

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

<p>Demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the jaw is open
<p>Tell examiner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jaw is open
<p>Demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get into the cab, release the tractor brake and drive forward until the fifth wheel is fully cleared but the trailer is over the tractor frame • Stop, put the gear in neutral and apply tractor brake • Exit the cab
<p>Tell examiner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The tractor and trailer are disconnected • The trailer is stable on the landing gear
<p>Demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 hazard light • Exit cab • Inspect the following on the tractor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mounting of airlines and electric cable are secure ○ Air lines and electric cable for any damages or cuts ○ Glad hands and electrical socket for any damages ○ The rubber seal on the glad hands ○ Visually inspect that there are no damages on the fifth-wheel, locking mechanism, fasteners and other coupling components (Both sides) ○ Ensure handle and jaw are unlocked ○ Four-way flasher working properly
<p>Tell examiner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The electrical socket has no cracks or damages, no object inside • All the components of fifth wheel, lock mechanism and fasteners are secure, none are missing • Jaw is open • Four way flasher working properly
<p>Demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the space between tractor and trailer is clear
<p>Tell examiner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The space between tractor and trailer is clear
<p>Demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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
<p>Tell examiner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The height of the trailer is good
<p>Demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get under the trailer • Ensure the kingpin is in line with the jaw • Ensure the kingpin is straight, has no damages • Ensure the upper plate on trailer has no damages
<p>Tell examiner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The kingpin is in line with the jaw • The kingpin is straight, has no cracks or damages, not broken • The trailer upper plate has no damages or rust
<p>Demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check the trailer glad hands for any damages

- Check the electric box is mounted properly, has no damages and no object inside

Tell examiner:

- The glad hands are mounted properly, no cracks or damages, the rubber seals are good
- The electric box is mounted properly, no damages, 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
- There is no gap between the fifth wheel and the trailer
- The jaw is closed around the pin

Demonstrate:

- Connect the airlines and the electric cable
- Ensure the trailers four-way flashers are working properly

Tell examiner:

- The flashers are working so the electric cable is connected properly

Demonstrate:

- Raise the landing gear fully and secure the handle

Tell examiner:

- I am now going to charge the trailer and do the air leak test

Demonstrate:

- Release the trailer parking brake
- Ensure the air pressure is between 80-145 psi
- Turn off the engine and turn on the ignition
- Listen for air leaks and look at the gauges

Tell examiner:

- Supply line has no leak

Demonstrate:

- Press and hold the brake pedal
- Listen for air leaks and look at the gauges

Tell examiner:

- Service line has no leaks

Demonstrate:

- Apply trailer parking brakes
- Remove the chocks
- The examiner will ask you to test the tractor parking brake, trailer parking brake, service brake and trailer hand brake before going to the road

Tell examiner:

- I will check the 4 brakes before going to the road