 and in the last 75 years there have been many modernisations to reflect the changing scene of our roads and make improvements to road safety.

The latest development in 2010 has been to introduce the Independent Driving section to the test. Unlike the rest of the test where the examiner gives directions at junctions, during this session the candidate will follow a previously announced set of instructions or follow road signs to a given destination.

To allow time for this session, the test will now only include one reverse manoeuvre which may be a turn in the road, reverse around a corner or a parking exercise. The test may still include an emergency stop.

Here at Freeway we've long been encouraging our learners to become independent drivers so the recent changes were no shock at all to our pupils on test.

Your Instructor will advise if you are ready for test and it our policy to only take pupils to test whom we feel have at least a fair chance of passing.

To help you fully prepare for the test we recommend you sit a mock test with a different driving instructor to fully exercise test day nerves and experience a stranger sat next to you! We will arrange this on your behalf at a time to suit you for the same price as your normal lesson.

At the start of your test, your examiner will ask you to read a car number plate from 20.5m away. You'll then be asked two safety questions and then asked to drive for approximately 38 minutes along a variety of roads and situations returning to the test centre at the end. You must incur no more than 15 driving errors and no serious or dangerous faults to pass the test.