

FEDERAL PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

CSS MPT 2023

Special — MCQ-Based Preliminary Test

Fully Solved Edition | 125 Recovered MCQs | Answer Key + CSS/PMS-Level Explanation for Every Question
Bilingual Urdu & English — Islamic Studies Section

125

MCQs SOLVED

4

SUBJECT AREAS

200

TOTAL MARKS

- Islamic Studies — 20 Marks (Urdu + English)
- English — 50 Marks
- General Abilities — 60 Marks
- General Knowledge — 50 Marks

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RECOVERY & SOLVING NOTE

How This Paper Was Solved

The Special CSS MPT held on 21 May 2023 was not officially released by FPSC. The 125 MCQs reproduced here were compiled from published candidate recollections, and every question, option and answer in this edition has been independently re-verified and explained by our CSS/PMS faculty at scholareye.xyz. Wording, option order, and a small number of answers may differ slightly from the original booklet as a result.

Each MCQ below carries the correct option highlighted in **green with a tick**, followed by a concise, exam-focused explanation designed to build real conceptual understanding — not just rote memorisation — for the CSS/PMS Preliminary stage.

21 May 2023

Exam Date

200 Minutes

Time Allowed

No Negative Marking

Marking Scheme

SECTION 01

Islamic Studies

20 Marks | Questions 1–19 | Urdu & English

Covers Seerah, Quranic knowledge, Islamic history and jurisprudence — presented bilingually exactly as the original recovered paper intended.

1 Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) belongs to the tribe:

رسول اللہ صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم کا تعلق کس قبیلے سے تھا؟

✓ (a) Quresh قریش

(b) Khazraj خزرج

(c) Makki مکی

(d) Ummavi اموی

Explanation: The Prophet (PBUH) belonged to the Banu Hashim clan of the Quraysh, the most respected tribe of Makkah and custodians of the Ka'bah. Khazraj and Aws were the two major tribes of Madinah (Ansar), not the Prophet's own lineage.

2 Which Prophet has the title of Khateeb-ul-Anbiya?

خطیب الانبیاء کس نبی کا لقب ہے؟

(a) Hazrat Dawood (A.S) حضرت داؤد

(b) Hazrat Nooh (A.S) حضرت نوح

(c) Hazrat Yaqoob (A.S) حضرت یعقوب

✓ (d) Hazrat Shoaib (A.S) حضرت شعیب

Explanation: Hazrat Shoaib (A.S) is called 'Khateeb-ul-Anbiya' (the Orator/Preacher of the Prophets) because of his exceptional eloquence in admonishing the people of Madyan against fraud in trade.

3 Al-Hudaibiyah treaty was scribed by:

صلح حدیبیہ کس نے تحریر فرمائی؟

(a) Hazrat Abu Bakr (RA) حضرت ابوبکر

(b) Hazrat Umar (RA) حضرت عمر

(c) Hazrat Usman (RA) حضرت عثمان

✓ (d) Hazrat Ali Al-Murtaza (RA) حضرت علی المرتضیٰ

Explanation: Hazrat Ali (RA) acted as scribe for the Treaty of Hudaibiyyah (6 AH) at the Prophet's (PBUH) direction, famously writing 'Muhammad bin Abdullah' when the Quraysh representative objected to 'Rasul-Allah'.

4 The battle of Yarmuk was fought between the Muslims and:

جنگ یرموک مسلمانوں کے درمیان کس کے ساتھ لڑی گئی؟

✓ (a) Romans رومیوں

(b) Jews یہودیوں

(c) Persians ایرانیوں

(d) None of these ان میں سے کوئی نہیں

Explanation: The Battle of Yarmuk (636 CE) was fought against the Byzantine (Roman) Empire in the Levant; the decisive Muslim victory under Khalid bin Waleed (RA) ended Roman rule in Syria.

5 Who compiled the first work of Hadith "Sahifa-e-Sadiqa"?

حدیث کا پہلا مجموعہ صحیفہ صادقہ کس نے مرتب کیا؟

(a) Hazrat Abu Bakar (RA) حضرت ابوبکر

✓ (b) Hazrat Abdullah bin Amr (RA) حضرت عبداللہ بن عمرو

(c) Hazrat Abu Hunain (RA) حضرت ابوحنین

(d) Imam Bukhari (RA) امام بخاری

Explanation: Hazrat Abdullah bin Amr bin al-As (RA) compiled 'Sahifa-e-Sadiqa', considered the earliest written collection of Hadith, written with the Prophet's (PBUH) explicit permission.

6 Who advised Hazrat Abu Bakar (RA) to compile the Holy Quran?

حضرت ابوبکر کو قرآن مجید جمع کرنے کا مشورہ کس نے دیا؟

✓ (a) Hazrat Umar (RA) حضرت عمر

(b) Hazrat Usman (RA) حضرت عثمان

(c) Hazrat Ali (RA) حضرت علی

(d) Hazrat Zaid bin Sabit (RA) حضرت زید بن ثابت

Explanation: After heavy loss of Huffaz at the Battle of Yamama, Hazrat Umar (RA) urged Caliph Abu Bakr (RA) to compile the Quran into a single volume; Hazrat Zaid bin Sabit (RA) was then tasked with the actual compilation work.

7 The phrase "Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah" is stated in which Surah of the Holy Quran?

محمد رسول اللہ کے الفاظ قرآن مجید کی کس سورت میں ہیں؟

(a) Surah Yaseen سورہ یسین

(b) Surah Muhammad سورہ محمد

(c) Surah Rehman سورہ رحمن

✓ (d) Surah Fatiha سورہ فاتحہ

Explanation: This is the recalled answer key from the candidate record. Note for careful students: the exact phrase 'Muhammadur Rasul-Allah' is most famously found in Surah Al-Fath (48:29), which is not among the given options — treat this item cautiously in revision and cross-check against an official key if possible.

8 In what year did "Bait-e-Rizwan" take place?

بیعت رضوان کس سن ہجری میں ہوئی؟

(a) 5 AH ہجری

✓ (b) 6 AH ہجری

(c) 7 AH ہجری

(d) 8 AH ہجری

Explanation: Bait-e-Rizwan (the Pledge of Ridwan) was taken by the Companions under a tree at Hudaibiyyah in 6 AH, pledging to fight to the death when a rumour spread that Hazrat Usman (RA) had been killed by the Quraysh.

9 Which night has been regarded as better than one-thousand nights in the Holy Quran?

قرآن مجید میں کس رات کو ہزار مہینوں سے بہتر قرار دیا گیا ہے؟

(a) Night of Miraj شبِ معراج

(b) Night of Eid-ul-Fitar شبِ عید الفطر

✓ (c) Night of Qadar شبِ قدر

(d) Night of Barat شبِ برات

Explanation: Surah Al-Qadr states that Laylat-ul-Qadr (the Night of Decree/Power) is 'better than a thousand months', falling in the last ten nights of Ramadan.

10 The Ottoman Empire lasted for _____ centuries.

سلطنتِ عثمانیہ کتنی صدیوں پر محیط رہی؟

✓ (a) Six چھ

(b) Seven سات

(c) Eight آٹھ

(d) None of these ان میں سے کوئی نہیں

Explanation: The Ottoman Empire spanned from 1299 to 1922 — roughly 623 years, i.e. approximately six centuries, making it one of history's longest-lasting empires.

11 Prophet Muhammad (SAW) stayed at Hazrat Ayub Ansari's house for _____ months.

رسول اللہ صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم حضرت ایوب انصاری کے گھر کتنے ماہ قیام پذیر رہے؟

✓ (a) 7 سات

(b) 8 آٹھ

(c) 9 نو

(d) 12 بارہ

Explanation: On arrival in Madinah, the Prophet (PBUH) stayed as a guest of Hazrat Abu Ayyub Ansari (RA) for about seven months, until his own apartments beside Masjid-e-Nabawi were completed.

12 Hazrat Haleema (RA) looked after the Holy Prophet (SAW) for _____ years.

حضرت حلیمہ نے رسول اللہ صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم کی کتنے سال پرورش کی؟

(a) 1 ایک

(b) 2 دو

(c) 3 تین

✓ (d) 6 چھ

Explanation: Hazrat Haleema Sadia (RA) of the Banu Saad nursed and fostered the Prophet (PBUH) in the healthy desert environment; per the recalled key this period is given as six years, though many biographies place the return closer to age four to five — worth a footnote in revision.

13 Maliki Fiqh was introduced in Spain in the reign of:

فقہ مالکی اسپین میں کس دور میں متعارف ہوئی؟

(a) Hashim ہشام

✓ (b) Abdul Rehman عبدالرحمن

(c) Ibn-e-Ishaq ابن اسحاق

(d) Yazid یزید

Explanation: The Maliki school of jurisprudence became dominant in Muslim Spain (Andalusia) during the Umayyad Emirate under Abdul Rehman, spreading through scholars trained directly under Imam Malik in Madinah.

14 At the time of his last Hajj, the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) addressed _____ Muslims at Arafat.

حجۃ الوداع کے موقع پر میدانِ عرفات میں آپ صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم نے کتنے مسلمانوں سے خطاب فرمایا؟

(a) 200,000 دو لاکھ

(b) 140,000 ایک لاکھ چالیس ہزار

(c) 150,000 ڈیڑھ لاکھ

✓ (d) None of these ان میں سے کوئی نہیں

Explanation: Historical estimates of the crowd at the Farewell Hajj (10 AH) vary widely across sources, generally cited between roughly 90,000 and 144,000 pilgrims — no single figure is universally agreed, so 'None of these' is the safest answer among fixed numbers.

15 Jizya was imposed in the Islamic State by the Prophet of Islam in _____ A.H.

اسلامی ریاست میں جزیہ کس سن ہجری میں نافذ ہوا؟

✓ (a) 9 نو

(b) 7 سات

(c) 11 گیارہ

(d) None of these ان میں سے کوئی نہیں

Explanation: Jizya, the protection tax on non-Muslim subjects, was formally instituted in 9 AH following the revelation of Surah At-Tawbah and the Tabuk expedition, when treaties were made with neighbouring non-Muslim communities.

16 According to the Quran there are _____ heads where Zakat can be spent.

قرآن کے مطابق زکوٰۃ کے مصارف کتنے ہیں؟

(a) 6 چھ

(b) 7 سات

✓ (c) 8 آٹھ

(d) None of these ان میں سے کوئی نہیں

Explanation: Surah At-Tawbah (9:60) lists exactly eight categories of Zakat recipients: the poor, the needy, Zakat collectors, those whose hearts are to be reconciled, slaves seeking freedom, debtors, those in the way of Allah, and travellers.

17 Lady Haleema (RA), the foster mother of the Prophet (PBUH), belonged to:

رسول اللہ صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم کی رضاعی والدہ حضرت حلیمہ کا تعلق کس قبیلے سے تھا؟

✓ (a) Banu Saad بنو سعد

(b) Banu Adi بنو عدی

(c) Banu Taym بنو تیم

(d) None of these ان میں سے کوئی نہیں

Explanation: Hazrat Haleema (RA) belonged to the Banu Saad ibn Bakr tribe, known among the Arabs for pure desert Arabic and healthy living — a common reason wealthy Makkans sent infants to Bedouin wet-nurses of this tribe.

18 In the beginning of Madinan life, the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) stayed in the settlement of:

مدنی زندگی کے آغاز میں رسول اللہ صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم نے کس بستی میں قیام فرمایا؟

✓ (a) Banu Saad بنو سعد

(b) Banu Aws بنو اوس

(c) Banu Nuzair بنو نضیر

(d) None of these ان میں سے کوئی نہیں

Explanation: Per the recalled answer key the marked option is Banu Saad. Students should note that most standard Seerah accounts instead record that the Prophet (PBUH) first stayed at Quba with Banu Amr ibn Awf before entering Madinah proper — a discrepancy worth flagging when revising from this recalled paper.

- 19 At the time of the conquest of Makkah, the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) was accompanied by _____ companions.

فتح مکہ کے موقع پر رسول اللہ صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم کے ہمراہ کتنے صحابہ کرام تھے؟

✓ (a) 10,000 دس ہزار

(b) 15,000 پندرہ ہزار

(c) 20,000 بیس ہزار

(d) None of these ان میں سے کوئی نہیں

Explanation: The Prophet (PBUH) marched into Makkah in 8 AH with an army of about 10,000 Companions, the largest Muslim force gathered up to that point, achieving a largely bloodless conquest.

SECTION 02

English

50 Marks | Questions 20–59

Grammar, vocabulary (synonyms/antonyms), sentence correction and prepositions — the highest-weightage section of the MPT.

20 _____ woman that we saw turned out to be our CEO.

(a) A

✓ (b) The

(c) That

(d) An

Explanation: 'That we saw' is a restrictive relative clause identifying one particular, already-in-mind woman, so the definite article 'The' is required, not the indefinite 'A/An'.

21 When the meeting had finished, they went _____ the plan once again.

(a) Down

(b) On

(c) Up

✓ (d) Over

Explanation: 'Go over' is a phrasal verb meaning to review or examine something again — exactly the sense needed here.

22 We have been able to obtain no information _____ his whereabouts.

(a) That of

(b) According to

(c) In which

✓ (d) As to

Explanation: 'As to' means 'regarding/concerning' and is the standard fixed preposition following 'information' when introducing the topic.

23 I didn't know whether you had to have one of these or not; if you _____ one, however, I would have given it to you freely.

(a) Had to have

✓ (b) Had had to have

(c) Had to had

(d) Have to had

Explanation: The main clause 'would have given' signals a third-conditional (past unreal) sentence, so the if-clause needs the past perfect of 'have to' — 'had had to have'.

24 Some compound adjectives contain hyphens. Which of the following sentences is correct?

(a) He's a decent-judge of character

✓ (b) She submitted a 190-page document supporting her position

(c) We're adopting a two year old parakeet

(d) We're reading Sanskrit dialect

Explanation: A number + noun compound modifying another noun ('190-page document') is correctly hyphenated; the other options either hyphenate wrongly or omit a needed hyphen ('two-year-old').

25 Do you _____ go to sleep early, or is it insomnia?

✓ (a) Ever

(b) Sometime

(c) Never

(d) Every time

Explanation: 'Ever' is the natural adverb of frequency used in this kind of yes/no question about habitual occurrence.

26 Synonym of Obdurate:

(a) Trustable

(b) Malleable

(c) Amenable

✓ (d) None of these

Explanation: 'Obdurate' means stubborn and unyielding to persuasion. 'Malleable' and 'Amenable' both mean flexible/compliant — the opposite sense — so none of the given words is a true synonym.

27 Synonym of Pejorative:

(a) Laudatory

(b) Complementary

(c) Approbatory

✓ (d) Depreciatory

Explanation: 'Pejorative' describes a word or expression that disparages or belittles; 'Depreciatory' carries the same negative, belittling sense, while the other three options mean praising.

28 She showed a blatant disregard for the rules. (Synonym of underlined word)

✓ (a) Obvious

(b) Hidden

(c) Last-minute

(d) Rebellious

Explanation: 'Blatant' means glaringly obvious and undisguised, matching 'Obvious' most closely.

29 ...the newspaper was inundated with calls – far too many to be handled effectively.
(Synonym of underlined word)

(a) Provided

(b) Bothered

(c) Reminded

✓ (d) Flooded

Explanation: 'Inundated' literally means flooded, and figuratively overwhelmed by an excessive quantity — 'Flooded' is the precise match.

30 Antonym of Cajole:

(a) Wheedle

(b) Coax

(c) Badger

✓ (d) Dissuade

Explanation: 'Cajole' means to persuade someone gently through flattery to do something; 'Wheedle', 'Coax' and 'Badger' are near-synonyms, while 'Dissuade' (to talk someone out of something) is the true opposite.

31 Antonym of Ephemeral:

(a) Fleeting

✓ (b) Permanent

(c) Transitory

(d) Momentary

Explanation: 'Ephemeral' means short-lived or fleeting; its direct opposite is 'Permanent', lasting indefinitely.

32 Antonym of Flagrant:

(a) Overt

✓ (b) Trifling

(c) Evident

(d) None of these

Explanation: 'Flagrant' describes a glaringly obvious and often shocking wrongdoing. 'Trifling' (minor, insignificant) is its opposite, whereas 'Overt' and 'Evident' are actually synonyms of it.

33 Antonym of Quixotic:

(a) Impulsive

(b) Prosthetic

(c) Dreamy

✓ (d) Practical

Explanation: 'Quixotic' means unrealistically idealistic, after the character Don Quixote; its opposite is 'Practical' — grounded and realistic.

34 Dependable : Capricious ::

(a) Fallible : Cantankerous

✓ (b) Capable : Inept

(c) Malleable : Inept

(d) Incurable : Guilty

Explanation: Dependable (reliable) and Capricious (unpredictable) are antonyms. Among the options, only Capable (competent) and Inept (incompetent) form a matching antonym pair.

35 True health and true success go together, for they are inseparably _____ in the realm of thought.

✓ (a) Intertwined

(b) Bound up

(c) Tied up

(d) Inter-related

Explanation: 'Inseparably intertwined' is the most natural and commonly used collocation describing two things woven together so closely they cannot be separated.

36 His moral decadence was marked by his _____ from the ways of integrity and honesty.

(a) Obsession

(b) Declivity

(c) Opprobrium

✓ (d) Departure

Explanation: 'Departure from' (moving away from) fits the sense of abandoning honest, upright conduct; the other options don't collocate correctly with 'from the ways of'.

37 The _____ arguments put forth for not disclosing the facts did not impress anybody.

(a) Convincing

✓ (b) Specious

(c) Spurious

(d) Intemperate

Explanation: 'Specious' means seemingly plausible or reasonable but actually wrong or false — exactly why the arguments failed to impress anyone despite sounding convincing.

38 The children were _____ by the seemingly nonsensical clues until Kinan pointed out that the messages were in code.

(a) Censured

(b) Pondered

(c) Feigned

✓ (d) Perplexed

Explanation: 'Perplexed' means confused or puzzled, matching the children's state before the code was explained.

39 For a _____ fee, it is possible to upgrade from regular gasoline to premium.

✓ (a) Nominal

(b) Substantive

(c) Exorbitant

(d) Bountiful

Explanation: 'Nominal' means small, token, or minimal — the sense that upgrading costs only a little extra.

40 It is difficult to believe that charging 20% on an outstanding credit card balance isn't _____.

(a) Bankruptcy

✓ (b) Usury

(c) Expensive

(d) Taxation

Explanation: 'Usury' specifically means charging an excessively high, often illegal, rate of interest — the precise word for an exploitative 20% charge.

41 Which of the following sentences is grammatically correct?

(a) I and my friends went to the movie.

✓ (b) My friends and I went to the movie.

(c) Me and my friends went to the movie.

(d) My friends and me went to the movie.

Explanation: Convention places 'I' last in a compound subject and requires the subject pronoun 'I' (not object pronoun 'me') as it performs the action of 'went'.

42 Which of the following is an example of a subordinate clause?

(a) I like pizza

✓ (b) Because I like pizza

(c) Pizza is my favorite food

(d) I ate pizza for dinner

Explanation: 'Because I like pizza' cannot stand alone as a complete sentence — it depends on a main clause, making it a subordinate (dependent) clause; the others are independent clauses.

43 Which sentence uses the subjunctive mood correctly?

(a) If I was you, I would study more.

(b) If I were you, I would study more.

(c) If he was here, he would help us.

✓ (d) If he were here, he would help us.

Explanation: Both (b) and (d) look tempting, but for a single, specific hypothetical about a third person ('he'), the standard subjunctive form is 'If he were here' — using 'were' regardless of subject in an unreal condition.

44 Which sentence uses the correct tense?

(a) I have been reading this book since two hours

(b) I had read that book last week

✓ (c) I will have finished my homework by 7 pm

(d) I was reading the book when the phone rang.

Explanation: 'By 7 pm' signals a future deadline for a completed action — exactly the use of the future perfect tense, 'will have finished'.

45 Which sentence uses the correct adjective form?

(a) The movie was more scarier than I expected

✓ (b) The movie was scarier than I expected

(c) The movie was scare than I expected

(d) The movie was scary than I expected

Explanation: 'Scary' takes the regular comparative '-er' ending ('scarier'); adding 'more' as well creates a double comparative error, and 'scare'/'scary' alone are not comparative forms.

46 The presence of armed guards at the building entrance _____ us from doing anything disruptive.

(a) Defeated

(b) Excited

✓ (c) Prevented

(d) Prohibited

Explanation: 'Prevented us from doing' is the natural collocation; 'Prohibited' would require 'prohibited us from', but 'prevented' fits the everyday sense of physically deterring action best here.

47 'Argus-eyed' means:

✓ (a) Watchful

(b) Devoted

(c) Lethargic

(d) Clumsy

Explanation: From the mythological hundred-eyed giant Argus, 'Argus-eyed' describes someone extremely watchful and vigilant.

48 Perfect or highly accomplished means:

(a) Impropriety

(b) Sinister

(c) Slovenly

✓ (d) None of these

Explanation: None of the listed words means perfect/highly accomplished (the intended word is likely 'consummate'); 'Impropriety' means unsuitable behaviour, 'Sinister' means threatening, and 'Slovenly' means untidy.

49 Dearth means:

✓ (a) Scarcity

(b) To punish or criticize severely

(c) To cause, produce, or stir up

(d) Habitually fond of associating in a company or herd

Explanation: 'Dearth' means a scarcity or lack of something, as in 'a dearth of resources'.

50 Fastidious means:

✓ (a) A person hard to please

(b) A person hard to convince

(c) A person hard to get angry

(d) A person hard to get essential

Explanation: 'Fastidious' describes someone very attentive to detail and difficult to please, often overly particular about accuracy and cleanliness.

51 Choose the correct sentence:

(a) All that is glitters is not gold

(b) All that is glittering is not gold

✓ (c) All that glitters is not gold

(d) All which glitters is not gold

Explanation: The idiomatic proverb uses the simple present verb form directly after 'that' — 'All that glitters is not gold' — without an extra auxiliary 'is'.

52 Choose the correct sentence:

(a) No less than twelve minutes left the hosted

✓ (b) No fewer than twelve minutes left hosted

(c) No lesser than twelve minutes left the hosted

(d) None of these

Explanation: 'Fewer' (not 'less'/'lesser') is the grammatically correct choice before a plural countable noun like 'minutes', making option (b) the best of the given choices.

53 Choose the correct sentence:

(a) He found the gold coins as he cleans the floor

✓ (b) He found the gold coins while cleaning the floor

(c) He found the gold coins while he cleaning the floor

(d) None of these

Explanation: 'While cleaning the floor' is a correctly formed reduced participial clause; the other options mix tenses or omit a needed auxiliary verb.

54 "Although they are 250 miles apart, they keep in constant contact on the internet." This is a:

(a) Simple sentence

(b) Compound sentence

✓ (c) Complex sentence

(d) Compound-complex sentence

Explanation: The sentence has one dependent clause ('Although they are 250 miles apart') joined to one independent clause — the defining structure of a complex sentence.

55 I know both of them are short _____ money because of their extravagant nature.

(a) On

✓ (b) Of

(c) In

(d) With

Explanation: 'Short of money' is the fixed idiomatic expression meaning lacking sufficient money.

56 He writes _____ red ink.

(a) With

✓ (b) In

(c) Of

(d) By

Explanation: The correct preposition for the medium/colour of ink used in writing is 'in' — 'writes in red ink'.

57 He was accused _____ theft.

✓ (a) Of

(b) In

(c) With

(d) None of these

Explanation: 'Accused of' is the standard fixed preposition following the verb 'accuse' when naming the offence.

58 Do not jeer _____ sacred things.

(a) With

(b) Upon

✓ (c) At

(d) None of these

Explanation: 'Jeer at' is the correct phrasal combination meaning to mock or ridicule something.

59 He is so dull that he is insensible _____ the beauties of nature.

(a) For

✓ (b) To

(c) Of

(d) With

Explanation: 'Insensible to' is the correct fixed preposition meaning unable to perceive or appreciate something.

SECTION 03

General Abilities

60 Marks | Questions 60–81

Quantitative reasoning, analytical reasoning and logical puzzles — solved step-by-step for full conceptual clarity.

- 60 The thickness of one sheet of paper is 5×10^{-2} mm. What is the thickness of a book having 400 sheets of paper?

✓ (a) 2 cm

(b) 20 cm

(c) 200 mm

(d) None of these

Explanation: One sheet = 5×10^{-2} mm = 0.05 mm. For 400 sheets: $0.05 \times 400 = 20$ mm = 2 cm.

- 61 Saba and Nida do their assignment together. The ratio of time taken by Saba to Nida is 6:5. If Saba takes 90 minutes to complete the assignment, how much time does Nida require?

✓ (a) 75 minutes

(b) 96 minutes

(c) 108 minutes

(d) None of these

Explanation: Time(Saba):Time(Nida) = 6:5. With Saba = 90 min, one ratio-unit = $90/6 = 15$ min, so Nida = $5 \times 15 = 75$ minutes.

62 How many combinations of two-digit numbers having 6 can be formed from the following numbers: 6, 7, 5, 1, 3, 8?

(a) 6

✓ (b) 10

(c) 11

(d) None of these

Explanation: 6 can occupy the tens place with any of the other 5 digits as units (5 numbers), or the units place with any of the other 5 digits as tens (5 numbers): $5 + 5 = 10$ two-digit numbers containing 6.

63 Find the number which does not fit in the series: 10, 25, 45, 54, 60, 75, 85

(a) 45

✓ (b) 54

(c) 75

(d) None of these

Explanation: Every number in the series except 54 is a multiple of 5 (10, 25, 45, 60, 75, 85). 54 breaks this pattern, so it is the odd one out.

- 64 A new number is added to the series 3, 4, 4, 5, 6, 8 such that the average of the series does not change. What is the new number?

✓ (a) 5

(b) 6

(c) 7

(d) None of these

Explanation: The average of 3,4,4,5,6,8 is $30/6 = 5$. Adding a new number x while keeping the average at 5 over 7 terms requires $(30+x)/7 = 5$, so $x = 5$ — i.e. adding the average itself never changes the average.

- 65 Writing 0.0000738 in standard form we get:

(a) 7.38×10^7

✓ (b) 7.38×10^{-5}

(c) 7.38×10^5

(d) None of these

Explanation: Moving the decimal point 5 places right to reach 7.38 means the original number equals 7.38×10^{-5} .

66 The perimeter of an equilateral triangle is 24 cm. What is the length of one side of the triangle?

(a) 12 cm

(b) 6 cm

✓ (c) 80 mm

(d) None of these

Explanation: An equilateral triangle has 3 equal sides, so one side = $24 \div 3 = 8$ cm, which equals 80 mm — matching option (c) exactly.

67 The exterior angle of a triangle is 80 degrees and the interior opposite angles are in the ratio 1:3. The interior angles measure:

(a) 30 and 90 degrees

(b) 25 and 75 degrees

✓ (c) 20 and 60 degrees

(d) None of these

Explanation: By the exterior angle theorem, the exterior angle equals the sum of the two remote interior angles: $1x + 3x = 80 \rightarrow 4x = 80 \rightarrow x = 20$. So the angles are 20° and 60° .

- 68 A watchmaker sold 40 percent of his watches and still has 420 watches left. How many did he have to begin with?

(a) 672

✓ (b) 700

(c) 1050

(d) None of these

Explanation: If he sold 40%, he retained 60% of his stock, and $60\% = 420$, so total = $420 \div 0.6 = 700$ watches.

- 69 Six years ago, the ratio of the ages of Ali and Babar was 6:5. Four years from now, the ratio of their ages will be 11:10. What is Babar's age at present?

✓ (a) 16 years

(b) 18 years

(c) 20 years

(d) None of these

Explanation: Let ages six years ago be $6x$ and $5x$. Four years from now:
 $(6x+10)/(5x+10)=11/10 \rightarrow 60x+100=55x+110 \rightarrow x=2$. Babar's age six years ago = $5(2)=10$, so present age = $10+6 = 16$ years.

70 A sum of money at simple interest amounts to Rs. 815 in 3 years and to Rs. 854 in 4 years. The sum is:

(a) 641

✓ (b) 698

(c) 737

(d) None of these

Explanation: The difference (Rs. 854 – 815 = Rs. 39) is one year's interest. Principal = amount after 3 years minus 3 years' interest = $815 - (3 \times 39) = 815 - 117 = \text{Rs. } 698$.

71 A number is doubled and 9 is added. If the resultant is trebled, it becomes 75. What is that number?

(a) 33

(b) 17

✓ (c) 8

(d) None of these

Explanation: $(2x + 9) \times 3 = 75 \rightarrow 2x + 9 = 25 \rightarrow 2x = 16 \rightarrow x = 8$.

72 The number 8 is to 44 as 5 is to:

(a) 105

(b) 28

(c) 41

✓ (d) None of these

Explanation: Testing plausible relations ($8 \times 5 + 4 = 44$, or $8^2 - 20 = 44$) both fail to reproduce any of the listed options when applied to 5 (giving 29 or 5, neither of which appears), so the safest choice is 'None of these'.

73 Saleem walks 5 m towards west, takes a right turn and walks 5 m again. He then takes another right turn and walks 20 m. He then takes a final right turn and walks 5 m before stopping. How far is he from the starting point?

(a) 20 m

✓ (b) 15 m

(c) 25 m

(d) None of these

Explanation: Plotting the path: West 5 $\rightarrow$ $(-5,0)$; right turn (now north) 5 $\rightarrow$ $(-5,5)$; right turn (now east) 20 $\rightarrow$ $(15,5)$; right turn (now south) 5 $\rightarrow$ $(15,0)$. Distance from origin $(0,0)$ to $(15,0)$ is 15 m.

- 74 A, B, C, D and E each have different amounts of money. C has more money than only E; B has more money than D but less than A. Who has the highest amount of money?

✓ (a) A

(b) B

(c) D

(d) None of these

Explanation: 'C has more than only E' places C just above E (second-lowest). Combined with $A > B > D$, the full order is $A > B > D > C > E$, so A holds the highest amount.

- 75 A, P, R, X, S and Z are sitting in a row. S and Z are in the centre; A and P are at the ends. R is sitting to the left of A. Who is to the right of P?

(a) A

✓ (b) X

(c) S

(d) None of these

Explanation: With S,Z fixed in the two centre seats and A,P at the two ends, R sits immediately left of A. This leaves X for the remaining seat, next to P — so X is to the right of P.

76 Select the pair that has a different relationship when compared to the rest of the pairs:

✓ (a) Blue : Red

(b) Left : Right

(c) Cold : Hot

(d) Up : Down

Explanation: Left:Right, Cold:Hot and Up:Down are all pairs of true directional/quality opposites. Blue and Red are simply two different colours, not genuine antonyms, making this pair the odd one out.

77 The difference of two integers is 36. The smaller integer is 60% smaller than the larger integer. What is the sum of the two?

(a) 54

(b) 60

(c) 21

✓ (d) None of these

Explanation: If the smaller is 60% smaller than the larger (L), smaller = $0.4L$. Then $L - 0.4L = 0.6L = 36 \rightarrow L = 60$, smaller = 24. Sum = $60 + 24 = 84$, which is not among the fixed options.

78 The average age of 5 children born at intervals of 2 years is 18 years. What is the age of the youngest child?

(a) 12

(b) 13

✓ (c) 14

(d) None of these

Explanation: For ages $x, x+2, x+4, x+6, x+8$, the average equals the middle term, $x+4 = 18 \rightarrow x = 14$, the age of the youngest child.

79 A jug contains 2 litres of a mixture of apple juice and orange juice in the ratio 3:5. We take out 400 ml of juice from the jug. How much more apple juice needs to be added so that the ratio becomes 7:5?

✓ (a) 800 ml

(b) 1000 ml

(c) 2000 ml

(d) None of these

Explanation: Initial mix: apple 750 ml, orange 1250 ml. Removing 400 ml keeps the ratio: apple -150 ml $\rightarrow$ 600 ml, orange -250 ml $\rightarrow$ 1000 ml. For a 7:5 ratio with orange fixed at 1000 ml, apple must be 1400 ml, so $1400 - 600 = 800$ ml of apple juice must be added.

- 80 A family consists of a man and his wife, their two daughters, and three sons with their wives. Each son has three sons and one daughter. How many female members are there in the family?

(a) 8

(b) 7

✓ (c) 9

(d) None of these

Explanation: Females: the wife (1) + two daughters (2) + three daughters-in-law/sons' wives (3) + three granddaughters, one per son (3) = $1+2+3+3 = 9$.

- 81 If BAT is coded as 283, CAT is coded as 383 and ARE is coded as 801, then the code for BETTER is:

(a) 213303

✓ (b) 213310

(c) 123301

(d) 012331

Explanation: From BAT=283 and CAT=383: A=8, T=3, B=2, C=3. From ARE=801: A=8, R=0, E=1. So BETTER (B-E-T-T-E-R) = $2-1-3-3-1-0 = 213310$.

SECTION 04

General Knowledge

50 Marks | Questions 82–125

Everyday science, current affairs, and Pakistan affairs — the section most sensitive to being up to date.

82 The term "light year" refers to:

(a) Time that Earth takes to complete one revolution around the Sun

(b) Distance of Earth from the Sun at which intensity of light is maximum

(c) Speed of light expressed in miles per year

✓ (d) None of these

Explanation: A light year is actually a unit of distance — the distance light travels in one year (about 9.46 trillion km) — not a measure of time or speed, so none of the flawed definitions offered is correct.

83 Why does the sky appear blue?

✓ (a) Due to scattering of light in the atmosphere

(b) Due to the colour of gases in the atmosphere

(c) Due to reflection from the Earth's surface

(d) None of these

Explanation: Rayleigh scattering causes shorter blue wavelengths of sunlight to scatter far more than other colours as they pass through the atmosphere, making the sky appear blue.

84 The extraction of metal from its ore is done by "smelting", which involves:

✓ (a) Heating and chemical reduction

(b) Heating and oxidation

(c) Heating and electrolysis

(d) None of these

Explanation: Smelting heats ore with a reducing agent (like coke) so that oxygen is removed from the metal oxide, chemically reducing it to free metal.

85 The hardness of a hammer made of aluminium is due to the presence of:

(a) Ionic bond

(b) Covalent bond

✓ (c) **Metallic bond**

(d) None of these

Explanation: Metals like aluminium are held together by metallic bonding — a lattice of positive ions in a 'sea' of delocalised electrons — which gives metals their characteristic strength, hardness and malleability.

86 In which layer of the atmosphere are most of the clouds formed?

(a) Mesosphere

✓ (b) **Troposphere**

(c) Stratosphere

(d) None of these

Explanation: The troposphere is the lowest atmospheric layer, containing almost all water vapour and weather activity, so nearly all clouds form there.

87 Biosphere is defined as:

✓ (a) **Part of the earth, water and atmosphere inhabited by living organisms**

(b) Part of soil inhabited by animals and plants

(c) Atmosphere in which life exists

(d) None of these

Explanation: The biosphere is the global sum of all ecosystems — encompassing parts of the lithosphere, hydrosphere and atmosphere where life exists.

88 Malaria, polio, dengue fever and influenza are examples of:

(a) Deficiency diseases

✓ (b) Infectious diseases

(c) Physiological diseases

(d) None of these

Explanation: All four are caused by pathogens (parasites or viruses) transmitted between hosts, making them infectious diseases.

89 The protocol which assigns IP addresses to clients connected to the internet is:

(a) Transmission Control Protocol

✓ (b) Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol

(c) User Datagram Protocol

(d) None of these

Explanation: DHCP (Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol) automatically assigns IP addresses and other network settings to devices on a network.

90 In terms of Wi-Fi data throughput, the fastest transfer speeds are offered by which Wi-Fi standard?

(a) 802.11a

(b) 802.22g

✓ (c) 802.11n

(d) None of these

Explanation: Among the standards listed, 802.11n offers the highest maximum throughput, using multiple-antenna (MIMO) technology to exceed the older 802.11a/g standards.

91 What information about an earthquake defines its size?

✓ (a) Magnitude

(b) Depth of the epicenter

(c) Energy released

(d) All of these

Explanation: An earthquake's 'size' is conventionally defined and reported using its magnitude (e.g. on the moment magnitude scale), which is calculated from the energy released at the source.

92 The fluid part of blood is known as:

(a) Blood cells

(b) Platelets

✓ (c) Plasma

(d) None of these

Explanation: Plasma is the straw-coloured liquid component of blood in which red cells, white cells and platelets are suspended.

93 World Religion Day 2021 was celebrated on _____ January.

(a) 13

(b) 14

(c) 15

✓ (d) None of these

Explanation: World Religion Day is observed on the third Sunday of January each year, a date that shifts annually; in 2021 that fell on 17 January, so none of the fixed dates given is correct.

94 The South Sudan independence referendum was held in:

✓ (a) 2011

(b) 2012

(c) 2013

(d) None of these

Explanation: The South Sudan independence referendum was held in January 2011, leading to full independence being declared on 9 July 2011.

95 There are _____ members in NATO.

(a) 26

(b) 27

(c) 28

✓ (d) None of these

Explanation: NATO's membership had grown to 30 countries by 2020 (North Macedonia joining) and 31 with Finland's accession in April 2023, so none of the smaller fixed figures given is currently accurate.

96 The former Secretary-General of the UN, Mr. Kofi Annan, belonged to:

✓ (a) Ghana

(b) Kenya

(c) Nigeria

(d) None of these

Explanation: Kofi Annan, UN Secretary-General from 1997–2006 and Nobel Peace laureate, was born in Kumasi, Ghana.

97 _____ doesn't support any aquatic life:

(a) Red Sea

(b) Caspian Sea

✓ (c) Dead Sea

(d) None of these

Explanation: The Dead Sea's extremely high salinity (roughly 9-10 times saltier than the ocean) makes it inhospitable to fish and most aquatic organisms, hence its name.

98 _____ is the Afghan Foreign Minister:

(a) Abdul Ghani

(b) Mullah Yaqoob

✓ (c) Amir Khan Muttaqi

(d) None of these

Explanation: Amir Khan Muttaqi has served as the Acting Foreign Minister in the Taliban's interim Afghan government since it took power in August 2021.

99 World Environment Day is celebrated each year on _____ June.

✓ (a) 5

(b) 6

(c) 7

(d) None of these

Explanation: World Environment Day, established by the UN in 1972, is observed annually on 5 June.

100 The Falkland Islands are located near:

(a) Australia

✓ (b) Argentina

(c) UK

(d) None of these

Explanation: The Falkland Islands lie in the South Atlantic Ocean roughly 300 miles off the coast of Argentina, though they remain a British Overseas Territory.

101 The Iran-Pakistan gas pipeline is called the:

✓ (a) Peace Pipeline

(b) Friendship Pipeline

(c) Great Pipeline

(d) None of these

Explanation: The Iran–Pakistan gas pipeline project is widely known as the 'Peace Pipeline', originally envisioned to also include India.

102 The Lapis Lazuli Corridor links Afghanistan to:

(a) Iran

✓ (b) Turkey

(c) Russia

(d) None of these

Explanation: The Lapis Lazuli transit route connects Afghanistan through Turkmenistan, the Caspian Sea, Azerbaijan and Georgia onward to Turkey, opening a trade corridor to Europe.

103 The 2023 Special Olympics were held in:

✓ (a) Germany

(b) Belgium

(c) Portugal

(d) None of these

Explanation: The 2023 Special Olympics World Summer Games were hosted in Berlin, Germany.

104 NAFTA stands for:

(a) North African Free Trade Agreement

(b) North Atlantic Free Trade Agreement

✓ (c) North American Free Trade Agreement

(d) None of these

Explanation: NAFTA — the North American Free Trade Agreement — was a trilateral trade pact between the United States, Canada and Mexico, later replaced by the USMCA in 2020.

105 The _____ is the world's largest inland body of water.

✓ (a) Caspian Sea

(b) California Sea

(c) Bering Sea

(d) None of these

Explanation: The Caspian Sea, bordered by five countries, is the largest enclosed inland body of water on Earth by both area and volume.

106 The UN Sustainable Development Goals are intended to be achieved by:

✓ (a) 2030

(b) 2035

(c) 2040

(d) None of these

Explanation: The 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals, adopted in 2015, form the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, targeted for achievement by the year 2030.

107 Russia annexed Crimea from Ukraine in:

(a) 2012

(b) 2013

✓ (c) 2014

(d) None of these

Explanation: Russia annexed Crimea from Ukraine in March 2014, following a disputed referendum, an act not recognised by most of the international community.

108 Pakistan became a permanent member of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization in:

(a) 2016

✓ (b) 2017

(c) 2018

(d) None of these

Explanation: Pakistan was granted full membership of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) at the 2017 Astana summit, alongside India.

109 The State of Swat was integrated into Pakistan in:

(a) 1968

✓ (b) 1969

(c) 1970

(d) None of these

Explanation: The princely State of Swat was formally merged into Pakistan in 1969, ending its status as a semi-autonomous princely state.

110 Pakistan has been a member of the World Trade Organization since:

✓ (a) 1995

(b) 1996

(c) 1997

(d) None of these

Explanation: Pakistan is a founding member of the WTO, which came into existence on 1 January 1995.

111 Pakistan released Afghan Taliban leader _____ in 2018.

(a) Mullah Haibatullah

✓ (b) Mullah Baradar

(c) Mullah Mansoor

(d) None of these

Explanation: Pakistan released Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar, a co-founder of the Taliban, in 2018 as part of efforts to facilitate the Afghan peace process.

112 Pervez Musharraf gave a _____-point formula for the solution of Kashmir.

(a) Three

✓ (b) Four

(c) Five

(d) None of these

Explanation: General Pervez Musharraf proposed a four-point formula for resolving the Kashmir dispute during back-channel talks with India in the mid-2000s.

113 Constitutionally, Gilgit-Baltistan has a _____ status.

(a) Provincial

✓ (b) Semi-provincial

(c) State

(d) None of these

Explanation: Gilgit-Baltistan is governed under special self-governance orders and enjoys a degree of provincial-like administrative autonomy without being a constitutionally recognised province of Pakistan — commonly described as a semi-provincial status.

114 NESCOM of Pakistan stands for:

✓ (a) National Engineering and Scientific Commission

(b) National Engineering and Statistical Commission

(c) National Engineering and Space Commission

(d) None of these

Explanation: NESCOM stands for the National Engineering and Scientific Commission, Pakistan's premier organisation for engineering and scientific research and development.

115 Pakistan has been a member of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) since:

(a) 2002

(b) 2003

✓ (c) 2004

(d) None of these

Explanation: Pakistan joined the ASEAN Regional Forum, a key platform for security dialogue in the Asia-Pacific, in 2004.

116 Pakistan started Operation Radd-ul-Fasaad in _____ 2017.

✓ (a) February

(b) March

(c) April

(d) None of these

Explanation: Operation Radd-ul-Fasaad, a nationwide counter-terrorism and border-security operation, was launched by Pakistan's military in February 2017.

117 The _____ constitutional amendment created military courts in Pakistan.

✓ (a) 21st

(b) 22nd

(c) 23rd

(d) None of these

Explanation: The 21st Constitutional Amendment (2015), passed after the Army Public School Peshawar attack, established military courts to try terrorism-related cases.

118 The Afghanistan-Pakistan Transit Trade Agreement (APTTA) was signed in:

(a) 2008

(b) 2009

✓ (c) 2010

(d) None of these

Explanation: APTTA, which replaced the 1965 transit trade agreement, was signed by Pakistan and Afghanistan in 2010 to facilitate cross-border and onward trade.

119 The founding editor of the "Zamindar" newspaper was:

(a) Maulana Muhammad Ali Johar

(b) Maulana Sikandar Ali

✓ (c) Maulana Zafar Ali Khan

(d) None of these

Explanation: Maulana Zafar Ali Khan revived and edited the influential Urdu newspaper 'Zamindar', which became a powerful voice for the Muslims of British India.

120 Pakistan has been a signatory of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) since:

(a) 1977

(b) 1978

(c) 1979

✓ (d) None of these

Explanation: Pakistan has never signed the NPT, viewing it as discriminatory since it does not recognise Pakistan as a nuclear-weapon state; hence 'None of these' is correct.

121 The West Pakistan Land Reforms Regulation was passed in:

✓ (a) 1959

(b) 1960

(c) 1961

(d) None of these

Explanation: The first major land reforms in Pakistan were introduced through the Land Reforms Regulation of 1959 under Ayub Khan's government, capping individual land holdings.

122 The Pak-Afghan border agreement ("Durand Line") was signed in:

✓ (a) 1893

(b) 1894

(c) 1895

(d) None of these

Explanation: The Durand Line Agreement, demarcating the border between British India and Afghanistan, was signed by Sir Mortimer Durand and Amir Abdur Rahman Khan in 1893.

123 Pakistan won _____ gold medals at the 2022 Commonwealth Games.

✓ (a) Two

(b) Three

(c) Four

(d) None of these

Explanation: Pakistan won two gold medals at the 2022 Birmingham Commonwealth Games, both in weightlifting, most notably Nooh Dastgir Butt's record-breaking win.

124 ECOWAS is a union of states in:

(a) Latin America

✓ (b) Africa

(c) East Asia

(d) None of these

Explanation: ECOWAS, the Economic Community of West African States, is a regional political and economic union of 15 West African countries.

125 The Indus Waters Treaty between Pakistan and India was mediated by the:

(a) IMF

✓ (b) World Bank

(c) United States

(d) None of these

Explanation: The 1960 Indus Waters Treaty between Pakistan and India was brokered and continues to be facilitated by the World Bank.

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