

Skip Handler

A39

Technical Test – Theory

Roles and responsibilities	1. What is the definition of, or how can a hazard be described?
	A
	2. What is the purpose of a risk assessment?
	A
	3. List SIX typical subject areas that should be covered in a site induction.
	A
	4. What THREE main duties of the Health and Safety at Work Act must employees follow?
	A
	5. What does the Health and Safety at Work Act require employers to do with regards specifically to plant?
	A
	6. a) What is the purpose of a Method Statement and b) what is required of the operator?
	A
	7. Name FOUR different types or levels of sanctions that can be applied to plant operators who do not comply with, or follow legislation and regulations.
	A
	8. Plant operators are generally regarded as 'safety-critical' workers. What does this mean?
	A

continued...

Roles and responsibilities continued	9. Name THREE ways in which an operator can minimise their impact upon the environment whilst using the machine.
	A
	10. In what situation does a hard hat NOT need to be worn when operating a skip handler?
	A
	11. The operator has to use a new type of skip handler that they are unfamiliar with. What do Regulations (i.e. PUWER 98) and other guidance require the operator to have?
	A
	12. What are the possible outcomes if being prosecuted for not complying with legislation and regulations?
	A
	13. Give TWO examples of where The Work at Height Regulations may apply to skip handlers.
	A
Preparing for work	14. How can a qualification or card benefit a plant operator?
	A
	15. Name THREE ways that a plant operator can contribute in ensuring repeat business with the client or main contractor.
	A
	16. Where should the skip handler's Operator's Manual be kept and why?
	A
	17. What is a possible consequence of using a tyre with a deep cut in the sidewall?
	A
18. If the operator has to top-up the hydraulic oil, state TWO precautions to ensure cleanliness of the system.	
A	

continued...

For questions 19 and 20 the Operator's Manual for the machine being used for the test MUST be available for reference by the candidate	
Preparing for work continued	19. Using the Operator's Manual, state the figure for tyres' operating pressure.
	A
	20. Using the Operator's Manual, state the cold-starting procedure for the machine.
	A
	21. If checking the oil level using a dipstick, why must gloves be worn?
	A
	22. Apart from the operator, who else may need to use the Driver's Manual?
	A
	23. What checks should be made to the lifting accessories (chains)?
	A
	24. Name THREE conditions that the mirrors on the machine must be in.
	A
Travelling and manoeuvring	25. On start up, the air pressure on the machine is low. What actions must the operator carry out before work and during work?
	A
	26. During work, the engine starts to overheat. Explain the danger if someone tries to remove the radiator or expansion tank cap.
	A
	27. Prior to planning a route using the public highway, what FOUR items should be taken into account?
A	
Travelling and manoeuvring	28. What problems and hazards can soft ground cause to a loaded skip handler?
	A
Travelling and manoeuvring	29. a) Give ONE advantage and b) TWO disadvantages of rear mounted cameras.
	A

continued...

Travelling and manoeuvring continued	30. a) What is the minimum distance allowed near open trenches when travelling with a skip handler and b) explain why.
	A
	31. When travelling on wet soil on site, what effect does this have on the skip handler?
	A
	32. Why must the seat belt be worn at all times, even on site?
A	
Setting up for work	33. Give THREE possible reasons why skip handlers should not stray off the designated haul routes.
	A
	34. If setting up to load or deposit skips in a pedestrianised area, state THREE factors that need to be taken into account.
	A
	35. Whenever possible, who should decide the positioning of the skip handler if being loaded by a machine?
	A
	36. The operator is asked to tip material into a new trench. State FIVE different requirements that must be considered or implemented before tipping commences.
	A
	37. Before accepting a loaded container for transport, give TWO pieces of information that a skip driver should know.
A	
38. What do the letters SWL, as stamped on lifting accessories (chains), signify?	
A	
39. Give TWO reasons why the skip handler operator should have an understanding of the type of material being transported.	
A	

continued...

Working tasks	40. When working in a confined area or space, what danger can be present with an articulated skip handler with regards to steering?
	A
	41. When working in a confined area or space, name THREE hazards that can occur.
	A
	42. a) What is the recommended minimum distance to be kept away from overhead power lines mounted on wooden poles when tipping loads and b) explain why a distance should be kept.
	A
	43 a) Why should a skip be raised slowly/carefully when discharging materials, especially with wet or sticky material and b) what would be a consequence if this was not done?
	A
	44. Only two legs of an 8 tonne 4 legged chain sling are being used. What is the maximum load that can be lifted
	A
	45. When would the tip hooks be used?
	A
	46. What may occur if short bodies are being loaded on to a demountable chassis unit?
	A
	47. What makes up the total (or gross) weight of a load that is to be lifted?
	A
	48. Who should determine the maximum load that should be placed onto the vehicle bed?
	A
	49. If using more than one sheet for load security, how should the sheets be placed?
	A
50. What effect can a swinging skip have on the vehicle?	
A	

continued...

Working tasks continued	51. a) When is a trial lift carried out and b) name THREE checks to be made?
	A
	52. State TWO requirements of using a stop block or earth bank (berm) at a trench discharging point.
	A
	53. When should the stabilisers or bogie blocking systems be used?
	A
	54. When tipping a load, the centre of gravity of the machine changes. a) How does this affect the skip handler and b) state TWO actions to avoid accidents?
	A
	55. Name FOUR checks that should be made to any netting before use.
	A
Completing work	56. If a load has to be tipped on a slope, what may happen if the load is tipped downhill and why?
	A
	57. What is regarded as the most productive position for the skip handler to be in when being loaded by a wheeled loading shovel working from a stockpile?
	A
	58. What is the meaning of this hand signal (being demonstrated by the Tester)?
	A
	59. A skip is to be placed in a pedestrian area. What precautions must be undertaken after depositing the skip?
A	
60. After tipping a skip at a landfill site, state THREE precautions to be taken before rejoining the public highway.	
A	
61. Before leaving the cab for a rest break, after parking and switching off the machine, what final action must be carried out?	
A	

Shutdown	62. When parking the machine at the end of the shift, name THREE places where the skip handler should NOT be parked.
	A
	63. Why should a skip handler be re-fuelled at the end of the day?
	A
	64. If the machine is being travelled or working on the public highway, the Road Traffic Act applies. a) What type of licence and which class should the operator hold and b) what is the minimum age allowed?
	A
	65. How are axle loadings calculated?
	A
	66. When is the only time that an overloaded vehicle is allowed to be driven on the public highway?
	A
	67. What is meant by Maximum Authorised Mass (MAM)?
	A
	68. What does the (new) driver Certificate of Professional Competence (CPC) require a driver to undertake every five years?
	A

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Technical Test – Practical

RESOURCES

Required

Machine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skip Handler
Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilities for vehicle travel and parking • Uneven but firm terrain • Flat, firm area to allow lifting and placing of skips/bodies and the tipping of loads • Structure with limited headroom
Other equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Items to create restrictions for manoeuvring • Items to create a restricted headroom environment
Loads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fully loaded and empty skips or bodies
Notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The skip handler selected for the test must be able to carry fully loaded skips or bodies, in serviceable condition and conform with current legislation • There should be sufficient area to allow total vehicle travel for a distance of at least 1 Kilometre • The operator's manuals for the skip handler must be available • All lifting accessories must be fit for purpose and certificated • The weight of all loads must be known

ACTIVITY

Instructions

Sequence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activity 1 must be undertaken at the start of the test • Activities 5 and 6 may be undertaken in any order • Activities 7 be incorporated with activity 5 • Activity 8 may be incorporated with activity 6 • Activity 10 must be undertaken at the end of the test <p>The test must be completed within a given time. The specifications' section gives further information.</p>
Preparing for work	1 Complete all manufacturers' pre-start and running checks
Travelling & manoeuvring (refer to specifications)	2 Prepare the vehicle and skip handler for road travel (loaded and unloaded) 3 Travel to the relevant work area (loaded and unloaded) and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – travel over uneven terrain – undertake tight left- and right-hand turns
Setting up for work	4 Position, prepare and set the skip handler and load for each lift
Working tasks (refer to specifications)	5 Pick up an empty body or skip and carry out activity 2. On completion, deposit the skip/body at a different location 6 Pick up a fully loaded skip/body, secure in preparation for road travel and carry out activity 3. On completion, tip a load from the skip/body at a given position 7 Place a skip/body within a confined space. The vehicle is to be reversed in a straight line prior to entering the confined space 8 Retrieve a loaded skip or body from a restricted headroom location
Completing work	9 Stow all equipment and return the vehicle to the park position
Shutting down	10 Park the vehicle and carry out shut-down and securing procedures
Notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The vehicle must be driven for a distance of at least 1 Kilometre for activity 6 • The vehicle must be driven for a minimum distance of 10 metres before placing the skip/body within the confined space for activity 7

Activity measurements

Confined space restriction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No wider than the width of the vehicle plus 900 mm
Skip/body placing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 800 mm of a given position
Headroom restriction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearance of half of the height of the skip/body (being used for that activity)
Test timings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The test must be completed within 1 hour and 45 minutes

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Technical Test – Practical

Basic details	Test ref.	Candidate name
	Tester name	Candidate ref.
	Tester ref.	Date of test
	Make and model	Start time of test
		Duration

MANDATORY		Correctly carried out during the test?	Y / N
Preparing	1 All pre-start and running checks (or responses to relevant questions)		
Travelling	2 Vehicle and skips/bodies set for road travel		
	3 Stabilisers fully stowed and locked		
	4 Skip/bodies locked/clamped to vehicle bed prior to movement		
	5 Travelled accordingly with the environment		
Setting up	6 Restrictions and hazards cleared		
	7 Area checked and safe prior to setting up for lifting and depositing loads		
	8 PTO/Hydraulic drive system engagement conformed with procedures		
	9 Stabilisers systems set and utilised		
Working	10 Ensured vehicle was level prior to lifting loads		
	11 Select and assess the appropriate lifting accessories		
	12 Vehicle stability maintained at all times		
	13 Securely connected lifting accessories and mechanisms		
	14 Vehicle and skip/body integrity and stability maintained at all times		
	15 Loads did not contact any obstructions		
	16 Lifted and placed all loads in a controlled manner		
	17 Loads secured and stable on vehicle bed		
	18 All skips/bodies sheeted/netted/covered to ensure to spillage of material		
	19 Tipped load at given point		
Completing	20 Skips/bodies placed at given points with tolerance		
Shutdown	21 Re-configured from lifting to travelling duties		
	22 Parked in appropriate place		
Other	23 All shutdown and securing procedures		
	24 Legislation, manufacturers' and health and safety requirements complied with		
	25 Test completed within the given time		

All of these items must be awarded

Achieved / Not achieved

FAULTS

Candidate incorrectly carried out the following:

	Fault	Mark	Penalty
Travelling and manoeuvring	1 Vehicle mounting and dismounting	1	
	2 Full observation before moving and reversing	3	
	3 Full observation whilst travelling and reversing	2	
	4 Engaging transmission drive smoothly from rest	1	
	5 Gear ratios appropriate for travel speeds	1	
	6 Travel speed matches ground type and conditions	2	
	7 Lifting accessories kept clear of the ground (where applicable)	1	
Working tasks	8 Positioning of vehicle for retrieving skips/bodies	2	
	9 Each load lifted clear of surface and checked for integrity	2	
	10 Drawing the vehicle in line with the skip/body	2	
	11 Sequence of using hydraulic/lifting controls	2	
	12 Smooth use of the steering, braking and hydraulic controls	1	
Not exceeded 8 penalties			Total penalties
			Achieved / Not achieved

