

Driver Fatigue Quiz

This quiz determines how much you know about sleep and sleep debt. All the questions are True/False. It is drawn from FMCSA material.

1. Coffee overcomes the effects of drowsiness while driving. (T or F)
2. I can tell when I'm going to go to sleep. (T or F)
3. Rolling down my window or singing along with the radio will keep me awake. (T or F)
4. I'm a safe driver so it doesn't matter if I'm sleepy. (T or F)
5. You can stockpile sleep on the weekends. (T or F)
6. Most adults need at least seven hours of sleep each night. (T or F)
7. Being sleepy makes you misperceive things. (T or F)
8. Young people need less sleep. (T or F)
9. Wandering disconnected thoughts are a warning sign of driver fatigue. (T or F)
10. Little green men in the middle of the road may mean the driver is too tired to drive. (T or F)
11. On a long trip, the driver should never take a break but try to arrive at the destination as quickly as possible. (T or F)
12. A microsleep lasts four to five seconds. (T or F)

Answers

1. FALSE – Stimulants are no substitute for sleep. Drinks containing caffeine, such as coffee or cola, can help you feel more alert although the effects last only for a short time.
2. FALSE – Sleep is not voluntary. If you're drowsy, you can fall asleep and never even know it. You cannot tell how long you've been asleep.
3. FALSE – An open window or the radio has no long lasting effect on a person's ability to stay awake.
4. FALSE – The only safe driver is an alert driver. Even the safest drivers become confused and use poor judgment when they are sleepy.
5. FALSE – Sleep is not money. You can't save it up ahead of time and you can't borrow it. But, just as with money, you can go into debt.
6. TRUE – The average person needs seven or eight hours of sleep a night. If you go to bed late and wake up early to an alarm clock, you probably are building a sleep deficit.
7. TRUE – One of the warning signs of a drowsy driver is misjudging surroundings.
8. FALSE – Young people need more sleep than adults. Males under 25 are at the greatest risk of falling asleep. Half of all victims of fatigue-related crashes are under 25.
9. TRUE – If you are driving and your thoughts begin to wander, it is time to stop driving and take a rest.
10. TRUE – Seeing things that are not there is a good indication it is time to stop driving and take a rest.
11. FALSE – Driving, especially for long distances, reveals a driver's true level of sleepiness. To be safe, drivers should take a break every three hours.
12. TRUE – During a "microsleep" of four to five seconds, a car can travel 100 yards, plenty of time to cause a serious crash.