Topographical test route planning: questions and answers

22 practice questions for the TfL topographical assessment, with answers and explanations at the end.

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Questions

How TfL marks a route

1. **The map shows a green marker and a red marker. You start your route at the green marker.**
   - ☐ A. True
   - ☐ B. False

2. **You start your route at the red marker because it is closer to you.**
   - ☐ A. True
   - ☐ B. False

3. **You plan a good route, but you draw it from the red marker back to the green marker. This can lose you marks.**
   - ☐ A. True
   - ☐ B. False

4. **Your route starts on a road near the green marker, not at the marker. You still get full marks.**
   - ☐ A. True
   - ☐ B. False

5. **Your route is legal and reaches the red marker, but it is longer than it needs to be. You lose no marks.**
   - ☐ A. True
   - ☐ B. False

6. **The map shows that a turn is not allowed. You make that turn to save time. This can lose you marks.**
   - ☐ A. True
   - ☐ B. False

7. **You will plan three routes in the assessment: a short route, a short route with a road closure and a long route.**
   - ☐ A. True
   - ☐ B. False

8. **The three route questions are worth less than half of the marks.**
   - ☐ A. True
   - ☐ B. False

9. **A computer marks your route and nobody checks it.**
   - ☐ A. True
   - ☐ B. False

10. **After the assessment, TfL will send you a copy so you can see each mistake.**
    - ☐ A. True
    - ☐ B. False

London journeys

11. **You plan the most direct route from Marble Arch to Hyde Park Corner. It uses Park Lane.**
    - ☐ A. True
    - ☐ B. False

12. **You plan the most direct route from Marble Arch to Hyde Park Corner. It uses Sloane Street.**
    - ☐ A. True
    - ☐ B. False

13. **You plan the most direct route from Paddington station to Euston station. It uses Marylebone Road.**
    - ☐ A. True
    - ☐ B. False

14. **You plan the most direct route from Paddington station to Euston station. It uses Oxford Street.**
    - ☐ A. True
    - ☐ B. False

15. **You plan the most direct route from Holborn station to Waterloo station. It uses Waterloo Bridge.**
    - ☐ A. True
    - ☐ B. False

16. **You plan the most direct route from Tate Britain to Waterloo station. It uses Vauxhall Bridge.**
    - ☐ A. True
    - ☐ B. False

17. **You plan the most direct route from Clapham Junction station to Victoria station. It uses Chelsea Bridge.**
    - ☐ A. True
    - ☐ B. False

18. **You plan the most direct route from Marylebone station to Oxford Circus. It uses Edgware Road.**
    - ☐ A. True
    - ☐ B. False

19. **You plan a route from Waterloo station to Trafalgar Square. You must cross the River Thames.**
    - ☐ A. True
    - ☐ B. False

20. **You plan a route from Victoria station to the Tower of London. You must cross the River Thames.**
    - ☐ A. True
    - ☐ B. False

21. **You plan a route from Camden Town station to King's Cross station. You must cross the River Thames.**
    - ☐ A. True
    - ☐ B. False

22. **You plan a route from the Tower of London to the Shard. You must cross the River Thames.**
    - ☐ A. True
    - ☐ B. False

Answers

1. **A. True.** TfL says the green marker is the start of the route and the red marker is the end.
2. **B. False.** The red marker is the end of the route. You start at the green marker.
3. **A. True.** TfL takes marks off for planning the route in reverse.
4. **B. False.** TfL takes marks off if you do not start or end in the correct place.
5. **B. False.** TfL takes marks off if you do not follow the most direct route.
6. **A. True.** TfL takes marks off for a route or a turn that the symbols on the map do not allow.
7. **A. True.** TfL says there are three route questions, and these are the three types.
8. **B. False.** The three routes are worth 66 of the 100 marks. The multiple-choice questions share the other 34.
9. **B. False.** A skilled assessor marks each route. A different assessor then checks the marking.
10. **B. False.** TfL says it cannot give detailed feedback to each person or give copies of the assessment.
11. **A. True.** True. A car route check from Marble Arch to Hyde Park Corner uses Park Lane, Knightsbridge.
12. **B. False.** False. A car route check from Marble Arch to Hyde Park Corner uses Park Lane, Knightsbridge.
13. **A. True.** True. A car route check from Paddington station to Euston station uses Marylebone Road and Euston Road.
14. **B. False.** False. A car route check from Paddington station to Euston station uses Marylebone Road and Euston Road.
15. **A. True.** True. A car route check from Holborn station to Waterloo station uses Kingsway, Waterloo Bridge, Waterloo Road.
16. **B. False.** False. A car route check from Tate Britain to Waterloo station uses John Islip Street, Lambeth Bridge, Lambeth Palace Road.
17. **A. True.** True. A car route check from Clapham Junction station to Victoria station uses Falcon Road, Battersea Park Road, Queenstown Road, Chelsea Bridge, Ebury Bridge Road.
18. **B. False.** False. A car route check from Marylebone station to Oxford Circus uses Marylebone Road, Portland Place.
19. **A. True.** True. Waterloo station is in Lambeth, south of the river. Trafalgar Square is in the City of Westminster, north of the river.
20. **B. False.** False. Victoria station is in the City of Westminster, north of the river. The Tower of London is in Tower Hamlets, north of the river.
21. **B. False.** False. Camden Town station and King's Cross station are both in Camden, north of the river.

22. **A. True.** True. The Tower of London is in Tower Hamlets, north of the river. The Shard is in Southwark, south of the river.

Sources

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- OSRM route checks, car profile, using OpenStreetMap data, Project OSRM, Live routing, read on the date checked. Checked 1 November 2026. https://project-osrm.org/
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