

Exercise - Trip planning

1. Trip planning review

Content: The objective of this exercise is to give students a chance to put all of their trip planning skills together and plan a complete, safe, and legal trip.

Instructions: Make copies of the Trip Planning handout and distribute them along with six blank log forms to your students. Stress that this trip plan must be done legally, within the hours of service requirements and speed limit laws. Give the students as much time as needed to read the scenario and answer the questions. Then ask for volunteers to share their answers.

2. Design a complete trip plan.

Content: The objective of this exercise is to give your drivers some practical trip planning experience that includes selecting an efficient and safe route.

Instructions: Have your training group return to their smaller groups. Give each group a map and have them plan an efficient route. You may want to select a route that reflects their previous assignment (similar distance, fuel usage, and expenses) or you may want the groups to plan an entirely different trip including all items covered in this session. After the groups have completed the assignment have them present their findings to the entire class.

3. Estimating time, fuel, and expenses.

Content: The objective of this exercise is to give your drivers some practical experience in estimating time, fuel, and expenses.

Instructions: Split your training group into smaller groups of three or four. Give each group a copy of the Time for a New Trip handout. Ask them to (as a group) answer each of the questions posed. When the groups complete the task have the groups share their answers with the entire class. Use this exercise as a discussion tool.

4. Trip planning

Content: Directions: Read the following paragraph and answer the questions below.

You are assigned to an 800 mile run from Appleton, Wisconsin to Rapid City, South Dakota. The tractor you are driving gets 5 miles to the gallon with the type of load you will be hauling. Your fuel tank capacity is 100 gallons. You plan to leave Appleton at 6 a.m. on Tuesday, September 10.

1) What is the range of your vehicle? _____

2) How much fuel is required for the trip? _____

3) How many fuel stops will you make? _____

4) How many hours will it take to make the trip? _____

5) When will you arrive in Rapid City? _____
