

Smart Kids Don't Idle Quiz

1. Idling is good for your car because it warms up your engine and keeps it warm. True or false?

FALSE: Idling can actually be hard on an engine because fuel doesn't undergo complete combustion, and some fuel residues condense on cylinder walls.

2. Idling wastes fuel and money and is hard on the environment. True or false?

TRUE: Idling wastes an enormous amount of money because it burns fuel but doesn't get you anywhere. When you are idling, you are getting **ZERO** miles per gallon of fuel. It's also hard on the environment because it produces needless emissions from the exhaust.

3. Idling is needed on cold winter days to ensure that all of the vehicle's parts are warm enough to operate properly. True or false?

FALSE: Many components of the vehicle will only warm up when the vehicle is moving. You need to idle no more than 30 seconds to get the oil circulating through the engine.

4. The best way to warm a vehicle up is to drive it. True or false?

TRUE: Driving your vehicle ensures that all parts get warmed up properly, and it doesn't waste fuel.

5. It's a good practice to shut off the engine when your vehicle is going to be stopped more for more than:
- 10 seconds
 - 10 minutes
 - 30 minutes

The correct answer is: **(a) - 10 seconds.** More than 10 seconds of idling can use more fuel than turning off the engine and restarting it. Also, studies show that restarting the engine many times has little impact on components such as the battery and the starter motor.

6. Reducing idling by 10 minutes a day can save up to how much money per year on fuel per car annually?

- a. \$10.00
- b. \$60.00
- c. \$180.00

The correct answer is: **(c) - \$180.00.** With current gas prices, unnecessary automobile idling is extremely expensive and wasteful.

7. Which of the following are common reasons for idling:
- a. warming up a vehicle
 - b. sitting in the drive-through lane of a fast food restaurant
 - c. stopping to talk to a friend
 - d. waiting for someone

All of the above answers are “excuses” for idling. You can avoid all of them!

8. A poorly tuned engine uses up to 15 percent more energy while idling than a well-tuned vehicle. True or false?

TRUE: Whether you're driving a vehicle down the road or letting it idle in your driveway, a poorly tuned engine will consume more fuel than one you properly maintain.

9. How many pounds of pollution can you prevent by just reducing your vehicle idling by 10 minutes a day for one year?
- a. 10 pounds
 - b. 25 pounds
 - c. 50 pounds
 - d. $\frac{1}{2}$ pound

The correct answer is: **(c) - 50 pounds.** Carbon monoxide, fine particles and toxic air pollutants can be reduced by up to 50 pounds per year by just one person reducing vehicle idling by only 10 minutes per day.

10. Vehicles create what percent of smog in Indianapolis?
- a. 25%
 - b. 50%
 - c. 5%
 - d. 80%

The correct answer is: **(b) - 50%.** That's why it's so important to make sure that we use our vehicles as efficiently as possible.