



CHENNAI
ACADEMY OF
ARCHITECTURE AND
DESIGN

P E R I Y A P A L L A Y A M , C H E N N A I .

NATA 2024

PREPARATORY GUIDE

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LANGUAGE INTERPRETATION

Ability to correctly & logically generate meaning of words,
sentences, understanding about English grammar.

LANGUAGE INTERPRETATION

VERBAL REASONING

VERBAL REASONING – INTRODUCTION

Verbal reasoning tests are designed specifically to measure the candidate's understanding and interpretation of written information. Such a test can have different levels of varying complexity, that would on the exam type and objectives.

Generally speaking, all levels of education and career require advanced verbal reasoning skills, such as the ability to comprehend written documents, draw accurate and logical conclusions from various texts, and communicate information to others in a clear and unambiguous manner.

When you are taking aptitude tests such as the verbal reasoning test, you must always rely on the information presented. The purpose is to test your deductive reasoning, not general knowledge.

COMPONENTS OF A VERBAL REASONING TEST

The types of Questions can be categorised as follows:

1. True/False/Cannot say
2. MCQ
3. Comprehension-deduction (text comprehension)
4. Analogies
5. Syllogisms
6. English test

01. TYPICAL VERBAL TESTS

A passage is given followed by the statement. The answer choices are True/False/Cannot Say.

Key strategy – Read the passage. Then read the statement. Relate the statement to the information given in the passage and answer based on the following reasoning:

- A. **"True": The statement logically follows the information provided in the passage.**
- B. **"False": The statement does not logically follow the information provided in the passage and thus is incorrect.**
- C. **"Impossible to determine" or "Cannot Say": The passage is neither true nor false; further information is needed in order to determine the accuracy of the given statement.**

02. MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS (MCQs)

This is a form of verbal test in which the candidates are asked to choose one answer out of multiple choices provided for each question (MCQ). The questions are usually based on provided statements or passages, comprised of a few sentences. The candidate's goal is to determine which statement or hypothesis is most appropriate, based on the given statement. Various forms of questions may be asked; the examinee may need to choose the answer which most accurately summarizes the given situation, answers derived from logical conclusions and at times, the single answer that is incorrect. It is therefore extremely important to read the question thoroughly and understand what exactly is asked of you.

Key Strategy – Read the question and find which one is appropriate to the type of question asked. In some cases, the one option that is not appropriate may be asked for. You have to select one option out of the total number of choices given.

Reference: <https://www.apitudetests.org/verbal-reasoning-test/>

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03. COMPREHENSION DEDUCTION QUESTIONS

In these type of questions, the candidate will be confronted with a text of varying length, content and levels of complexity. Following the text, a number of questions are presented, allowing the examiner to analyse the candidate's understanding of the text. Some questions may require the candidate to explain the main idea of the passage, whilst others may require the establishment of logical titles for the relevant tests, or will check the vocabulary proficiency of the candidate with reference to words used in the text in the context given.

Key Strategy – Read the passage once carefully. Then read the questions and find keywords in the question that you can match in the passage. Re-read parts of the passage related to the question to find the appropriate answers from the choices given. You have to work back and forth between the questions and the passage.

04. ANALOGIES

Analogy questions involve a pair of words present in a statement, followed by four different pairs of words. The exercise's purpose is to determine the logical relationship between the given words, and then choose the answer in which the duo follows the same logic.

In order to arrive at the correct answer in analogy questions, it is necessary to focus on a number of elements. In such questions there are a number of commonly used connections:

Degree of intensity:

The second word is equivalent to the first and differs only in intensity; usually taken to the extreme.

Example: love - worship; intolerant – racist

Cause and effect:

The second word can be caused by the first or vice versa.

Example: bomb - destruction; ambition – success

Synonyms:

Both words have similar meanings.

Example: caution - safety; knife - dagger

Antagonism:

The two words have opposite meanings.

Example: prey - predator; pleasant – unpleasant

Item to category:

One of the words constitutes a category and the other word acts as a suitable item.

Example: blue - color; dictionary - definition.

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Many other types of links exist, including the combination of several types of the links mentioned above.

Strategy: *Closely observe the pattern of relationship between the words given in the question and check if the same relationship exists between any pair in the answer choices given.*

It is crucial to pay attention to the order of words. Answers which appear to be of similar logic to the given analogy may be false due to the words being presented in a different order.

The grammatical form of the words in the pairs is decisive. Generally speaking, the easiest way to find the connection between given words is by creating a sentence containing and linking between the two. You must then insert the proposed duo in the same manner and decide if there is a suitable match. It is important to check all possible answers; it is possible that more than one word duo will match the sentence, in which case you will need to create a new sentence with a narrower link between the two words.

05. THE SYLLOGISM:

The syllogism, consists of two propositions (called "premises") from which a third is deduced ("conclusion"), thus linking three statements or arguments. The two premises are often of the following form:

- The major premise, considered to be the most general statement, is the sentence containing the major term.
- The minor premise is the sentence that contains the term for the concluding statement of the syllogism.

The third sentence will contain the conclusion, deduced from the two premises. This consequence may be legitimate or illegitimate; a conclusion is illegitimate when, even though the premises are true, the outcome does not correspond to the statements of the first two exposures.

Example:

Statements:

All pens are pencils.

No pencil is a cap.

If these two statements are true, what is the most logical conclusion?

- All caps are pencils.
- Some caps are pencils.

Give answer:

- if only conclusion I follows
- if only conclusion II follows
- if either conclusion I or II follows
- if neither I nor II follows
- if both conclusions I and II follow

Answer: (d). The right answer is d. Indeed, none of the conclusions presented are true.

Reference: <https://www.apitudetests.org/verbal-reasoning-test/>

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06.ENGLISH

The rules of English are the principles that govern the basics of the English language, covering vocabulary, grammar, conjugation and spelling. The questions may take the form of missing-word statements, be presented in multiple spellings, or refer to different times.

Definitions

According to the dictionary, the meaning of the word 'definition' is: determining the characteristics of a concept, a word, an object, etc.; all the essential properties of something.

Example:

The definition of the saying "make it up" is:

- A. Bluffing
- B. Betrayal
- C. Hiding out
- D. To triumph

Answer: The correct answer is answer A: Bluffing

Synonyms

According to the dictionary, the definition of a synonym is: terms that can be substituted for each other in a statement without changing its meaning.

Examples:

1. Select the synonym of semblance.

- A. Personality
- B. Image
- C. Attitude
- D. Ambition

Answer: The correct answer is answer B: Semblance and image are synonyms.

2. Choose the synonym pair.

- A. Private and Public
- B. Intrusive and Invasive
- C. Mysterious and Unknown
- D. Common – Unique

Answer: The correct answer is answer B: Intrusive and invasive are synonyms.

Paronyms

According to the dictionary, the definition of a paronym is: words of different meaning but of relatively similar form.

Examples

collision : collusion

personnel : personal

Reference: <https://www.apitudetests.org/verbal-reasoning-test/>

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personnel : personal
affect : effect
deprecate : depreciate

Antonyms

According to the dictionary, the definition of an antonym is: a word with a meaning that is contrary to that of another.

Examples:

hot : cold
holidays : school
snow : ice
ugliness: beauty
woman: daughter

Homonyms

According to the dictionary, the definition of homonym is: each of two or more words having the same spelling or pronunciation but different meanings and origins.

Examples:

- address (to speak to) / address (location)
- air (oxygen) / air (an impression of a quality or manner)
- band (a musical group) / band (a ring)
- bark (the outer layer of trees) / bark (the sound a dog makes)
- current (up to date) / current (flow of water)

Odd One Out

'Odd one out' questions are common in verbal comprehension tests. It is therefore important to be aware of the pitfalls that are often present in these types of questions.

Examples:

1. Find the odd one out in the following series of words:

- September/August/June/Monday
- Speak/Listen/Talk/Say
- Tall/Happy/Sad/Surprised

2. Which of the following is the odd one out:

- A. Coin
- B. Banknote
- C. Cheque
- D. Letter
- E. Credit Card

Answer: The correct answer is the answer D: 'Letter'

Reference: <https://www.apitudetests.org/verbal-reasoning-test/>

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SITUATIONAL JUDGEMENT

SITUATIONAL JUDGEMENT

Situational Judgment Tests present candidates with situations and ask them to evaluate several different courses of action that a person could take in that situation. Situational judgment tests aim to assess your judgment, character, and skills in different professional situations, such as conflict management, and ethical issues. It can be presented in different forms.

Broadly speaking, situational judgement tests are looking to get a sense of the candidate's ability in each of these four competencies:

- **Communication skills:** How persuasive are you? Can you select the best means to communicate on someone's level and empathise with them?
- **Teamwork:** Are you willing to prioritise the needs of a team above an individual? Are you capable of encouraging team members effectively?
- **Decision making:** Can you exercise discretion and solid judgement when a situation requires action to be resolved?
- **People skills:** How do you approach feedback? How do you demonstrate leadership?

Situational Judgement Tests (or 'SJTs', as they are often abbreviated to) come in a great variety of guises and have been growing in popularity as an assessment method since the late nineties. Situational judgement tests present candidates with a range of different situations that they might experience in the field for which they are applying. For each situation, a number of possible actions are suggested. There are usually around 4 or 5 actions but this varies. It is the candidate's job to choose between these possible options and judge which is the most effective course of action to take and therefore which action they would take if faced with this situation. SJTs are always multiple-choice; no answers other than the options listed are allowed.

Situational judgement tests can be presented in a variety of different ways and ask candidates for different ways to respond to the situations presented.

There are a variety of ways in which you will be asked to respond to situational judgement test questions:

1. Most and least effective

The situation is presented with four or five possible responses and you are asked to indicate which is 'most' and which is 'least' effective in your judgement.

2. Rated responses

Here the situation is presented with the possible responses and you are asked to rate each response for effectiveness, in your judgement.

3. Ranked responses

The situation is presented with the possible responses and you are asked to place the responses in rank order as to how effective or appropriate they are. Here you will only be able to allocate each number once. So only one response can be ranked '1', only one response '2', only one ranked '3' and only one ranked as '4'.

The numbers may be given explanatory labels e.g. 1 = most appropriate, 4 = least appropriate. OR 1 = most effective, 2 = next most effective, etc. Or they may be left simply as numbers for you to allocate the rank order.

Reference: <https://www.assessmentday.co.uk/situational-judgement-test.htm>

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4. Likely to perform

This is a variation on 'most effective' and 'least effective'. You are given the possible actions or responses and asked to say which you are 'most likely to do' given the situation with which you have been presented and which you would be 'least likely to do'.

SITUATION REACTION TEST

A student will be presented with a situation and they have to judge the situation and react accordingly. Once the situation has been understood they have to choose the correct reaction from the given number of choices. Only the information given has to be used and any other assumptions should not be made. Lateral thinking has to be exercised in arriving at a decision. This test judges the reasoning power of the candidate and his/her ability to react properly and promptly to a situation that may arise in an emergency.

You will be presented Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs) based on Situation and Reaction Concepts, where you will be given four options. You will select the best suitable answer for the question.

Example:

Situation: When you reached the railway platform to catch the train to Bhubaneswar you have seen that the train is about to start and you have not bought the ticket yet.

Options :

A - Catch the train and in the next stoppage inform the T.T.I about your problem.

B - Wait for the next train.

C - Don't enter the train without any ticket.

D - Rush to the train and when the TT comes hide yourself in the toilet.

Answer – Option A

Explanation:

If you get caught then you would be fined, so the best and most ethical option is enter the train and inform the TT about your problem.

SITUATION PUZZLES:

A Situation puzzle is one in which you are given a seemingly unusual set of circumstances and you have to try and figure out what happened or what's going on. Think of a situation puzzle as a riddle that requires you to think out-of-the-box to fill in the missing parts of a very strange, short story.

In general, lateral thinking puzzles can have multiple solutions since by their nature they are open-ended. However, there is often one "best" solution for each puzzle. When attempting to solve a lateral thinking puzzle analyze the clues carefully and don't forget to think really far outside of the box. In attempting to solve these puzzles, look for words that may have multiple meanings as this could be a hint to the puzzle's solution.

Example:

A family has a chicken coop containing one dozen egg producing hens. One night, a terrible storm came and killed all but eight chickens. How many chickens did the family have in the morning?

Answer: The family still had 12 chickens: 4 dead ones and 8 alive!

Reference: https://www.tutorialspoint.com/reasoning/reasoning_situation_and_reaction_examples.htm