

Automotive Technology 5th Edition

Chapter 26 Engine Diagnosis

Opening Your Class

KEY ELEMENT	EXAMPLES
Introduce Content	This Automotive Technology 5th text provides complete coverage of automotive components, operation, design, and troubleshooting. It correlates material to task lists specified by ASE and NATEF and emphasizes a problem-solving approach. Chapter features include Tech Tips, Frequently Asked Questions, Real World Fixes, Videos, Animations, and NATEF Task Sheet references.
Motivate Learners	Explain how the knowledge of how something works translates into the ability to use that knowledge to figure why the engine does not work correctly and how this saves diagnosis time, which translates into more money.
State the learning objectives for the chapter or course you are about to cover and explain this is what they should be able to do as a result of attending this session or class.	Explain the chapter learning objectives to the students as listed: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discuss typical engine-related complaints and engine smoke diagnosis. 2. Discuss the importance of visual checks. 3. Discuss engine noise diagnosis. 4. Explain oil pressure testing and the purpose of oil pressure warning lamps. 5. Explain compression test, and compare wet compression test and running compression test. 6. Describe cylinder leakage test and cylinder power balance test. 7. Explain the vacuum test and exhaust restriction test. 8. Explain how to test back pressure with a vacuum gauge and a pressure gauge, and how to diagnose head gasket failure. 9. Discuss the operation of dash warning lights.
Establish the Mood or Climate	Provide a <i>WELCOME</i> , Avoid put downs and bad jokes.
Complete Essentials	Restrooms, breaks, registration, tests, etc.
Clarify and Establish Knowledge Base	Do a round robin of the class by going around the room and having each student give their backgrounds, years of experience, family, hobbies, career goals, or anything they want to share.

NOTE: This lesson plan is based on the 5th Edition Chapter Images found on Jim's web site @ www.jameshalderman.com

LINK CHP 26: [ATE5 Chapter Images](#)

ICONS



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1. SLIDE 1 Ch26 ENGINE CONDITION DIAGNOSIS

Check for **ADDITIONAL VIDEOS & ANIMATIONS**
@ <http://www.jameshalderman.com/>
WEB SITE IS CONSTANTLY UPDATED

ENGINE DIAGNOSIS

Videos

2. **SLIDE 2 EXPLAIN Figure 26-1** Blowby gases coming out of the crankcase vent hose. Excessive amounts of combustion gases flow past the piston rings and into the crankcase.
3. **SLIDE 3 EXPLAIN Figure 26-2** White steam is usually an indication of a blown (defective) cylinder head gasket that allows engine coolant to flow into the combustion chamber where it is turned to steam.

DISCUSSION: Ask students to describe some common mechanical-related customer complaints about the engine.

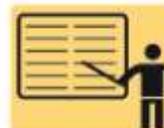
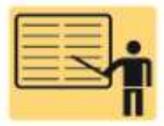
DISCUSSION: Ask students to consider kinds of questions they should ask customers prior to diagnosing an engine problem. Then discuss visual inspections they should conduct

4. **SLIDE 4 EXPLAIN Figure 26-3** What looks like an oil pan gasket leak can be a rocker cover gasket leak. Always look up and look for the highest place you see oil leaking; that should be repaired first.
5. **SLIDE 5 EXPLAIN Figure 26-4** transmission and flexplate (flywheel) were removed to check the exact location of this oil leak. The rear main seal and/or the oil pan gasket could be the cause of this leak.
6. **SLIDE 6 EXPLAIN Figure 26-5** Using a black light to spot leaks after adding dye to the oil.

DEMONSTRATION: Show students location of crankcase vent hose

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HANDS-ON TASK: Have students check oil level and condition of an engine. Then have them check the coolant level and condition of an engine.

DISCUSSION: Talk about the different types of leaks that may be observed under a vehicle and how the color of the fluid indicates the type of leak. Discuss consequences of oil leaks.

ON-VEHICLE TASK: NATEF Task Inspect engine for fuel, oil, coolant and other leaks; determine necessary action (P-1) **PAGE 67**

HANDS-ON TASK: Use foot powder spray trick to check for engine oil leaks. Review Tech Tip in textbook before attempting this task.

- 7. SLIDE 7 EXPLAIN** Figure 26-6 accessory belt tensioner. Most tensioners have a mark that indicates normal operating location. If the belt has stretched, this indicator mark will be outside of the normal range. Anything wrong with belt or tensioner can cause noise.
- 8. SLIDE 8 EXPLAIN** Figure 26-7 A cracked exhaust manifold on a Ford V-8.

DISCUSSION: Ask students to describe some of the possible causes of engine knock. Discuss possible causes of low oil pressure.

ON-VEHICLE TASK: NATEF Task Diagnose engine noises and vibration; determine necessary action (P-2) **Page 68:**

- 9. SLIDE 9 EXPLAIN** Figure 26-8 To measure engine oil pressure, remove the oil pressure sending (sender) unit usually located near the oil filter. Screw the pressure gauge into the oil pressure sending unit hole.
- 10. SLIDE 10 EXPLAIN** Figure 26-9 The paper test involves holding a piece of paper near the tailpipe of an idling engine. A good engine should produce even, outward puffs of exhaust. If the paper is sucked in toward the tailpipe, a burned valve is a possibility.

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HANDS-ON TASK: Have students conduct paper test of the exhaust flow to check for engine problems. Be sure they review Tech Tip in textbook before attempting this task.

DEMONSTRATION: Show students how to use an oil pressure gauge to test oil pressure.

ON-VEHICLE NATEF TASK: Perform oil pressure test; determine necessary action (P-1) Page 74

DISCUSSION: When you are driving your car, oil pressure warning light IS ON. What conditions are indicated? What actions should you take as a driver? Discuss differences between oil light and an oil gauge on dash. Why does oil gauge vary at idle on some vehicles and not on others?

11. **SLIDE 11 EXPLAIN Figure 26-10** A two-piece compression gauge set. The threaded hose is screwed into the spark plug hole after removing the spark plug. The gauge part is then snapped onto the end of the hose.
12. **SLIDE 12 EXPLAIN Figure 26-11** Use a vacuum or fuel line hose over the spark plug to install it without danger of cross-threading the cylinder head.

DEMONSTRATION: Show students a compression gauge & how it attaches to engine.

DEMONSTRATION: Show students hose trick for installing spark plugs

13. **SLIDE 13 EXPLAIN Figure 26-12** Badly burned exhaust valve. A compression test could have detected a problem, and a cylinder leakage test (leak-down test) could have been used to determine the exact problem

DISCUSSION: Discuss the reasons for loss of compression. Ask students to describe how to perform a Compression Test

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DEMO

DEMONSTRATION: Show students how to perform a wet compression test and discuss results.

DEMO

DEMONSTRATION: Show students how to perform a running (dynamic) compression test.



DISCUSSION: Ask how cranking, idling, & higher RPM compare with respect to compression pressure.



ON-VEHICLE NATEF TASK: Perform cylinder compression tests; determine necessary action (P-1) PAGE 72



14. SLIDE 14 EXPLAIN Figure 26-13 typical handheld cylinder leakage tester.

15. SLIDE 15 EXPLAIN Figure 26-14 whistle stop used to find top dead center. Remove the spark plug and install the whistle stop, then rotate the engine by hand. When the whistle stops making a sound, the piston is at the top

DEMO

DEMONSTRATION: Show students how to perform a cylinder leakage test, using a handheld cylinder leakage tester.



ON-VEHICLE NATEF TASK: (A1-A-11) Perform cylinder leakage tests; determine necessary action (P-1) PAGE 73



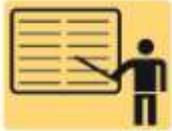
16. SLIDE 16 EXPLAIN Figure 26-15 Using a vacuum hose & test light to ground one cylinder at a time on a distributorless ignition system. This works on all types of ignition systems & provides a method for grounding out 1 cylinder at a time without fear of damaging any component. To avoid possible damage to catalytic converter, do not short out a cylinder for longer than 5 seconds.

DEMO

DEMONSTRATION: Show students how to conduct a cylinder power balance test.

ICONS

DEMO



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DEMONSTRATION: Show students how to use a whistle stop to find top dead center (TDC) of compression stroke.

ON-VEHICLE NATEF TASK: Perform cylinder power balance tests; determine necessary action (P-2) PAGE 71

17. **SLIDE 17 EXPLAIN Figure 26-16** An engine in good mechanical condition should produce 17 to 21 in. Hg of vacuum at idle at sea level.
18. **SLIDE 18 EXPLAIN Figure 26-17** A steady but low reading could indicate retarded valve or ignition timing.

DISCUSSION: Discuss the various types of manifold vacuum tests & their purposes.

19. **SLIDE 19 EXPLAIN Figure 26-18** A gauge reading with the needle fluctuating 3 to 9 in. Hg below normal often indicates a vacuum leak in the intake system.
20. **SLIDE 20 EXPLAIN Figure 26-19** A leaking head gasket can cause the needle to vibrate as it moves through a range from below to above normal.
21. **SLIDE 21 EXPLAIN Figure 26-20** oscillating needle 1 or 2 in. Hg below normal could indicate an incorrect air-fuel mixture (either too rich or too lean).
22. **SLIDE 22 EXPLAIN Figure 26-21** rapidly vibrating needle at idle that becomes steady as engine speed is increased indicates worn valve guides.
23. **SLIDE 23 EXPLAIN Figure 26-22** needle drops 1 or 2 in. Hg from normal reading, one of engine valves is burned or not seating properly.
24. **SLIDE 24 EXPLAIN Figure 26-23** Weak valve springs will produce a normal reading at idle, as engine speed increases, needle will fluctuate rapidly between 12-24 in.
25. **SLIDE 25 EXPLAIN Figure 26-24** steady needle reading that drops 2 or 3 in. Hg when the engine speed is increased slightly above idle indicates that the ignition timing is retarded.
26. **SLIDE 26 EXPLAIN Figure 26-25** A steady needle reading that rises 2 or 3 in. Hg when the engine speed is increased slightly above idle indicates that the ignition timing is advanced.



27. SLIDE 27 EXPLAIN Figure 26-26 needle that drops to near zero when the engine is accelerated rapidly and then rises slightly to a reading below normal indicates an exhaust restriction.

ON-VEHICLE NATEF TASK: Perform engine vacuum tests; determine necessary action (P-1) PAGE 70

DEMONSTRATION: Show students how to test back pressure by using a vacuum gauge

A pressure gauge adapter can be fashioned from a short section of brake line.

Show CHECKING EXHAUST BACKPRESSURE VIDEO: 2 MINUTES: CH26

28. SLIDE 28 EXPLAIN Figure 26-27 technician-made adapter used to test exhaust system back pressure.

DISCUSSION: Compare and contrast various types of exhaust restriction tests.

29. SLIDE 29 EXPLAIN Figure 26-28 tester that uses a blue liquid to check for exhaust gases in the exhaust, which would indicate a head gasket leak problem.

30. SLIDES 30-41 COMPRESSION TEST SHOW

DISCUSSION: Ask students how they would diagnose a head gasket failure. Compare various diagnostic techniques described in textbook: using an exhaust gas analyzer, using a chemical tester, determining if there are bubbles in the coolant, & observing for excessive exhaust steam.

DISCUSSION: As you are driving, coolant temperature light becomes illuminated (or coolant gauge reads high). What actions should you take?

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SEARCH INTERNET: Have students use Internet to research cost and features of 3 types of diagnostic tools covered in the chapter. Ask students to compare various tools based on features and costs. As a class, have them develop list of tools they would recommend for purchase if they were setting up a shop.

HOMEWORK

Crossword Puzzle (Microsoft Word) (PDF)

Word Search Puzzle (Microsoft Word) (PDF)

Crossword

Crossw