

## Activity 1: Selection test example questions

Have a go at answering the following questions. This should give you an idea of the different types of questions that might be set at a selection test. Answers are at the end of this section.

### Questions to assess ability in reasoning

These questions mainly test your verbal, spatial, numerical and mechanical awareness skills and reasoning.

### Verbal Reasoning

1. Read the following passage and give your answer based on the information in the text only.

It is now widely acknowledged that the movement against racism in Western European societies is gaining momentum. Openness to diversity and multicultural societies resulting from mass immigration have also contributed to reduce discrimination suffered by minority groups. Unfortunately racial discrimination remains prevalent. Racial discrimination can create anarchy and damage the delicate fabric of society which can undermine a nation's resilience.

**Question:** Mass immigration leading to multicultural societies has contributed to increased racism in Western Europe.

- A) True    B) False    C) Cannot say

2. For each question, you must identify the relationship that exists between each pair of words and determine which of the additional four words maintains the same logical relationship. Always pay attention to the order of the words in each pair. If more than one pair seems to apply, they may be in a different order than the original pair or words.

**a decrease : increase**

- A) stretch : enlarge    B) beauty : ugliness    C) sitting : walking    D) square : triangle

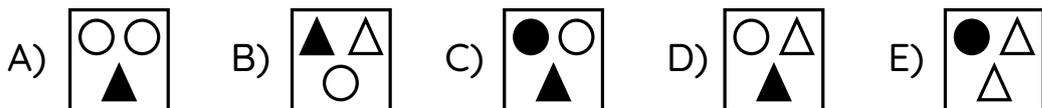
**b All owls have night vision, and birds that have night vision aren't black.**

Which of the following statements must be true?

- A. Black ravens don't have night vision.  
B. All owls are not black.  
C. Birds that are black lack night vision.  
D. All of the above.

## Spatial Reasoning

3. Choose the correct shape:



## Numerical Reasoning

4. Job prospects for University Graduates

Type of University	1990		2000	
	Unemployed	Employed	Unemployed	Employed
Private	155	1475	125	1350
State	125	1610	150	1250

How many more employed were there in 1990 than in 2000?

- A) 75      B) 360      C) 485      D) 100      E) 135

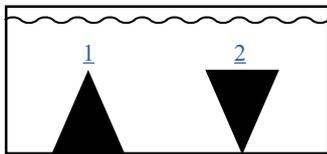
5. Ann, Matt and Zack are working for a cleaning company. Together, they can clean a house in 2 hours. If Ann does the job alone she can finish it in 5 hours. If Matt does the job alone he can finish it in 6 hours.

How long will it take Ann and Zack together to finish the job?

- A) 3 hours      B) 4 hours      C) 5.5 hours      D) 6 hours      E) 7.5 hours

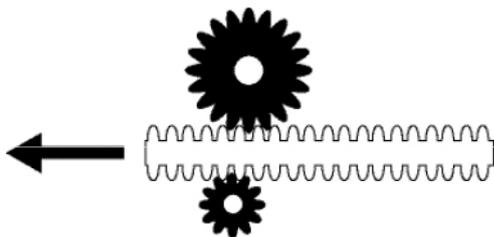
## Mechanical and Electrical Reasoning

7. Two identical triangles are placed inside a water tank as shown in the diagram below. The triangles are fixed in position. On which triangle will a greater force be exerted?



- A) 1      B) 2      C) Equal on both      D) Cannot say

8. The diagram shows two fixed cogwheels which can only rotate around their own axis. A rack is inserted between the two cogwheels and is moved in the direction shown by the arrow.

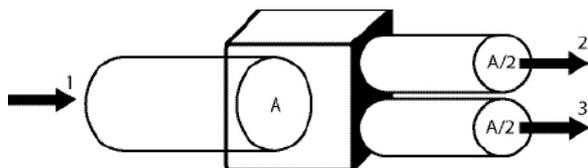


What are the directions of movement and velocities of the cogwheels?

- A) Same direction, same velocities      B) Same direction, different velocities  
C) Different directions, same velocities      D) Different directions, different velocities

9. A tube is attached to the left hand side of a connector. Two tubes, situated one on top of the other, are connected to the right hand side. Water enters the system from the left tube, flows at a constant velocity through the connector, and exits via the two right hand tubes.

At which opening is the velocity of water the greatest?



- A) Opening 1      B) Opening 2      C) Opening 3  
D) Opening 2 and 3      E) Same velocity at all openings

## Questions to assess situational judgement and personality

Measures how you would respond to a situation at work and how you would fit in. This is sometimes called psychometric testing.

**10.** You are a department manager and you have recently thought of a new procedure that you believe would improve the work process. Some of the employees in your department agree with the change and some do not. One of your employees openly criticises the idea to your director.

What would you do and why? Choose ONE option.

- A. You decide not to respond to the critics in order to avoid unnecessary conflict.
- B. You reprimand the employee for going over your head to the director and work to promote your idea with even more enthusiasm.
- C. You meet the employee for a talk and explain that bypassing your authority is unacceptable.
- D. Employees' trust in their manager is important so you decide to implement only some of the changes to keep my employees satisfied.

**11 .** Please indicate whether the statement describes your behaviours and/ or beliefs.

When I am publicly criticised, I don't usually feel personally offended.

- A) true      B) false

I find routine boring.

- A) true      B) false

### Note:

Psychometric test samples courtesy of JobTestPrep

[www.jobtestprep.com](http://www.jobtestprep.com)

# Answers

**1. B** (The text clearly states that, “multicultural societies resulting from mass immigration have contributed to a reduction in discrimination suffered by minority groups.”)

**2a. B** (Ugliness. Decrease and increase are verbs that are opposites. ‘Beauty’ and ‘ugliness’ are nouns that are opposite. However, these are the only pairs of opposites because sitting is not the opposite of walking.)

**2b. D** (The illustration shows that black ravens don’t have night vision, all owls aren’t black and finally that black birds lack night vision. All of the statements are true.)

**3. D    4. C**

**5. A    Step 1** In order to solve this problem we will first find out Zack’s work rate (indicated as Z). A rate is how quickly something is performed. Use the rate formula to find out the work rate of each member: Quantity of houses completed = Work Rate x Time.

Thus, we conclude that Work Rate = Quantity of houses completed / Time.

We know the total work rate of all three people together is 1 house (the quantity) in 2 hours (the time), thus rate =  $1/2$ .

Each person contributes his share to that total rate, meaning:

Ann + Matt + Zack = total

$$1/5 + 1/6 + 1/Z = 1/2$$

$$\Rightarrow 1/Z = 1/2 - 1/5 - 1/6 \quad /*30$$

$$\Rightarrow 30/Z = 15 - 6 - 5 = 4 \quad /*Z$$

$$\Rightarrow 30 = 4Z$$

$$\Rightarrow Z = 7.5$$

Thus, Zack’s work rate:  $1/7.5$

## Step 2

The total time it will take Ann and Zack to clean a house:

$$1/t = 1/5 + 1/7.5 \quad /*15$$

$$15/t = 3 + 2 = 5 \quad /*(t/5)$$

$$\Rightarrow t = 3 \text{ hours.}$$

**6. B** (The series advances by dividing the previous term by a number which increases by 1.)

An additional way to tackle this question would be to examine it backwards- starting from the last term, working your way up to the first term. This tip can be useful especially in questions where you are required to find a term that is in the middle of the series.

**7. B    8. D    9. E    10. C**

**11.** For psychometric tests there are no right or wrong answers.