

## Uncoupling and Coupling

The second portion of the Tractor-trailer road test is uncoupling and coupling. In this stage, you are required to uncouple the trailer, inspect the tractor, inspect the trailer and couple again with the correct procedure.

### Procedure:

<p><b>Demonstrate:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ensure the window is rolled down, transmission is in neutral, wheels are chocked and vehicle is secure</li></ul>
<p><b>Tell examiner:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Parking brakes are applied</li><li>• Wheel is chocked</li><li>• Vehicle is secure</li></ul>
<p><b>Demonstrate:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ensure the ground under the landing gear is hard and level</li></ul>
<p><b>Tell examiner:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The ground is hard and level</li></ul>
<p><b>Demonstrate:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lower the landing gear until it lightly touches the ground. Make sure you do not raise the trailer</li><li>• Secure the handle</li></ul>
<p><b>Tell examiner:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Landing gear is down</li><li>• There is no gap between fifth wheel and the trailer</li></ul>
<p><b>Demonstrate:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Disconnect and secure air and electrical lines</li><li>• Unlock the fifth wheel using the hook</li></ul>
<p><b>Tell examiner:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Handle is in unlock position</li></ul>

**Demonstrate:**

- Ensure the jaw is open

**Tell examiner:**

- Jaw is open

**Demonstrate:**

- Get into the cab, release the tractor brake and drive forward until the fifth wheel is cleared but the trailer is over the tractor frame
- Stop, put the gear in neutral and apply tractor brake
- Exit the cab

**Tell examiner:**

- The tractor and trailer are disconnected
- The trailer is stable on the landing gear

**Demonstrate:**

- Get into the cab and pull the tractor forward to the direction of examiners choosing
- Put the gear in neutral and apply the tractor parking brake
- Turn on the four-way flasher
- Exit cab
- Inspect the following on the tractor
  - Mounting of airlines and electric cable
  - Air lines and electric cable for any damages or cuts
  - Glad hands and electrical socket for any damages
  - The rubber on the glad hands
  - All the fifth wheel and lock mechanism components for any damages or loose parts
  - Fifth wheel free play
  - All the fasteners of the fifth wheel and mounting brackets on both sides
  - The fifth wheel slider (if applicable)
  - Four way flasher working properly
  - Frame under the fifth wheel for any damages
  - Ensure jaw is open
  - Ensure there is enough grease on the fifth wheel

**Tell examiner:**

- Airlines and electric cable mounted properly
- No cuts or damages on the airlines and electric cable
- Glad hands have no cracks or damages, the rubbers are good
- The electrical socket has no cracks or damages, no object inside
- All the components of fifth wheel and lock mechanism are good, none missing
- Fifth wheel free play is good
- All the fasteners on this side are tight, none missing
- The fifth wheel slider is in lock position
- Four way flasher working properly
- Frame under the fifth wheel has no cracks or damages
- Jaw is open
- There is enough grease on the fifth wheel
- All the fasteners on this side are tight and none missing

**Demonstrate:**

- Ensure there are no objects between the tractor and trailer

**Tell examiner:**

- There is no objects between the tractor and trailer, space is clear

**Demonstrate:**

- Get in the cab
- Release tractor parking brake and put the gear in reverse
- Honk the horn
- Back up the tractor until the fifth wheel lightly touches the trailer
- Pull the tractor parking brake and put the gear in neutral
- Exit the cab
- Ensure the height of the trailer is good

**Tell examiner:**

- The height of the trailer is good

**Demonstrate:**

- Get under the trailer
- Ensure the kingpin is in line with the jaw and jaw is open

- Ensure the kingpin is straight, has no damages, has no locks
- Ensure the trailer plate has no damages

**Tell examiner:**

- The kingpin is in line with the jaw and jaw is open
- The kingpin is straight, has no cracks or damages, not broken, has no locks
- The trailer upper plate has no damages or rust

**Demonstrate:**

- Ensure the trailer sticker is valid
- Ensure the trailer documents are present
- Check the trailer glad hands and for any damages
- Check the electric box is mounted properly, has no damages and no object inside

**Tell examiner:**

- The trailer sticker is valid
- Trailer documents are present
- The glad hands are mounted properly, no cracks or damages, the rubbers are good
- The electric box is mounted properly, cap is secure, all pins straight, no object inside the box

**Demonstrate:**

- Get in the cab
- Release the tractor parking brake and put the gear in reverse
- Reverse until the jaw is locked
- Perform the tug test twice
- Pull the tractor parking brake and put the gear in neutral
- Exit the cab
- Ensure the handle is in lock position
- Ensure there is no gap between fifth wheel and the trailer
- Ensure the jaw is closed around the pin

**Tell examiner:**

- Handle is in lock position

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• There is no gap between the fifth wheel and the trailer</li><li>• The jaw is closed around the pin</li></ul>
<p><b>Demonstrate:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Connect the airlines and the electric cable</li><li>• Ensure the trailers four way flashers are working properly</li></ul>
<p><b>Tell examiner:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The flashers are working so the electric cable is connected properly</li></ul>
<p><b>Demonstrate:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Raise the landing gear and secure the handle</li></ul>
<p><b>Tell examiner:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• There is no gap between the fifth wheel and the trailer</li><li>• I am now going to charge the trailer and do the air leak test</li></ul>
<p><b>Demonstrate:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Release the trailer parking brake</li><li>• Ensure the air pressure is between 80-145 psi</li><li>• Turn off the engine and turn on the ignition</li><li>• Listen for air leaks and look at the gauges</li></ul>
<p><b>Tell examiner:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Supply line has no leak</li></ul>
<p><b>Demonstrate:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Press and hold the brake pedal</li><li>• Listen for air leaks and look at the gauges</li></ul>
<p><b>Tell examiner:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Service line has no leaks</li></ul>
<p><b>Demonstrate:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Apply both parking brakes</li><li>• Remove the chocks</li><li>• Test the tractor parking brake, trailer parking brake, service brake and trailer hand brake</li></ul>