



UK EXPERIENCE IN TRAINING VEHICLE DRIVERS

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Abstract: Training in driving in foreign countries has its own characteristics, to identify which we turned to the analysis of methods and techniques for teaching driving in the UK.

The article analyzes the system of training drivers of motor vehicles, teaching driving in foreign countries. The features of driving in the UK are revealed.

Keywords: Driving training, teaching methodology, driving, training system, vehicle drivers, learning to drive.

Introduction

At present, it is impossible to imagine modern life without road transport. The number of cars is growing every year, but, unfortunately, the number of traffic accidents is also growing. Road traffic accidents caused by drivers make up the majority of all accidents. The ability of drivers to prevent traffic accidents depends on the degree of preparedness.

Driving a car requires the driver to make decisions in a rapidly changing environment. With a constant lack of time, the driver cannot make a detailed analysis of all possible courses of action and take into account their consequences, as well as consult with someone on the correctness of the chosen decision.

Improving the system of driver training (from initial to mastery) contributes significantly to improving road safety.

In the process of preparation, the formation of a complex of knowledge, skills, habits and qualities is carried out that guarantees reliable work in the process of practical control of a vehicle.

Some issues of driver training in countries with a high level of motorization may be of particular interest to us. For example, such a question as the requirements for the teaching staff. In Belgium, Denmark, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, France, Germany and Switzerland, persons who have not undergone special instructor training, but who have a driver's license for the category of vehicles on which they teach, can teach driving, then in the UK, instructors for driving cars must have a special certificate, and in Austria and Switzerland - a



higher technical education, a bachelor's degree from a higher vocational school or an equivalent education [1].

In the UK, the driver training system is special and deserves to be studied.

According to UK law, it is allowed to drive a vehicle from the age of 17, but not only school graduates have to take the exam here. There are no special courses or driving schools for driver training in the UK.

Candidates prepare for the theoretical and practical exams on their own. You can also study individually, for example, with your friend (the main thing is that he should be at least 21 years old and have a driving experience of at least three years). A driver's license brought from another country is only valid for a year after moving to that country.

The Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA) is responsible for registering and issuing driver's licenses. The DVLA is a separate agency responsible for driver licensing and has nothing to do with the traffic police.

Preparing and passing driving license exams, even in your native country in your native language, is a slow and nervous process. For foreigners, the sharpness of these sensations can be safely erected at least in a square. Although all stages of the process here are clearly structured and worked out, for many people - both British and immigrants - passing on the rights turns out to be a lot of stress.

And this is another question, for whom it is more difficult to pass exams for rights: for beginners or for those who have driving experience. The former have to practice longer, and the latter have to relearn, abandoning their previous driving habits and driving style, which are sometimes not even realized.

It is no exaggeration to say that in the UK, strict driving assessment procedures have led to the fact that not just those who can drive a car, but those who do it safely, consciously and confidently, get a license here. It will not work to get a driver's license in this country for others, bypassing the established procedure.

To obtain a driver's license, a candidate must pass several stages of the exam.

The first stage is obtaining a temporary license. The path to the coveted driver's license begins with obtaining a provisional driving license. The minimum age to apply is 15 years 9 months.

UK citizens can order a temporary license by completing an online form. Non-citizens must take a special form from the post office and, after filling it out, send it along with a passport or a biometric residence permit (BRP) to the DVLA.



Foreign citizens can apply for a driver's license at any time, but they are only allowed to take a practical driving test after staying in the country for 185 days.

After receiving a temporary license, you can start preparing for a theory test, as well as taking driving lessons. Theory is taught according to the official Highway Code collection and with the help of the mobile application of the same name. For most of these resources will be enough, they allow you to learn the material and practice in passing the tests.

A driver's license is sent by mail and costs £23.50 (\$37). But these are temporary driver's licenses valid for a year - they learn to drive a car for passing exams. The cost of such training varies. At the Automobile Association of Great Britain, for example, a course of 12 lessons costs £19 per hour. So, for a total of 228 pounds (\$361).

The second stage is a theoretical test. Driver tests are conducted by the DVLA at more than 370 test centers across the country.

Candidates can take the test at any testing center you like. The waiting time for taking the driving test varies.

You need to book the test date on the official website, it will cost £23.

The theoretical exam consists of two parts: a multiple-choice test (minimum of 43 out of 50 correct answers) and a hazard perception test: videos simulating the situation on the road, that is, testing for understanding dangerous situations on the road (14 video clips, when viewed which you need to click as quickly as possible, noticing a potential danger on the road, such as pedestrians, mothers with strollers or a tractor; each clip usually contains two dangers; to pass, you need to score at least 44 out of 75 points). The exam lasts one hour, upon completion, the candidate is informed of the results and immediately issued a certificate.

After passing this test, the candidate will have two years to take the practical part of the exam. If in two years they could not pass the practical part, then they will have to pass the theory again.

A certificate confirming that the theoretical test has been passed, makes it possible to take a practical exam, which consists of several parts.

The third stage is passing a practical exam (practical driving). The practical driving test lasts about 40 minutes and consists of five parts in all severity:

1. Eye test.
2. Show me, tell me (Show me, tell me) car safety issues.
3. General driving ability.



4. Driving in reverse.

5. Self-driving.

Eyesight check. The first part of the driving test is a vision test. The instructor begins by checking the student's vision to ensure that she meets the minimum requirements for driving. A driver candidate must prove that he can see the license plate from a certain distance. To do this, at the beginning of the driving test, you will be asked to read the license plate of a stationary vehicle from a height of 66 feet (20 meters). This is the only medical requirement, no certificates from clinics are needed. If you could only read your license plate with glasses or contact lenses, the law requires you to wear them during your driving test and while driving. If you break or forget your glasses, or bring the wrong glasses with you to take your driving test, you must inform the examiner at the start of the test.

In case of indisposition, illness, surgery, or simply doubts about health, the cadet must inform the instructor. Otherwise, a fine of £1000 is imposed.

Show me, tell me (vehicle safety issues). Candidates in charge of the test are asked two vehicle safety questions based on the basic safety checks a driver must complete to ensure the vehicle is safe to use.

Vehicle safety questions are sometimes referred to as «Show me, tell me» as some of them require the candidate to actually demonstrate a procedure or point out where a particular component is located, while other questions simply require verbal explanation. While some checks may require the candidate to open the hood to determine where fluid levels will be checked, candidates will not need to touch a hot engine or physically check fluid levels.

General driving ability. In this third and longest part of the driving test, which will last approximately 35-40 minutes, the candidate must demonstrate their ability to safely drive and steer a vehicle, and to maneuver in reverse. In addition, every third applicant will also be asked to make an emergency stop.

All routes used for driving tests are designed to be as uniform as possible and all run under varying typical road and road conditions.

The examiner evaluates the quality of the candidate's driving and checks his actions on various instructions (commands), thereby determining the decision made by the candidate.

Candidates will be asked to stop at various locations and leave again safely under various conditions, thereby assessing the candidate's ability to drive in



various situations and conditions. These can be regular stops at the side of the road, exit from behind a parked vehicle, and the start of a hill.

Reverse movement. Candidates will also be asked to complete one of three possible exercises that will include reverse:

- parallel parking on the side of the road;
- parking in the parking bay - either when entering and reversing, or when reversing and exiting (the examiner will tell you what to do);
- Drive to the right side of the road and then turn back about 2 lengths before rejoining traffic.

In addition, every third test candidate will be asked to demonstrate an emergency stop.

Self-driving. The driving section of the test will test how the candidate himself makes decisions while driving. The examiner will ask the candidate to drive independently for 20 minutes, following the directions of the satellite navigation or road signs.

As the test progresses, the examiner completes the relevant data on the report form (DL25).

The trip will last approximately 40 minutes and end at the test center car park.

The examiner then sums up all the faults recorded on the DL25 and informs the candidate of the results of the driving test.

While driving, the examiner will note any driving deficiencies on the driving test report form (DL25).

The mistakes made by the candidate when passing the driving test are divided into «driving faults», «serious faults (malfunctions)» and «dangerous errors (malfunctions)».

Driving faults (often referred to as «minor» faults) are errors in driving technique or inappropriate responses to a hazard or development on the road - in other words, less serious faults that pose no real or potential danger to other road users. Typical examples are sudden use of the brakes, crossed arms on the steering wheel, and excessive swaying at an intersection. Don't forget that you can detect a driver error before you even start the engine with the wrong answer in the «Show me, tell me» section.

Serious errors are errors in driving technique that result in a potential hazard to the driver, passengers, other road users or nearby property, including cases where the candidate repeatedly makes the same driving error or fails to correctly



perform one of the given maneuvers. One serious mistake will result in automatic rejection, although the candidate will be allowed to take the test.

Dangerous errors are errors in driving technique that result in a real danger to the driver, passengers, other road users or nearby property. A dangerous error means that the test is not automatically passed and the examiner has the option to abort the test immediately.

All action and responses of the candidate are evaluated. To pass the test, you need to make no more than 15 minor errors or failures while driving, but no major or dangerous failures. Repeated occurrences of the same malfunction will be classified as a normal problem and will be recognized as a major malfunction.

If the candidate makes even one serious or dangerous mistake, he will fail the test.

For example, when crossing an unregulated intersection, you must turn your head three times: look right, left and right again (in Britain, left-hand traffic). Two turns of the head or a view of the road only in the rear-view mirror - the exam is failed. You can retake after three months.

Driving tests are conducted on public roads, with the driving examiner directing the candidate along one of several test routes selected for that particular testing centre. The British Driving Test covers a number of different types of road and road conditions and candidates will be required to pass an eye test, answer vehicle safety questions and demonstrate a range of driving skills including independent driving and reversing maneuver.

After returning to the test center, the examiner reports the results of the test and, if it is passed, immediately signs the certificate. The examiner will collect the candidate's provisional driver's license and the full driver's license will be mailed. Although the driver's license will arrive in the mail in a few days, you can get behind the wheel and drive home on your own right away (although the instructors strongly recommend not to do this after the exam - for safety reasons). The practical driving test is chargeable: £36.75 per attempt. Moreover, you can take the exam both in the evening and on Saturday, but the payment will be already higher - 46 pounds sterling.

For example, in England they allow theory without practical training, but driving with an instructor is mandatory. The same principle applies in the USA. British motorists are required to pass an internal exam, which determines the readiness of the driver. On average, tuition costs \$1000.



The rights can be issued to drive a car with both manual and automatic transmission, at your choice. But keep in mind that in the UK the car market is still largely manual transmission, and the same is true for the rental car fleet.

If the driving test is passed in an automatic car, the full driving license will be restricted so that the license holder can only drive in automatic transmission vehicles, while driving tests taken in cars with manual transmissions entitle the holder to drive in both manual and manual transmissions. and with automatic transmission.

A learner driver can practice, according to the rules, not only with a professional instructor on a specially equipped car: any driver over 21 years old with more than 3 years of driving experience can teach a beginner. That is, you can save a decent amount by involving family and friends in learning to drive. But in this case, you will have to include the student's insurance and, possibly, the rental of a car for the exam [2] (see table).

Table

Approximate cost of obtaining a driver's license category B
In Great Britain

No. s/n	Name	Required expenses, (£)	Optional expenses
1.	Temporary rights (Provisional Driving License)	34 (online) or 43 (by mail)	
2.	theoretical test	23	
3.	practice test	62 (weekdays) or 75 (weekends)	
4.	Books, workout apps	10 - 25	
5.	Slot tracking apps		10-30
	Total 1:	129-166	10-30 = 139-196
6.	Driving Practice:		
7.	Auto insurance when studying with a non-instructor		70-100 (per month)
	or		
8.	Lessons with an instructor		250-1400 (25-35 per hour x 10-40 hours)
9.	test car		90 (3 hours x30)
	Total 2:		70-1400
	TOTAL:		209-1596

At the same time, a professional instructor is, of course, more effective, since he can point out mistakes, guide the student along the most likely exam routes, and



organize a trial test. In addition, the exam is most often taken by the instructor's car (the student pays for the time at the usual rate, and the instructor waits for the ward in a cafe).

A combined option may be optimal, when a relative or friend gives the first, basic knowledge of driving, and after gaining some confidence, the student hires an instructor.

It is believed that on average, when learning from scratch, it takes at least 40 hours of driving lessons, and for those who know how to drive, 10-15 hours to get acquainted with the approximate route and the course of the exam.

The practical exam can also be taken in the car of friends or family members. In this case, the machine must meet a number of requirements. It must be insured in order to pass the practical test, be in proper technical condition (in particular, without flashing warning lights and damaged tires), road tax must be paid on it, and you must also have a valid vehicle inspection certificate (ILO). A sign with the letter L (learner) must be placed on the front and rear of the car, and an additional mirror must be on the windshield. Video recorders are allowed if they are directed strictly outward and do not record the conversation in the cabin.

In fact, obtaining a driver's license requires patience, money and time from the candidate. On average, if few driving lessons are required, you can expect the whole process to take about six months.

Why so long? You can find a slot for a theoretical exam one month after receiving a provisional license. In order to book a practical exam, more time is needed - 2-3 months. Official registration for the exam opens 24 weeks in advance. And although the market is operated by companies that specialize in catching earlier slots, it will still take weeks to wait. In case of failure in the practical exam, the next one can be taken no earlier than 14 days later.

Everything can be delayed for external reasons. For example, due to adverse weather conditions (hurricane wind, fog or ice), the exam may be canceled. The test center is required to provide another slot for the practice test, but the rules do not set deadlines for this day, which means that you will have to wait again.

You can take both theoretical and practical tests as many times as you like, because you have to pay for each attempt (and look for slots to pass). At the same time, a temporary license is valid only 2 years after passing the theoretical test, and if during this time the candidate has not passed the practical test, he will have to get a temporary license again and pass the theory.



If it is not very difficult to pass the theoretical test, having prepared according to official books, then only 47% of candidates pass the practical test the first time [3].

By the way, the instructor can be asked to be in the car during the test. But although officially it is believed that the presence of an instructor does not affect the result, unofficially for the examiner this is a sign that the student is not confident in his abilities and takes the instructor for the subsequent analysis of errors.

With all due respect to the British to the right to appeal any service, it is impossible to appeal the result of a practical exam.

A dissatisfied candidate can only sue if he believes that the examiner violated the rules of the exam (for example, did not check his eyesight or drove for less than 30 minutes). Disagreement with the result of the exam, the opinion of the examiner or the candidate's poor health is not a reason for appeal. Moreover, the candidate cannot appeal if the examiner interrupted the test due to the dangerous behavior of the examinee on the road. And even if the court takes the side of the student, the exam result will not be reviewed, you can only retake the test for free or return the money for the failed exam.

If a candidate passes a driving test but is denied driving, the court may order an extended driving test if you want to get your driver's license back.

The retesting of disqualified drivers is not a punishment, but a road safety measure aimed at testing the competence of drivers.

The court may order an extended driving test to anyone who:

- convicted of dangerous offenses;
- convicted of other offenses related to mandatory disqualification;

At the end of the court-imposed ineligibility period, you revert to learner driver status. This means that the normal rules for learner drivers apply. For example:

- you must reapply for a provisional driver's license;
- you may only drive if it is being watched by someone over 21 who has held a full license for at least three years for the category of vehicle you wish to drive.
- you may only drive a vehicle that is properly insured for student driver use and displays L-shaped plates front and rear;
- you must retake the theoretical and practical tests.



If you have been ordered to take an extended driving test, this means that you will be taking a test of approximately 70 minutes instead of 40 minutes, which will cover your ability to drive at a much greater depth, taking into account a wider range of road and traffic conditions, including dual carriageways

Since the extended driving test takes longer than the «regular» driving test, you will have to pay a higher fee to pass it.

Driver development courses will improve driving skills after a candidate passes a practical driving test.

The Institute of Advanced Motorists (IAM) was established in March 1956 with the primary goal of promoting road safety. Currently, the total active membership is over 100,000.

Since then, other organizations have been established such as RoADA - The RoSPA Advanced Drivers Association and the High-Performance Club, all of which run a form of «Advanced Driving Test».

Through the Advanced Driving Test, these organizations aim to raise driving standards by improving the skills of drivers. In a report from the Laboratory of Transport and Road Safety, it was found that the accident rate among experienced motorists is 50-70% lower.

Conclusion

Thus, there is a fundamental difference in the system of driver training in the UK.

There is a strict sequence: the student must first learn the Rules of the Road and only after that he starts learning to drive a car. The training of the Rules of the Road and driving is carried out in parallel with us.

After receiving a provisional driver's license, candidates search newspaper ads and the Internet for an affordable and affordable company with a driver's license. Having found one, they proceed to practical exercises. Candidates receive a certificate of completion of a practical driving course only after the instructor is one hundred percent convinced that his cadet is ready to pass exams at the examination center, and not after a certain standard time allotted for driving like we do.

If, for example, 32 hours are allotted for driving according to the standards, then our cadet will drive exactly that much. But we are all very different. For someone, two or three lessons are enough - and he already begins to ride more or less tolerably, and for someone, even 50 hours is not enough!



In the English driver training system, there is no temporary concept. There, the instructor will train the cadet until he is ready to take the most difficult exam. And how many hours this will take, it only matters for the student's wallet. However, if it seems to a London cadet that they are trying to make money on him, he can go to another company and hire another instructor. But there is no doubt that the new instructor will make the same decision about the readiness (or unreadiness) of the ward to pass the driving test in the test area, regardless of time.

By the way, payment for driving lessons in England is made for each lesson separately, so transferring to another company from a financial point of view is not burdensome.

The driver training system in the UK puts the degree of training of the cadet at the forefront, and not the standard hours. But as time and road statistics show, this difference is significant.

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