

Mental Ability & Logical Reasoning Question & Answers

1.

Which word does NOT belong with the others?

A.parsley

B.basil

C.dill

D.mayonnaise

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

Parsley, basil, and dill are types of herbs. Mayonnaise is not an herb.

2.

Which word does NOT belong with the others?

A.inch

B.ounce

C.centimeter

D.yard

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

An ounce measures weight; the other choices measure length.

3.

Which word does NOT belong with the others?

A.tyre

B.steering wheel

C.engine

D.car

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

Tyre, steering wheel, and engine are all parts of a car.

4.

Which word does NOT belong with the others?

A.tulip

B.rose

C.bud

D.daisy

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

Tulip, rose, and daisy are all types of flowers. A bud is not.

5.

Which word does NOT belong with the others?

A.rye

B.sourdough

C.pumpernickel

D.loaf

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

Loaf, sourdough, and pumpernickel are types of bread. A rye is not a bread type.

Loaf - Bread that is shaped and baked in one piece and usually sliced before being eaten.

Pumpernickel - Dark, dense German bread made from coarsely ground whole-grain rye.

Sourdough - Leaven for making bread, consisting of fermenting dough, typically that left over from a previous batch.

Rye - A wheatlike cereal plant that tolerates poor soils and low temperatures.

6.

A Guarantee is a promise or assurance that attests to the quality of a product that is either (1) given in writing by the manufacturer or (2) given verbally by the person selling the product. Which situation below is the best example of a Guarantee?

A.Melissa purchases a DVD player with the highest consumer ratings in its category.

B.The salesperson advises Curt to be sure that he buys an air conditioner with a guarantee.

C.The local auto body shop specializes in refurbishing and selling used cars.

D.Lori buys a used digital camera from her coworker who says that she will refund Lori's money if the camera's performance is not of the highest quality.

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

Choices a, b, and c do not describe situations in which a product is guaranteed.

Only choice d reflects a situation in which a seller attests to the quality of a product by giving the buyer a promise or assurance about its quality.

7.

The rules of baseball state that a batter Legally Completes His Time at Bat when he is put out or becomes a base runner. Which situation below is the best example of a batter Legally Completing His Time at Bat?

A. Jared's blooper over the head of the short-stop puts him in scoring position.

B. The umpire calls a strike, even though the last pitch was way outside.

C. The pitcher throws his famous knuckleball, Joe swings and misses, and the umpire calls a strike.

D. The count is two balls and two strikes as Mario waits for the next pitch.

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

The fact that Jared is in scoring position due to his blooper indicates that he has hit the ball and is now a base runner; therefore, he has legally completed his time at bat. Choices b and c both describe situations in which a strike is called, but they do not state that the batter has been put out or that he is now a base runner. Choice d describes a situation in which the batter, Mario, is still at the plate waiting for the next pitch.

8.

Erratic Behavior occurs when an individual acts in a manner that lacks consistency, regularity, and uniformity. Which situation below is the best example of Erratic Behavior?

A. Julia cannot contain her anger whenever the subject of local politics is discussed.

B. Martin has just been told that he is being laid off. Before leaving his supervisor's office, he punches a hole in the door.

C. Rhonda has visited the dealership several times, but she still cannot decide which car to buy.

D. In the past month, Jeffrey, who has been a model employee for three years, has repeatedly called in sick, forgotten important meetings, and been verbally abusive to colleagues.

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

Jeffrey's recent behavior is clearly inconsistent and irregular.

9.

A Tiebreaker is an additional contest or period of play designed to establish a winner among tied contestants. Which situation below is the best example of a Tiebreaker?

A. At halftime, the score is tied at 28.

B. Mary and Megan have each scored three goals in the game.

C. The referee tosses a coin to decide which team will have possession of the ball first.

D.The Sharks and the Bears each finished with 14 points, and they are now battling it out in a five-minute overtime.

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

This is the only choice that indicates that an additional period of play is taking place to determine the winner of a game that ended in a tie.

10.

In the Maple Hill school district, a Five-Day Suspension occurs when a student is not permitted to attend school for five days for (1) physically assaulting another student, a teacher, or a school employee or (2) willfully destructing or defacing school property. Which situation below is the best example of a Five-Day Suspension?

A.Lillian gets caught cheating on a math test for the second time and is suspended from school.

B.Marc is asked to leave the classroom due to his constant disruptions.

C.Franny uses spray paint to write derogatory comments on the locker room wall and she is given a suspension.

D.Ms. Farmer tells her class that students who fail the midterm exam will be expected to stay after school for tutoring help.

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

Although choices a and c both describe suspensions, only choice c describes a suspension that is the result of one of the two scenarios given in the definition of a five-day suspension (physical assault or destructing or defacing school property). Therefore, we can assume that Franny's suspension, which is the result of spray painting school property, will be a five-day suspension. Since the definition doesn't provide any information about suspensions for cheating, we can assume that Lillian's suspension does not fall into the five-day suspension category.

11.

Look at this series: 1.5, 2.3, 3.1, 3.9, ... What number should come next?

A.4.2

B.4.4

C.4.7

D.5.1

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

In this simple addition series, each number increases by 0.8.

12.

Look at this series: 14, 28, 20, 40, 32, 64, ... What number should come next?

A.52

B.56

C.96

D.128

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

This is an alternating multiplication and subtracting series: First, multiply by 2 and then subtract 8.

13.

Look at this series: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, ... What number should come next?

A.11

B.12

C.13

D.14

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

This is a simple addition series. Each number increases by 2.

14.

Look at this series: 201, 202, 204, 207, ... What number should come next?

A.205

B.208

C.210

D.211

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

In this addition series, 1 is added to the first number; 2 is added to the second number; 3 is added to the third number; 4 is added to the fourth number; and go on.

15.

Look at this series: 544, 509, 474, 439, ... What number should come next?

A.404

B.414

C.420

D.445

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

This is a simple subtraction series. Each number is 35 less than the previous number.

16.

Throughout the ages the businessman has helped build civilisation's great cities, provided people with luxuries and artists with patronage, and lift his fellow citizens to understand the standard of living. In the last few centuries the businessman has seeded the Industrial Revolution around the world.

The passage best supports the statement that the businessman -

- A.is accountable to the society.
- B.lives luxurious and comfortable life.
- C.is the beneficiary of the Industrial Revolution.
- D.is capable of raising his standard of living.
- E.has contributed to the growth of civilisation.

Answer: Option E

17.

There is a shift in our economy from a manufacturing to a service orientation. The increase in service-sector will require the managers to work more with people rather than with objects and things from the assembly line.

This passage best supports the statement that:

A.managers should have a balanced mind.

B.assembly line will exist in service organisations.

C.interpersonal skills will become more important in the future work place.

D.manufacturing organisations ignore importance of people.

E.service organisations will not deal with objects and things.

Answer: Option C

18.

The virtue of art does not allow the work to be interfered with or immediately ruled by anything other than itself. It insists that it alone shall touch the work in order to bring it into being. Art requires that nothing shall attain the work except through art itself.

This passage best supports the statement that:

A.art is governed by external rules and conditions.

B.art is for the sake of art and life.

C.art is for the sake of art alone.

D.artist realises his dreams through his artistic creation.

E.artist should use his art for the sake of society.

Answer: Option C

19.

Statement: Should the railways in India be privatized in a phased manner like other public sector enterprises?

Arguments:

Yes. This is the only way to bring in competitiveness and provide better services to the public.

No. This will pose a threat to the national security of our country as multinationals will enter into the fray.

A.Only argument I is strong

B.Only argument II is strong

C.Either I or II is strong

D.Neither I nor II is strong

E.Both I and II are strong

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

Privatization would no doubt lead to better services. But saying that this is the 'only way' is wrong. So, argument I does not hold. Argument II also seems to be vague.

20.

Statement: Should internal assessment in colleges be abolished?

Arguments:

Yes. This will help in reducing the possibility of favouritism.

No, teaching faculty will lose control over students.

A.Only argument I is strong

B.Only argument II is strong

C.Either I or II is strong

D.Neither I nor II is strong

E.Both I and II are strong

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

Abolishing the internal assessment would surely reduce favouritism on personal grounds because the teachers would not be involved in examination system so that they cannot extend personal benefits to anyone. So, argument I holds strong. But it will not affect the control of teaching faculty on students because still the teachers would be teaching them. So, argument II is vague.

21.

Statements: All poles are guns. Some boats are not poles.

Conclusions:

All guns are boats.

Some boats are not guns.

A. Only conclusion I follows

B. Only conclusion II follows

C. Either I or II follows

D. Neither I nor II follows

E. Both I and II follow

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

Clearly, the term 'guns' is distributed in both the conclusions without being distributed in any of the premises. So, neither conclusion follows.

22.

Statements: Many scooters are trucks. All trucks are trains.

Conclusions:

Some scooters are trains.

No truck is a scooter.

A. Only conclusion I follows

B. Only conclusion II follows

C. Either I or II follows

D. Neither I nor II follows

E. Both I and II follow

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

Since the first premise is particular, the conclusion must be particular and should not contain the middle term. Thus, only I follows.

23.

Statements: Some papers are pens. Angle is a paper.

Conclusions:

Angle is not a pen.

Angle is a pen.

A. Only conclusion I follows

B. Only conclusion II follows

C. Either I or II follows

D. Neither I nor II follows

E.Both I and II follow

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

Since the middle term 'papers' is not distributed even once in the premises, no definite conclusion follows. However, I and II involve only the extreme terms and form a complementary pair. Thus, either I or II follows.

24.

Statements: All birds are tall. Some tall are hens.

Conclusions:

Some birds are hens.

Some hens are tall.

A.Only conclusion I follows

B.Only conclusion II follows

C.Either I or II follows

D.Neither I nor II follows

E.Both I and II follow

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

Since the middle term 'tall' is not distributed even once in the premises, no definite conclusion follows. However, II is the converse of the second premise and so it holds.

25.

Statements: Some papers are pens. Some pencils are pens.

Conclusions:

Some pens are pencils.

Some pens are papers.

A. Only conclusion I follows

B. Only conclusion II follows

C. Either I or II follows

D. Neither I nor II follows

E. Both I and II follow

26.

Statement: Should adult education programme be given priority over compulsory education programme?

Arguments:

No. It will also help in success of compulsory education programme.

Yes. It will help to eliminate the adult illiteracy.

A. Only argument I is strong

B. Only argument II is strong

C. Either I or II is strong

D. Neither I nor II is strong

E. Both I and II are strong

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

Clearly, argument I gives a reason in support of the statement and so it does not hold strong against it. The adult education programme needs to be given priority because it shall eliminate adult illiteracy and thus help in further spread of education. So, only argument II is strong enough.

27.

Statement: Should new universities be established in India?

Arguments:

No. We have still not achieved the target for literacy.

No. We will have to face the problem of unemployed but highly qualified people.

A. Only argument I is strong

B. Only argument II is strong

C. Either I or II is strong

D. Neither I nor II is strong

E. Both I and II are strong

Answer: Option E

Explanation:

Clearly, instead of improving upon higher education, increasing the literacy rate should be heeded first. So, argument I holds. Also, more number of universities will produce more degree holders with the number of jobs remaining the same, thus increasing unemployment. So, argument II also holds strong.

28.

Statement: Should non-vegetarian food be totally banned in our country?

Arguments:

Yes. It is expensive and therefore it is beyond the means of most people in our country.

No. Nothing should be banned in a democratic country like ours.

A. Only argument I is strong

B. Only argument II is strong

C. Either I or II is strong

D. Neither I nor II is strong

E. Both I and II are strong

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

Clearly, restriction on the diet of people will be denying them their basic human right. So, only argument II holds.

29.

Statement: Should a total ban be put on trapping wild animals?

Arguments:

Yes. Trappers are making a lot of money;

No. Bans on hunting and trapping are not effective.

A. Only argument I is strong

B. Only argument II is strong

C. Either I or II is strong

D. Neither I nor II is strong

E. Both I and II are strong

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

Clearly, ban is necessary to protect our natural environment. So, none of the arguments is strong enough.

30.

Statement: Should Government close down loss-making public sector enterprises?

Arguments:

No. All employees will lose their jobs, security and earning, what would they do?

Yes. In a competitive world the rule is 'survival of the fittest'.

A. Only argument I is strong

B. Only argument II is strong

C. Either I or II is strong

D. Neither I nor II is strong

E. Both I and II are strong

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

Closing down public-sector enterprises will definitely throw the engaged persons out of employment. So, argument I holds. Also, closing down is no solution for a loss-making enterprise. Rather, its causes of failure should be studied, analyzed and the essential reforms implemented. Even if this does not work out, the enterprise may be privatized. So, argument II is vague,

31.

Statements: All windows are doors. No door is wall.

Conclusions:

No window is wall.

No wall is door.

A. Only conclusion I follows

B. Only conclusion II follows

C. Either I or II follows

D. Neither I nor II follows

E. Both I and II follow

Answer: Option E

Explanation:

Since both the premises are universal and one premise is negative, the conclusion must be universal negative. Also, the conclusion should not contain the middle term. So, I follows. However, II is the converse of the second premise and thus it also holds,

32.

Statements: Most teachers are boys. Some boys are students.

Conclusions:

Some students are boys.

Some teachers are students.

A. Only conclusion I follows

B. Only conclusion II follows

C. Either I or II follows

D. Neither I nor II follows

E. Both I and II follow

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

Since both the premises are particular, no definite conclusion follows. However, I is the converse of the second premise and thus it holds.

33.

Statements: No man is a donkey. Rahul is a man.

Conclusions:

Rahul is not a donkey.

All men are not Rahul.

A. Only conclusion I follows

B. Only conclusion II follows

C. Either I or II follows

D. Neither I nor II follows

E. Both I and II follow

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

Since one premise is negative, the conclusion must be negative. Conclusion II cannot follow as it contains the middle term. So, only I follows.

34.

Statements: Some books are pens. No pen is pencil.

Conclusions:

Some books are pencils.

No book is pencil.

A. Only conclusion I follows

B. Only conclusion II follows

C. Either I or II follows

D. Neither I nor II follows

E. Both I and II follow

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

As discussed above, the conclusion must be particular negative and should not contain the middle term. So, it follows that 'Some books are not pencils'. However,

I and II involve only the extreme terms and form a complementary pair. Thus, either I or II follows.

35.

Statements: All men are married. Some men are educated.

Conclusions:

Some married are educated.

Some educated are married.

A. Only conclusion I follows

B. Only conclusion II follows

C. Either I or II follows

D. Neither I nor II follows

E. Both I and II follow

Answer: Option E

Explanation:

Since one premise is particular, the conclusion must be particular and should not contain the middle term. So, I follows. II is the converse of I and thus it also holds.

36.

Statement: Should there be uniforms for students in the colleges in India as in the schools?

Arguments:

Yes, this will improve the ambience of the colleges as all the students will be decently dressed.

No. The college students should not be regimented and they should be left to choose their clothes for coming to the college.

A. Only argument I is strong

B. Only argument II is strong

C. Either I or II is strong

D. Neither I nor II is strong

E. Both I and II are strong

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

Clearly, after being in strict discipline and following a formal dress code of the school for so many years, the students must be granted some liberty in college life, as they have to take on the responsibilities of life, next. Besides, schools adopt uniforms to take care of the security of the child - an aspect which doesn't matter much in the colleges. So, argument II holds strong. Also, the environment of the college depends on the students' dedication and etiquettes and not on their uniforms. So, argument I is vague.

37.

Statement: Should India engage into a dialogue with neighbouring countries to stop cross border tension?

Arguments:

Yes. This is the only way to reduce the cross border terrorism and stop loss of innocent lives.

No. Neighbouring countries cannot be relied upon in such matters, they may still engage in subversive activities.

A. Only argument I is strong

B. Only argument II is strong

C. Either I or II is strong

D. Neither I nor II is strong

E. Both I and II are strong

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

Clearly, peaceful settlement through mutual agreement is the best option, whatever be the issue. So, argument I holds strong. Moreover, the problem indicated in II can be curbed by constant check and vigilance. So, II seems to be vague.

38.

Statement: Should there be a world government?

Arguments:

Yes. It will help in eliminating tensions among the nations.

No. Then, only the developed countries will dominate in the government.

A. Only argument I is strong

B. Only argument II is strong

C. Either I or II is strong

D. Neither I nor II is strong

E. Both I and II are strong

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

Clearly, a world government cannot eliminate tensions among nations because it will also have the ruling group and the opposition group. Further, the more powerful and diplomatic shall rule the world to their interests. So, only argument II holds.

39.

Statement: Should the practice of transfers of clerical cadre employees from government offices of one city to those of another be stopped?

Arguments:

No. Transfer of employees is a routine administrative matter and we must continue it. <https://www.freshersnow.com/previous-year-question-papers/>

Yes. It involves lot of governmental expenditure and inconvenience too many compared to the benefits it yields.

A. Only argument I is strong

B. Only argument II is strong

C. Either I or II is strong

D. Neither I nor II is strong

E. Both I and II are strong

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

It is not necessary that any practice which has been in vogue for a long time is right and it must be continued. So, argument I is not strong. Also, a practice must be continued or discontinued in view of its merits/demerits and not on grounds of the expenditure or procedures it entails. The policy of transfer is generally practised to do away with corruption, which is absolutely essential. So, argument II also does not hold.

40.

Statement: Is paying ransom or agreeing to the conditions of kidnappers of political figures, a proper course of action?

Arguments:

Yes. The victims must be saved at all cost.

No. It encourages the kidnappers to continue their sinister activities.

A. Only argument I is strong

B. Only argument II is strong

C. Either I or II is strong

D. Neither I nor II is strong

E. Both I and II are strong

Answer: Option E

Explanation:

Both the arguments are strong enough. The conditions have to be agreed to, in order to save the life of the victims, though actually they ought not to be agreed to, as they encourage the sinister activities of the kidnappers.