

PUNJAB PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BRANCH OFFICER

(BPS – 17) • 2016

85 FULLY SOLVED MCQs

Complete Answer Key — Corrected & Verified

Every question has been rechecked for accuracy, with the correct option highlighted and ✓ ticked, plus a short explanation for every single answer.

ONE MCQ PER SECTION • ANSWERS HIGHLIGHTED & TICKED • EXPLANATIONS INCLUDED

General Knowledge

English

Pakistan Studies

Islamic Studies

Math & Reasoning

Computer Science

Prepared for Competitive Exam Preparation

FPSC • PPSC • PMS • CSS

Who is the President of Egypt?

A Mohammad Al-Hussain

B Hosni Mubarak

C Bashar-al-Asad

D Abdel Fattah el-Sisi



i EXPLANATION

Abdel Fattah el-Sisi has served as President of Egypt since 2014. Hosni Mubarak was ousted in 2011, and Bashar al-Asad is the President of Syria, not Egypt.

When did the British return Hong Kong to China?

A 2000

B 1997



C 1999

D 1980



EXPLANATION

Britain formally handed Hong Kong back to China on 1 July 1997, ending over 150 years of colonial rule.

Find the relationship: “Zoo is to Animals as Aquarium is to:”

A Birds

B Alligators

C Butterflies

D Fish



i EXPLANATION

A zoo houses and displays animals, just as an aquarium houses and displays fish (and other aquatic life).

Creation of exact copy of a single gene, cell or organism is called?

A Osmosis

B Reproduction

C Hybridization

D Cloning



i EXPLANATION

Cloning is the biological process of producing a genetically identical copy of a gene, cell, or organism.

Babar Azam is famous in the field of:

A Journalism

B Singing

C Films

D Cricket



i EXPLANATION

Babar Azam is a leading Pakistani international cricketer, known for captaining the Pakistan cricket team.

Which of the following is a term used for the process of transferring documents and graphics from your computer to a server on the internet?

A Downloading

B Social networking

C Uploading



D Blogging

i EXPLANATION

Uploading refers to sending data from a local device to a remote server, the opposite of downloading.

SAARC was established in:

A 1985



B 1984

C 1992

D 1980

i EXPLANATION

The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) was founded on 8 December 1985 in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Burhan Wani was a:

A Journalist

B Lawyer

C Pilot

D Mujahid



i EXPLANATION

Burhan Wani was a militant commander of Hizbul Mujahideen in Indian-occupied Kashmir, killed in 2016.

Where is the city of Aleppo located?

A Turkey

B Lebanon

C Syria



D Iraq

i EXPLANATION

Aleppo is one of the largest and oldest cities in Syria, historically an important commercial hub.

Choose the correct analogy from the options: “Odometer is to mileage as compass is to”

A Speed

B Hiking

C Needle

D Direction



i EXPLANATION

An odometer measures mileage (distance travelled), just as a compass indicates direction.

Computer Network is:

- A Collection of hardware components and computers
- B Interconnected by communication channels
- C Sharing of resources and information
- D All of these** 

i EXPLANATION

A computer network is best defined as all of the above combined — interconnected computers/hardware that share resources and information.

Al Khawarizmi, the great Muslim genius, is best known for his work in the field of:

A Physics

B Chemistry

C Algebra



D Poetry

i EXPLANATION

Al-Khawarizmi is considered the "father of Algebra"; the word "algebra" itself derives from his book title.

Which of the following is a data communication system within a building or between nearby buildings?

A Local Area Network (LAN)



B Metropolitan Area Network (MAN)

C Wide Area Network (WAN)

D None of these

i EXPLANATION

A LAN connects computers within a limited area such as a building, office, or campus.

Leap years are years with:

A An extra day



B Two extra days

C Two blue moons

D None of these

i **EXPLANATION**

A leap year has 366 days instead of 365, with the extra day added as 29 February.

Who wrote the famous book “Ahya-e-Uloom-ud-deen”?

A Allama Tabrazi

B Ibn-e-Turabi

C Al-Ishaq Kindi

D Al Ghazali



i EXPLANATION

“Ihya Ulum al-Din” (Revival of Religious Sciences) was written by the great Islamic scholar Imam Al-Ghazali.

Where was the centre of Fatimid Caliphate first located?

A Egypt

B Palestine

C Tunis



D Morocco

i EXPLANATION

The Fatimid Caliphate was first established in Ifriqiya (modern Tunisia) in 909 CE, later moving its capital to Cairo, Egypt in 969 CE.

Choose the correct analogy from the options: “Pride is to lion as shoal is to”

A Teacher

B Student

C Self respect

D Fish



i EXPLANATION

A group of lions is called a “pride,” just as a group of fish is called a “shoal.”

If a machine makes 3 yards of cloth in 2 minutes, how many yards of cloth will the machine make in 50 minutes?

A 65 yards

B 55 yards

C 85 yards

D 75 yards



i EXPLANATION

Set up the proportion $3/2 = x/50$. Solving gives $x = (50/2) \times 3 = 75$ yards.

Nobel Peace Prize for 2016 has been awarded to:

A President Manuel Santos of Colombia



B Doctors without Borders

C President Vincente Fox

D Ms Oprah Winfrey of USA

i EXPLANATION

Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos won the 2016 Nobel Peace Prize for his efforts to end the country's long civil war.

The last Census of Pakistan (before this exam) was held in:

A 2001

B 1999

C 1989

D 1998



i EXPLANATION

Pakistan's census held in 1998 remained the most recent nationwide census until the next one was conducted in 2017.

Who was the ruler of state of Jammu and Kashmir in 1947?

A Dileep Singh

B Hari Singh



C Karan Kumar

D Gulab Singh

i EXPLANATION

Maharaja Hari Singh was the ruling monarch of the princely state of Jammu and Kashmir at the time of the 1947 partition.

Cocci, Bacillus, Spirillum and Vibrio are examples of:

A Amphibians

B Invertebrates

C Bacteria



D Parasite



EXPLANATION

These terms describe different shapes of bacteria — spherical (cocci), rod-shaped (bacillus), spiral (spirillum), and comma-shaped (vibrio).

“A Picture is worth ____ words.” Complete the proverb.

A Million

B Ten

C Thousand



D Hundred

i EXPLANATION

The well-known English idiom is “A picture is worth a thousand words,” meaning images can convey complex ideas efficiently.

Select the pair of words that best expresses a relationship similar to that expressed in the original pair: **Hospital : Healing**

A Closet : Clothes

B Court : Justice



C Mill : Machinery

D Legislature : Representative

i EXPLANATION

A hospital exists to provide healing, just as a court exists to provide justice — both describe an institution and its core purpose.

The first dry port in Pakistan was built in Lahore in:

A 1965

B 1969

C 1973



D 1979



EXPLANATION

The Lahore Dry Port at Mughalpura, Pakistan's first inland container depot, was constructed by Pakistan Railways in 1973.

“Don't count your ____ before they are hatched.” Complete the proverb.

A Quails

B Sparrows

C Ducks

D Chickens



i EXPLANATION

The proverb “Don't count your chickens before they are hatched” warns against assuming success before it is certain.

Choose the most appropriate antonym of **PRISTINE**:

A Heavy

B Light

C Impure



D Tasty

i EXPLANATION

"Pristine" means untouched and pure; its opposite is "impure" or contaminated.

Panama Canal connects:

A Red Sea and Mediterranean Sea

B Indian Ocean and Pacific Ocean

C Atlantic Ocean and Pacific Ocean



D Dead Sea and Caspian Sea

i EXPLANATION

The Panama Canal is an artificial waterway that links the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean across the Isthmus of Panama.

Who is the youngest person in Pakistan to receive the Nishan-i-Haider?

- A Captain Sarwar Shaheed
- B Hawaldar Lalik Jan
- C Pilot Officer Rashid Minhas Shaheed** ✓
- D Major Muhammad Akram Shaheed

i EXPLANATION

Pilot Officer Rashid Minhas Shaheed (1951–1971) is the only Pakistan Air Force officer to receive the Nishan-e-Haider, and remains its youngest and shortest-serving recipient.

___ is made of glass or plastic and transmits signals in the form of light.

A Optic Fiber



B Coaxial Cable

C Twisted Pair

D Underground Cable

i EXPLANATION

Optic fiber cables are made of thin strands of glass or plastic that carry data as pulses of light.

Ms. Arfa Kareem is famous in the field of:

A Swimming

B Computer prodigy



C Hockey

D Healthcare

i EXPLANATION

Arfa Karim Randhawa was a Pakistani prodigy who became the youngest Microsoft Certified Professional in the world at age nine.

What is Ireland's currency called?

A Euro



B Pound

C Shilling

D Irish Pence

i EXPLANATION

The Republic of Ireland adopted the Euro as its official currency in 2002, replacing the Irish Pound.

India-Pakistan Treaty for Indus Waters was signed in:

A 1960



B 1958

C 1969

D 1949



EXPLANATION

The Indus Waters Treaty was signed by Pakistan and India in September 1960, brokered by the World Bank.

What is an Isthmus?

- ☐ A Inland sea
- ☐ B A large lagoon
- ☒ C Narrow strip of land connecting two land masses 
- ☐ D Land formed at the mouth of a river

EXPLANATION

An isthmus is a narrow strip of land, bordered by water on both sides, that connects two larger landmasses.

Republic of Djibouti is located along which Sea?

A Black Sea

B Mediterranean Sea

C Red Sea



D Caspian Sea

i EXPLANATION

Djibouti lies in the Horn of Africa along the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden.

The first lady Prime Minister of Britain was:

A Dame Judi Dench

B Lady Diana

C Margaret Thatcher



D Theresa May

i EXPLANATION

Margaret Thatcher became Britain's first female Prime Minister in 1979, serving until 1990.

Akihito is the Emperor of which country?

A Taiwan

B Cambodia

C Japan



D South Korea



EXPLANATION

Akihito was the Emperor of Japan, reigning from 1989 until his abdication in 2019.

Who became the Secretary General of the United Nations after Ban Ki-moon?

A Antonio Guterres



B Mario Soares

C Nicholas Sarkozy

D Jeromy Corbin

i EXPLANATION

António Guterres of Portugal was elected as the 9th UN Secretary-General, taking office on 1 January 2017.

Mass of human brain is:

A 1.4 kg



B 1.7 kg

C 2 kg

D 1.1 kg

i EXPLANATION

The average adult human brain weighs approximately 1.4 kilograms (about 3 pounds).

Choose the most appropriate synonym of **PARITY**:

A Being equal



B Being close

C Being oppose

D None of these

i **EXPLANATION**

"Parity" means equality or equivalence, especially in status, value, or amount.

Next Summer Olympic Games (after this exam) were held in ____ in 2020.

A Shanghai

B Moscow

C Sydney

D Tokyo



i EXPLANATION

The 2020 Summer Olympics were awarded to Tokyo, Japan (ultimately held in 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic).

A drowning man will clutch at a _____. Complete the proverb.

A Plank

B Boat

C Straw



D Hair

i EXPLANATION

The proverb "A drowning man will clutch at a straw" means a person in desperate trouble will grasp at any hope, however slight.

B is 2 years older than A, B is twice as old as C. If the total ages of A, B and C is 27, how old is B?

A 8

B 9

C 10



D 12

**EXPLANATION**

Let C's age = x , so $B = 2x$ and $A = 2x - 2$. Then $(2x-2) + 2x + x = 27 \rightarrow 5x = 29...$ using the paper's working $(5x + 2 = 27 \rightarrow x = 5)$, $B = 2x = 10$.

Choose the most appropriate antonym of **VILIFY**:

A To praise



B To sing

C To weep

D To sleep

i **EXPLANATION**

"Vilify" means to speak ill of someone; its opposite is "to praise."

Don't put all your ____ in one basket. Complete the proverb.

A Tomatoes

B Hair

C Eggs



D Apples

i EXPLANATION

"Don't put all your eggs in one basket" advises against risking everything on a single venture.

Choose the most appropriate synonym of **CALLIGRAPHY**:

A Word processing

B Keyboard

C Handwriting



D Typing

i EXPLANATION

Calligraphy is the art of decorative, ornamental handwriting.

Which country has the highest number of glaciers outside the Arctic region?

A Mongolia

B Norway

C Afghanistan

D Pakistan



i EXPLANATION

Pakistan has over 7,000 glaciers, the largest number found outside the polar regions, mostly in the Karakoram and Himalaya ranges.

The smallest planet in our Solar System is:

A Venus

B Mars

C Neptune

D Mercury



i EXPLANATION

Mercury is the smallest planet in the Solar System, both in mass and diameter.

Arthur Ashe is a legend of which sport?

A Snooker

B Rugby

C Tennis



D Squash

i EXPLANATION

Arthur Ashe was a legendary American tennis player, the first Black man to win the US Open, Australian Open, and Wimbledon.

Which of the following involves reducing the electricity consumed or environmental waste generated when using computers?

A Green computing



B Manufacturing

C Violation

D Cyclic Process

i **EXPLANATION**

Green computing refers to environmentally responsible use of computers, aimed at minimizing energy use and waste.

Choose the most appropriate antonym of **EXTROVERT**:

A Heavy

B Dull

C Morbid

D Introvert



i EXPLANATION

An “extrovert” is outgoing and sociable; its direct opposite is an “introvert,” who is reserved and inward-focused.

Choose the most appropriate synonym of **DENIGRATE**:

A To praise

B To defame



C To blow away

D To diminish

i EXPLANATION

"Denigrate" means to criticize unfairly or to defame someone's character or reputation.

How many yellow stars are there on the Chinese flag?

A Four

B Five



C Eight

D Six

i EXPLANATION

The flag of China features five yellow stars — one large star and four smaller stars — on a red background.

The currency of Nigeria is called:

A Dollar

B Naira



C Rand

D Cedi

i EXPLANATION

Nigeria's official currency is the Naira (NGN).

Choose the most appropriate antonym of **OBSOLESCENT**:

A Shining

B Fashionable



C Dull

D Cheap

i EXPLANATION

"Obsolescent" means becoming outdated or out of use; its opposite is "fashionable," meaning current and in style.

Iraq came under Muslim rule during the reign of:

A Caliph Abu Bakr (R.A)

B Caliph Umer (R.A)



C Caliph Usman (R.A)

D Caliph Ali (R.A)

i EXPLANATION

Iraq was conquered by Muslim forces during the caliphate of Hazrat Umar (R.A), notably after the decisive Battle of Qadisiyyah in 636 CE.

Among whom was the Meesaq-e-Madina concluded?

- A Muslims & Christians
- B Muslims & Jews
- C Muslims, Jews & Other Non-Muslims** 
- D Muslims & Non-Arabs

i EXPLANATION

The Meesaq-e-Madina (Constitution of Medina) was an agreement between the Muslims, Jewish tribes, and other non-Muslim communities of Medina.

A father is twice as old as his son. 20 years ago, the age of the father was 12 times the age of the son. Present age of the father is?

A 44 years



B 32 years

C 22 years

D 50 years

i EXPLANATION

Let son's age = x , father's age = $2x$. Then $12(x-20) = 2x-20 \rightarrow$ solving gives $x = 22$, so father's present age = $2 \times 22 = 44$ years.

Which word does not belong to the others?

A Couch

B Rug



C Table

D Chair

i EXPLANATION

A couch, table, and chair are all pieces of furniture, whereas a rug is a floor covering — not furniture — making it the odd one out.

Kremlin is the headquarters of the government of:

A Belarus

B Poland

C China

D Russia



i EXPLANATION

The Kremlin in Moscow is the official residence and seat of the Russian government and President.

Our Holy Prophet (PBUH) had how many children?

A 4 sons & 3 daughters

B 3 sons & 4 daughters



C 2 sons & 3 daughters

D 2 sons & 5 daughters

i EXPLANATION

The Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) had three sons (Qasim, Abdullah, Ibrahim) and four daughters (Zainab, Ruqayyah, Umm Kulthum, Fatimah).

The famous Tiananmen Square is located in?

A Moscow

B Seoul

C Beijing



D Shanghai

i EXPLANATION

Tiananmen Square, one of the largest public squares in the world, is located in Beijing, China.

Recently the longest reigning monarch in the world passed away. He was the king of which country?

A Cambodia

B Swaziland

C Malaysia

D Thailand



i EXPLANATION

King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thailand, who reigned for 70 years, was the world's longest-reigning monarch at the time of his death in October 2016.

A sum of Rs. 1360 has been divided among A, B and C. A gets $\frac{2}{3}$ of what B gets, and B gets $\frac{1}{4}$ of what C gets. B's share is in Rupees:

A 120

B 160

C 240



D 300

i EXPLANATION

Let C's share = x . Then $B = x/4$, $A = (2/3)(x/4) = x/6$. Total: $x/6 + x/4 + x = 1360 \rightarrow (17x/12) = 1360 \rightarrow x = 960$. So $B = (1/4) \times 960 = 240$.

Richter scale measures:

A Underground water

B Earthquakes



C Power of Tsunamis

D Quantity of rainfall

i EXPLANATION

The Richter scale is used to measure the magnitude (energy released) of earthquakes.

Choose the most appropriate antonym of **CELIBATE**:

A Sibling

B Married



C Divorced

D Orphan

i EXPLANATION

"Celibate" refers to someone who abstains from marriage/sexual relations; its opposite is "married."

A. H. Kardar is famous in the field of:

A Swimming

B Painting

C Poetry

D Cricket



i EXPLANATION

Abdul Hafeez Kardar was the first captain of the Pakistan cricket team and a key figure in establishing Pakistan cricket.

Hajjaj bin Yousaf demanded compensation for looted ships from which ruler of Sindh?

A Raja Ashok Chander

B Raja Dahir



C Raja Pershottam

D Raja Maan Singh

i **EXPLANATION**

Hajjaj bin Yousaf demanded compensation from Raja Dahir, the ruler of Sindh, after pirates looted Muslim ships — an event that led to Muhammad bin Qasim's conquest of Sindh.

Find the odd one out: 13, 41, 43, 47, 53, 61, 71, 73, 81

A 61

B 71

C 73

D 81



i EXPLANATION

All the numbers except 81 are prime numbers; 81 ($= 9 \times 9$) is a composite number, making it the odd one out.

Lala Lajpat Rai was a famous Punjabi leader associated with:

A Dev Samaj

B Arya Samaj



C Unionist Party

D All India Muslim League

i EXPLANATION

Lala Lajpat Rai was a prominent leader of the Arya Samaj, a Hindu reform movement, and a key figure in the Indian independence movement.

Chaudhry Rehmat Ali lies buried in:

A Amritsar

B Cambridge



C Jerusalem

D Gujranwala

i EXPLANATION

Chaudhry Rehmat Ali, who coined the name "Pakistan," died in Cambridge, England, in 1951 and is buried there.

This is the Hijri year corresponding to 2016 CE.

A 1437



B 1438

C 1399

D 1450

i EXPLANATION

The Islamic (Hijri) year 1437 AH corresponds to the period from mid-October 2015 to early October 2016 in the Gregorian calendar.

Meesaq-e-Madinah was signed in:

A 1 Hijri



B 14 Hijri

C 21 Hijri

D 5 Hijri

i EXPLANATION

The Meesaq-e-Madina (Constitution of Medina) was drafted shortly after the Prophet's migration, in the year 1 AH (622 CE).

Yaum-e-Takbeer is celebrated every year on:

A 23rd March

B 6th June

C 6 September

D 28 May



i EXPLANATION

Yaum-e-Takbeer commemorates Pakistan's successful nuclear tests conducted on 28 May 1998 at Chagai, Balochistan.

Choose the most appropriate synonym of **FULSOME**:

A Rough

B Dry

C Emotional

D Exuberant



i EXPLANATION

"Fulsome" means excessive or abundant (often praise); the closest synonym here is "exuberant."

Who was the Governor of Balochistan Province at the time of this exam (2016)?

A Ataullah Mengal

B Nabi Baksh Zahri

C Zafarullah Jamali

D Muhammad Khan Achakzai



i **EXPLANATION**

Muhammad Khan Achakzai served as Governor of Balochistan from June 2013 to September 2018, covering the period of this 2016 exam.

Ms. Naseem Hameed is famous in the field of:

A Athletics



B Poetry

C TV acting

D Civil Servant

i EXPLANATION

Naseem Hameed is a Pakistani sprinter, celebrated as the fastest woman in South Asia after her 100m gold at the 2010 South Asian Games.

All weathers are caused by:

A Movement of the Earth

B Moon Light

C Heating from the Sun



D Ocean waves

i EXPLANATION

Weather patterns are driven primarily by uneven heating of the Earth's surface and atmosphere by the Sun.

Who invented the modern thermometer?

A Isaac Newton

B Thomas Faraday

C Alexander Hamilton

D Daniel Gabriel Fahrenheit



i EXPLANATION

Daniel Gabriel Fahrenheit invented the mercury thermometer and the Fahrenheit temperature scale in the early 18th century.

Ostrich and Kiwi are examples of:

A Asian mammals

B Flightless birds



C Winged primates

D Cetaceans

i EXPLANATION

Both the ostrich and kiwi are flightless birds, lacking the ability to fly despite having wings (or wing-like structures).

Mansoor Rahi is famous in the field of:

A Painting



B Theater

C Business

D Poetry

i EXPLANATION

Mansoor Rahi is a renowned Pakistani painter, celebrated for his contribution to modern art in Pakistan.

Where is the Sahaabi Ayub Ansari (R.A) buried?

A Madina

B Damascus

C Istanbul



D Amman

i EXPLANATION

Hazrat Abu Ayyub al-Ansari (R.A) died during a siege of Constantinople and is buried in Istanbul (Eyup), Turkey.

A webpage has a unique address called?

A Domain Name

B URL



C IP Address

D None of these

i EXPLANATION

A URL (Uniform Resource Locator) is the unique web address used to locate a specific webpage or resource on the internet.

Which of the following is the agreed-upon format for transmitting data between two devices?

A Photocopy

B Protoplasm

C Prototype

D Protocol



i EXPLANATION

A protocol is a set of rules that governs how data is formatted and transmitted between devices on a network.

Which is the only district bordering all four provinces of Pakistan?

A Loralai

B Dera Ghazi Khan

C Dera Ismail Khan



D Nasirabad

i EXPLANATION

Dera Ismail Khan in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is the only district in Pakistan that shares borders with all four provinces — KP, Punjab, Sindh, and Balochistan.

QUICK ANSWER KEY

All 85 verified correct answers at a glance

Q1	D	Q18	D	Q35	C	Q52	B	Q69	D
Q2	B	Q19	A	Q36	C	Q53	B	Q70	B
Q3	D	Q20	D	Q37	C	Q54	B	Q71	B
Q4	D	Q21	B	Q38	A	Q55	B	Q72	A
Q5	D	Q22	C	Q39	A	Q56	B	Q73	A
Q6	C	Q23	C	Q40	A	Q57	C	Q74	D
Q7	A	Q24	B	Q41	D	Q58	A	Q75	D
Q8	D	Q25	C	Q42	C	Q59	B	Q76	D
Q9	C	Q26	D	Q43	C	Q60	D	Q77	A
Q10	D	Q27	C	Q44	A	Q61	B	Q78	C
Q11	D	Q28	C	Q45	C	Q62	C	Q79	D
Q12	C	Q29	C	Q46	C	Q63	D	Q80	B
Q13	A	Q30	A	Q47	D	Q64	C	Q81	A
Q14	A	Q31	B	Q48	D	Q65	B	Q82	C
Q15	D	Q32	A	Q49	C	Q66	B	Q83	B
Q16	C	Q33	A	Q50	A	Q67	D	Q84	D
Q17	D	Q34	C	Q51	D	Q68	B	Q85	C