A Cheat Sheet for Technical Questions

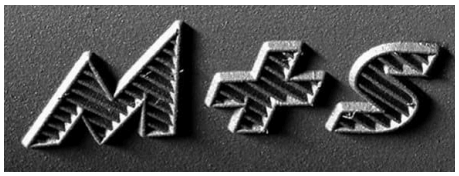
Before your driving test begins, the examiner will ask you a theoretical question about the technical aspects of the vehicle. Sometimes, your answer to this question can be the deciding factor in whether you pass the exam! We've prepared this handy cheat sheet to help you feel more confident and relaxed on the day of your exam.

1. **How to identify winter and summer tires?**

Check the tire markings and tread pattern. To identify a winter tire, look for the three-peak mountain snowflake symbol. Winter tires have more sipes* and are specifically engineered for cold weather, snow, and ice.

Minimum tread depth: 4 mm for winter and 1.6 mm for summer.

If the tread depth is below the minimum, the tires may lose their grip on the road, causing the vehicle to skid and potentially resulting in an accident. In summer, driving on worn tires in rainy conditions increases the risk of skidding and aquaplaning.

	Three Peak Mountain Snow Flake indicates that the tire is suitable for severe winter conditions and provides reliable traction on snow.
	Mud + Snow is a marking commonly found on winter and all-season tires. However, if the tire does not have the snowflake symbol (3PMSF), this does not guarantee reliable performance or safety in severe winter conditions.

A **sipe** is a small slit or incision in a tire's tread.

At the exam: Demonstrate the markings on the tire and explain that a worn tread reduces grip and increases the risk of skidding and aquaplaning.

2. **How to check tire pressure?**

Tire pressure is measured using a pressure gauge, preferably when the tires are cold. Check the recommended pressure in the vehicle's owner's manual or on the manufacturer's sticker, often located on the door frame.

If tire pressure is too high, the contact area between the tire and the road decreases, reducing grip and potentially causing the vehicle to skid.

If tire pressure is too low, the tires become deformed, and while driving, the vehicle may pull toward the side with the lower tire pressure.

At the exam: Don't memorize one universal pressure value. The correct tire pressure depends on the specific vehicle and its load.

3. **How to change a wheel on the roadside?**

Stop in a safe place, switch off the engine, apply the parking brake, and engage first gear or select **P** (Park) in an automatic vehicle.

If stopping is prohibited in that location or the vehicle may obstruct traffic, switch on the hazard warning lights and place a warning triangle.

Depending on which wheel needs to be changed, secure the diagonally opposite wheel on both sides using wheel chocks or stones.

Position the jack, making sure it rests on a firm, level surface. Loosen all the nuts or bolts on the wheel that needs to be changed.

Raise the vehicle, fully unscrew the nuts or bolts, and

remove the wheel. Fit the spare wheel and hand-tighten the nuts or bolts. Lower the vehicle and fully tighten the nuts or bolts.

Tip: Always tighten the wheel nuts or bolts in a diagonal, criss-cross pattern to ensure the wheel is seated correctly.

After changing a wheel, even if the work was done at a Car repair shop, check the wheel nuts or bolts again after driving 20–30 km to make sure none have loosened.

4. **How to check the coolant level?**

Open the car's hood. The radiator is located at the front of the engine compartment and contains coolant that helps keep the engine from overheating.

If the radiator has an expansion tank, check the MIN and MAX markings on the tank. The coolant level should be between these marks.

If there is no expansion tank, the coolant level should be approximately 10 mm above the radiator core tubes.

Important: Never open the radiator cap when the engine is hot, as hot coolant and steam may escape under pressure and cause severe burns. Allow the engine to cool completely before carefully opening the cap.

Check the coolant level and top it up if necessary. Use the appropriate coolant or antifreeze specified by the vehicle manufacturer.

At the exam: Never open the cap of a hot cooling system. The coolant may be under pressure and can cause burns.

5. **How to check and top up the engine oil?**

Park the vehicle on a level surface. If the engine has a dipstick, pull it out, wipe it clean, reinsert it fully, and then pull it out again.

There are two marks on the lower part of the dipstick: **MIN** and **MAX**. The oil level should be between these marks.

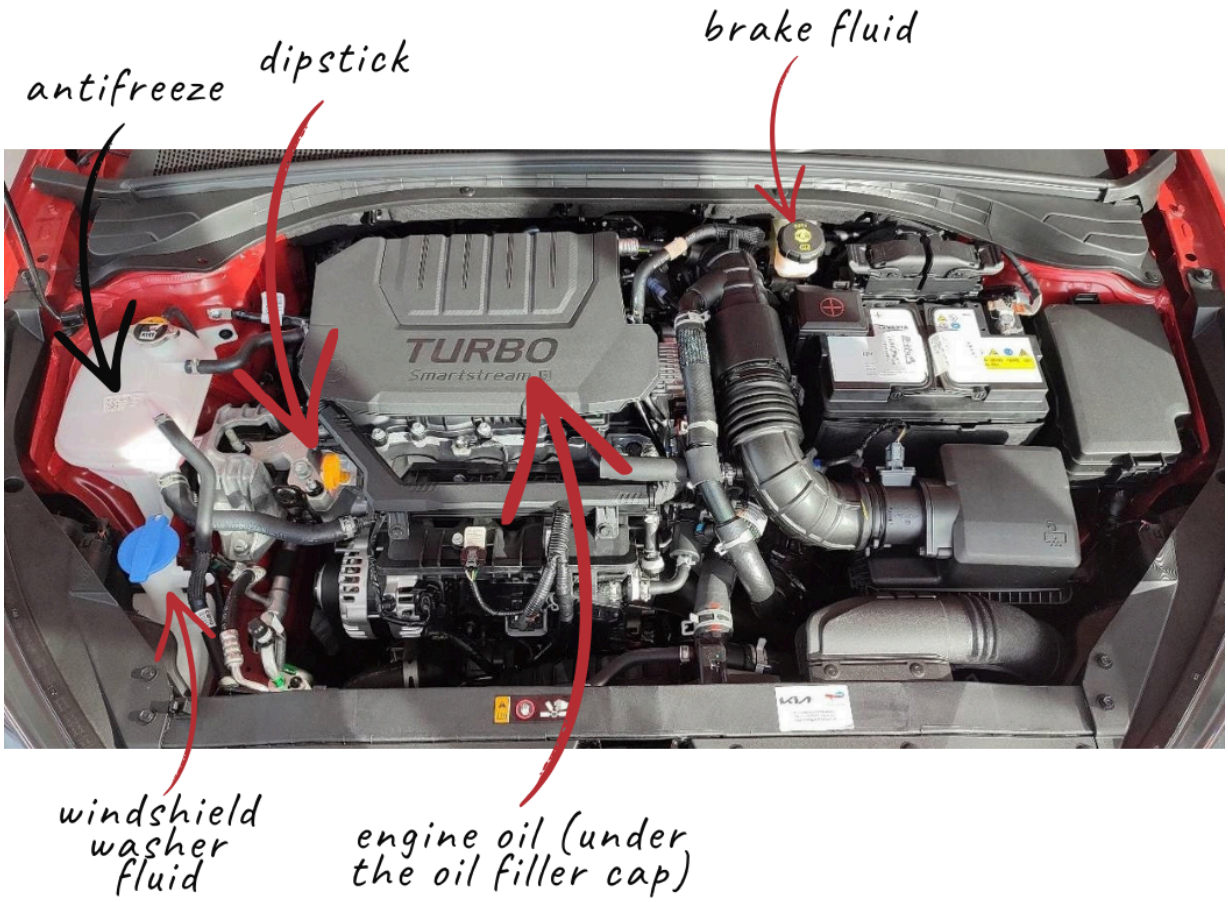
If the oil level is low, unscrew the cap marked with the oil-can symbol and add engine oil gradually until the required level is reached on the dipstick.

> *Tip:* Engine oil should generally be changed every 10,000–15,000 km, depending on the vehicle manufacturer's recommendations.

6. **How to check the windshield washer fluid and wipers?**

A warning light on the vehicle's dashboard usually indicates that the windshield washer fluid level is too low. Locate the washer fluid reservoir under the hood and top it up with the appropriate fluid if necessary. Inside the vehicle, activate the washer system and check that the windshield wipers operate correctly in all available modes.

> *Tip:* If you use water instead of specialized windshield washer fluid in summer to save money, be sure to replace it with a frost-resistant washer fluid before the first frost. Water can freeze and damage the system.



7. **How to check the exterior lights and/or hazard warning lights?**

Turn on the parking lights/daytime running lights, low-beam and high-beam headlights, turn signals, and hazard warning lights. Get out of the vehicle to make sure all the lights are working.

To check the brake lights and reversing lights, you can ask someone for assistance or use their reflection in a surface, such as a garage door or a shop window in a parking lot.

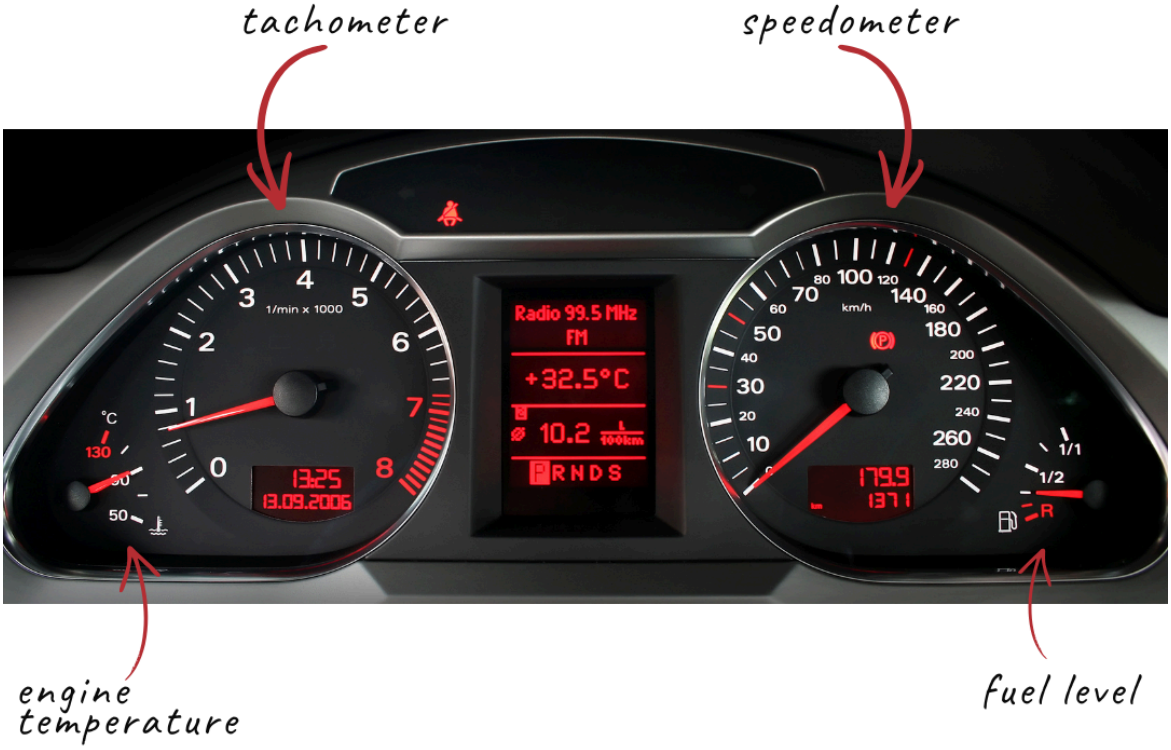
At the exam: A turn signal flashing too quickly may indicate a faulty bulb or a malfunction in the lighting system.

8. **Explain the meaning of the vehicle's warning lights and gauges.**

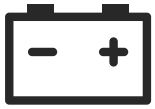
Below is a list of the main instruments and indicators found on a vehicle's dashboard:

Main instruments:

- **Speedometer:** Shows the vehicle's current speed (km/h).
- **Tachometer:** Measures engine speed in revolutions per minute (e.g., 2,000 RPM).
- **Fuel gauge:** Shows the fuel level in the tank.
- **Engine temperature gauge:** Shows the temperature of the engine coolant.

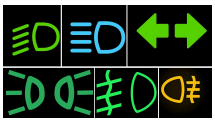
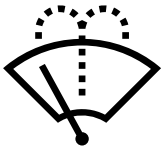


Vehicle Lights and Indicators.

	**Oil level indicator**	Warns that the engine oil level is low. It may be amber (the oil needs to be topped up) or red (the oil level is critically low).
	**Battery charging warning light**	Indicates whether the alternator is working properly and the battery is charging.
	**Parking brake indicator**	Activates when the parking brake is engaged.

	**Engine coolant temperature indicator**	Warns you about the engine's temperature.
	**ABS system warning light**	Indicates a malfunction in the anti-lock braking system (ABS).
	**Airbag warning light**	Warns of a problem with the airbag system.
	**Traction control system indicator**	Indicates that the system designed to prevent wheel spin is active.

Supplementary indicators

	**Headlight and turn signal indicators**	Indicates when the headlights or turn signals are switched on.
	**Windshield washer fluid level indicator**	Warns when the windshield washer fluid level is low.
	**Seat belt warning light**	Reminds the driver and passengers to fasten their seat belts.

At the exam: Pay attention to the specific symbol: the exact meaning of an indicator should be checked in the vehicle's owner's manual. Yellow/amber warning lights require attention. A red warning light often indicates a serious problem that requires you to stop safely and determine the cause of the warning light.

9. **How to check the brake fluid level?**

Locate the brake fluid reservoir under the hood (it is usually positioned opposite the brake pedal). The fluid level should be between the MIN and MAX marks. If the level is below the recommended range, it is important to identify the cause, as this may indicate worn brake pads or a leak. Use only brake fluid that meets the required specifications.

Tip: Never ignore brake system warnings – they are directly related to your safety.

10. **Cruise control and adaptive cruise control: What's the difference?**

The main difference between conventional cruise control and adaptive cruise control is that adaptive cruise control automatically reduces the vehicle's speed when the vehicle ahead slows down and then increases it again to the set speed when the vehicle ahead speeds up.

At the exam: The main risk of using cruise control is that it can reduce the driver's attentiveness, thereby increasing reaction time in emergency situations.

11. **How do parking sensors work?**

Parking sensors help estimate the distance to obstacles in front of and/or behind the vehicle. The distance sensors are usually built into the vehicle's front or rear bumper. As the vehicle gets closer to an obstacle, the warning beeps usually become more frequent. In some vehicles, the distance or obstacle zones are also displayed on the screen.

At the exam: Parking sensors do not replace mirrors or visual checks – you should never rely on them entirely.

12. **Collision warning systems and automatic emergency braking systems.**

The system warns the driver of a potential collision with an audible alert and a visual warning on the display, prompting the driver to brake. If the vehicle is equipped with an

automatic emergency braking system, it applies the brakes automatically to help avoid a collision or reduce its severity.

At the exam: The system's performance depends on vehicle speed, weather conditions, visibility, and sensor functionality. The driver remains responsible for controlling the vehicle.

13. **Lane keeping assist and blind spot monitoring systems.**

The **lane keeping assist system** warns the driver, using audible alerts and visual information on the dashboard display, when the vehicle unintentionally approaches the road lane markings. It may also correct the vehicle's trajectory to help keep it within the lane.

When another road user enters your vehicle's blind spot, a red or amber warning light illuminates in the side mirror, alerting you to the presence of another vehicle in the blind spot.

At the exam: Before changing lanes, always check your mirrors, use your turn signal, and perform a shoulder check (look over your shoulder) to check your blind spot.

14. **What types of brakes is the vehicle equipped with?**

Main braking systems: the service brake and the parking brake.

The **service brake** is used to slow down the vehicle, hold it stationary temporarily, and bring it to a complete stop.

The **parking brake** keeps the vehicle stationary and prevents it from moving unintentionally (rolling away).

At the exam: The parking brake can be mechanical or electronic, but its purpose remains the same: to keep the vehicle stationary and prevent it from rolling away.