

Aptitude, 2014 EC, common, entrance exam

Grade 12 · Aptitude · 2014 E.C.

MARKING KEY — CONFIDENTIAL

Time allowed: 120 minutes

Questions: 30

Total marks: 30

1. I) Directions: Questions 1-3 consist of sentences in which one word is written in quoted followed by four other words. Choose the word that us most nearly opposite in meaning to the word in bold. (1)

The guest made 'derogatory' remarks about the food he was served and by doing so he proved to be ungrateful and disrespectful.

- A. ✓ **complimentary** B. cheerful
C. interesting D. unnecessary

Answer: A

'Derogatory' means insulting or showing a low opinion. The question asks for the opposite. A remark that praises is a **complimentary** remark, so A flips the meaning exactly. 'Cheerful' describes a person's mood, not a kind of remark, so it is not a true opposite.

Tip: Define the quoted word in your own simple words first, then hunt for the option that reverses that definition, not just any positive word.

2. All of his brother like milk but he has a strong 'aversion' for it. (1)

- A. care B. hate
C. dear D. ✓ **love**

Answer: D

An 'aversion' is a strong dislike. The sentence contrasts him with his brothers who like milk. The opposite of strong dislike is **love**, so D is correct. 'Hate' is a trap: it means almost the same as aversion, and the question wants the opposite.

Tip: Antonym lists often include a synonym of the quoted word to catch students who read too fast. Re-check whether the item asks for the same or the opposite meaning before you answer.

3. The inhabitants of the island were 'barbarians' who never lived in the modern world. (1)

- A. bad B. hate
C. ✓ **civilized** D. cruel

Answer: C

'Barbarians' here means people seen as uncivilized, and the sentence confirms it by saying they never lived in the modern world. The opposite is **civilized**, so C is correct. 'Cruel' leans toward the same negative meaning as barbarian, so it cannot be the opposite.

Tip: Use the rest of the sentence as a free dictionary: it often restates the quoted word, and the answer is whatever undoes that restatement.

4. II) Directions: Questions 45 consist of sentences in which one word is write nearly similar in meaning to the word in bold. Then, blacken the letter ten in bold followed by four other words. Choose the word that is out of your choice on the separate answer sheet provided. (1)

The spies conducted a 'covert' operation, without being noticed by anyone.

- A. ✓ hidden
B. illegal
C. dangerous
D. foreign

Answer: A

This item asks for the word closest in meaning. 'Covert' means secret or **hidden**, and the sentence spells it out: the operation happened without being noticed by anyone. So A is correct. 'Illegal' is a trap: spy work may be secret without being against the law, and the sentence says nothing about law.

Tip: For synonym items, test each option by swapping it into the sentence. Only the true synonym keeps the sentence saying the same thing.

5. The designer window treatment in her house, Installed 17 years ago, were 'outmoded' and thus needs to be changed. (1)

- A. outlawed
B. ✓ outdated
C. unnecessary
D. unimportant

Answer: B

'Outmoded' means no longer in fashion, that is **outdated**. The clue is right in the sentence: the window treatments were installed 17 years ago and now need changing. So B is correct. 'Outlawed' only looks similar; it means banned by law, which has nothing to do with age or fashion.

Tip: When two options share a prefix with the quoted word, judge them by meaning, not by appearance. Lookalike words are a favourite trap.

6. She showed a 'blatant' disregard for the rules. (1)

- A. respectful B. ✓ obvious
C. rebellious D. hidden

Answer: B

'Blatant' means done openly, in a way anyone can see, so the closest word is **obvious**. A blatant disregard for the rules is a disregard she did not even try to hide. 'Rebellious' is a trap: it describes a rule-breaking person, but it does not mean open or unhidden, which is what blatant says. 'Hidden' is the opposite.

Tip: Match the quoted word's own meaning, not the general theme of the sentence. Options that fit the topic but not the word are the most common wrong answers.

7. The interior of the hotel is so 'repulsive' that everybody returns as soon as they enter it. (1)

- A. bright B. attractive
C. Ugly D. ✓ Repugnant

Answer: D

'Repulsive' means so unpleasant that it pushes people away, and the sentence shows exactly that: everybody turns back as soon as they enter. The closest word is **repugnant**, which also means causing strong disgust. 'Ugly' is tempting, but it only speaks about looks and is much weaker; something can be ugly without driving anyone out of a building.

Tip: When two options both seem right, pick the one that matches the quoted word in strength as well as in meaning.

8. Directions: To answer the items 8-12, read each of the following words carefully and choose the word that correctly completes the analogy. The blacken the letter of your choice on the separate answer sheet provided (1)
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Q. MARATHON is to RACE as HIBERNATION is to

- A. ✓ **Sleep** B. Bear
C. Winter D. Dream

Answer: A

State the link as a sentence: a marathon is a very long race. Now reuse it: hibernation is a very long **sleep**. So A completes the analogy. 'Bear' names an animal that hibernates and 'winter' names the season, but neither says what hibernation actually is.

Tip: Turn the first pair into one clear sentence, then force the same sentence onto the second pair. Options that are merely associated with the word will fail that sentence test.

9. CUP is COFFEE as BOWL is to (1)

- A. food B. Spoon
C. Dish D. ✓ **soup**

Answer: D

The link is container to what it usually holds: a cup holds coffee. A bowl (printed here as 'bowl', a typing error) holds **soup**, so D is correct. 'Food' is too general: a cup does not hold drink in general, it holds a specific one, so the answer must also be specific. 'Spoon' and 'dish' are other utensils, not contents.

Tip: Keep the analogy at the same level of detail. If the first pair is specific, a broad answer like 'food' is almost always a trap.

10. EMBARRASSED is to HUMILIATED as FRIGHTENED is to (1)

- A. Courageous B. Reckless
C. ✓ **Terrified** D. Agitated

Answer: C

The link is degree: humiliated is a much stronger form of embarrassed. The much stronger form of frightened is **terrified**, so C is correct. 'Agitated' is a different feeling (restless and upset), and 'courageous' points the opposite way.

Tip: When both words in the first pair share a meaning, check whether the second is simply a stronger version. Degree analogies need an answer with the same meaning turned up, not a related emotion.

11. OPTIMIST is to CHEERFUL as PESSIMIST is to (1)

- A. Mean B. Petty
C. Helpful D. ✓ **Gloomy**

Answer: D

The link is a person and their typical mood: an optimist expects good things, so an optimist is cheerful. A pessimist expects bad things, so a pessimist is **gloomy**. D is correct. 'Mean' and 'petty' describe unkind behaviour, not the sad, hopeless outlook that defines a pessimist.

Tip: In person-to-quality analogies, ask what trait defines the person, not what other bad traits the person might have.

12. COBBLER is to SHOE as CONTRACTOR is to

(1)

A. Boot

B. ✓ Building

C. Horse

D. Stone

Answer: B

The link is a worker and the thing they work on: a cobbler makes and mends shoes. A contractor constructs a **building**, so B is correct. 'Boot' is bait: it belongs with the cobbler's side of the analogy, not with the contractor.

Tip: Wrong options often relate to the first pair instead of the second. The answer must pair with the third word, so ignore options that echo the first two words.

13. Yonas has a paper route. Each morning, he delivers 37 newspapers to customers in his neighbourhood. It takes Yonas 50 minutes to deliver all the papers. If Yonas is sick or has other problems, his friend kedir, who lives in the same street, will sometime deliver the papers for him. (1)

A. It is dark outside when Yonas begins his deliveries.

B. Kedir would like to have his own paper route.

C. ✓ Yonas and kedir live in the same neighbourhood.

D. It takes kedir more than 50 minutes to deliver the papers

Answer: C

This item asks which statement the passage guarantees. The passage says Kedir lives in the same street as Yonas, and people on one street are in one neighbourhood, so C must be true. The passage never mentions darkness (A), what Kedir wants (B), or how fast Kedir delivers (D), so none of those can be concluded.

Tip: For must-be-true items, accept only what the passage states or directly forces. If you need to imagine anything extra, the option is wrong.

14. Derartu is twelve years old. For three years, she has been asking her parents for a dog. Her parents have told her that they believe a dog would not be happy in an apartment, but they have give her permission to have a bird. Derartu has not yet decided what kind of bird she would like to have. (1)

A. ✓ Derartu and her parents live in an apartment.

B. Derartu and her parents would like to move.

C. Derartu's parents like birds better than they like dogs.

D. Derartu dose not like birds.

Answer: A

The parents refuse the dog because a dog would not be happy in an apartment. That reason only makes sense if the family actually lives in an apartment, so A must be true. C guesses a preference the passage never states: allowing a bird does not prove they like birds more. B and D also add ideas the passage never gives.

Tip: Look at the reason a character gives for a decision. The unstated fact that makes the reason work is usually the answer to a must-be-true question.

15. One of the warmest winters on record has put consumers in the mood to spend money. Spending is likely to be the strongest in thirteen years. During the month of February, sales of existing single - family homes hit an annual record rate of 4.75 million. This paragraph best supports the statement that. (1)
- A. During the winter months, the prices of single - family homes are the lowest.
- B. ✓ **Warm winter weather is likely to affect the rate of home sales**
- C. Consumer spending will be higher thirteen years from now than it is today
- D. More people buy houses in the month of February than in any other month.

Answer: B

The paragraph connects one of the warmest winters on record to strong consumer spending and record February home sales. That chain supports one general idea: warm winter weather can affect the rate of home sales, which is B. A talks about prices and D compares months, and the paragraph gives no data on either. C predicts spending thirteen years from now, which the paragraph never does.

Tip: The supported statement stays inside the paragraph's own facts. Options with new comparisons, prices, or predictions are usually too strong.

16. Frehiwot likes to let her students choose who their partners will be; however, no pair of students may work together more than seven class periods in a row. Adem and Belay have studied together seven class periods in a row. Kiya and Africho have worked together three class periods in a row. Kiya does not want to work with Adem. Who should be assigned to work with Belay?
- A. Africho
- B. Frehiwot
- C. ✓ **Kiya**
- D. Adem

Answer: C

Adem and Belay have already worked together the full seven periods, so pairing them again would break the limit and they must split. Kiya refuses to work with Adem, so out of the two students who need new partners, Kiya must take Belay, which leaves Adem with Africho. Frehiwot is the teacher, not a student, so B is out.

Tip: In pairing puzzles, apply the hard limits first to see who must separate, then use the personal refusals to place the remaining people.

17. The High school English Department needs to appoint a new chairperson, which will be based on seniority. Hawi has less seniority than Temam, but more than Bekelech. Redwan has more seniority than Hawi, but less than Temam. Temam doesn't want the job. Who will be the new English department chairperson? (1)
- A. ✓ **Redwan**
- B. Bekelech
- C. Hawi
- D. Temam

Answer: A

Line up the seniority from the clues. Hawi is below Temam and above Bekelech. Redwan is above Hawi but below Temam. So the order is Temam, then Redwan, then Hawi, then Bekelech. Temam does not want the job, so the post goes to the next most senior person, **Redwan**.

Tip: For ordering puzzles, sketch the full ranking on paper before reading the question's final twist. Once the order is written down, the twist takes seconds.

18. Nurse Nefisa has worked more night shifts in a row than Nurse Libamo, who has worked five Nurse Lomi has worked fifteen night shifts in a row, more than Nurses 33. Nefisa and Libamo combined. Nurse Gelga- 10 has worked eight-night shifts in a row, less than Nurse Nefisa How many night shifts in a row has nurse nefisa worked? (1)
- A. ten
B. eleven
C. eight
D. ✓ nine

Answer: D

Pull out the numbers. Libamo has worked 5 night shifts. Lomi's 15 is more than Nefisa and Libamo combined, so Nefisa plus 5 is less than 15, which means Nefisa worked fewer than 10. Gelgelo's 8 is less than Nefisa's total, so Nefisa worked more than 8. The only whole number between 8 and 10 is **9**.

Tip: Turn each sentence into an inequality as you read. Squeezing the unknown between a floor and a ceiling usually leaves exactly one possible value.

19. Critical reading is a demanding process. To read critically, you must slow down your reading and, with a pencil in hand, perform specific operations on the text. Mark up the text with your reactions, conclusions, and questions. When you read, become an active participant. This paragraph best supports the statement that. (1)
- A. Critical reading is a slow, dull, but essential process
B. Readers should get in the habit of questioning the truth of what they
C. The best critical reading happens at critical times in a person's life
D. ✓ **Critical reading requires thoughtful and careful attention read**

Answer: D

Every instruction in the paragraph asks for care and thought: slow down, keep a pencil in hand, mark your reactions and questions, take part actively. All of that supports D: critical reading requires thoughtful and careful attention. A sneaks in the word 'dull', which the paragraph never says. B narrows everything to questioning truth, and C plays on the word 'critical' instead of the paragraph's meaning.

Tip: The right summary covers the whole paragraph without adding a single new judgement. One extra word like 'dull' is enough to sink an option.

20. Exams are to be conducted on four days from Monday till Thursday. The exams to be conducted are English, Mathematics, Physics and Biology. Neither English Physics to be conducted on Tuesday Neither physics nor mathematics is to be conducted on Tuesday. There are three exams conducted after Biology physics exam is conducted on (1)
- A. ✓ **Thursday**
B. Tuesday
C. Monday
D. Wednesday

Answer: A

Three exams come after Biology, so Biology must be first, on Monday. Neither Physics nor Mathematics can be on Tuesday, so Tuesday must be English. The remaining rule in the original paper bars English and Physics from Wednesday, so Mathematics takes Wednesday and Physics lands on **Thursday**. Note: part of this question's text was damaged in printing, but the schedule above is the only one that satisfies the original rules.

Tip: Start scheduling puzzles with the clue that fixes a position outright, like 'three exams come after Biology'. One fixed slot makes every other rule easier to apply.

21. Direction: Choose the option that best fits the meaning of the sentence as a whole and blacken the letter of choice on the separate answer sheet provided. (1)

The weather outside was extremely pleasant and hence we decided to

- A. ✓ **enjoy a morning ride in the open**
- B. employ this rare opportunity for writing letters
- C. utilize our time watching the television
- D. refrain from going out for a morning walk

Answer: A

The sentence says the weather outside was extremely pleasant, and 'hence' signals that the ending must follow naturally from that. Pleasant weather invites going out, so A, a morning ride in the open, fits. B and C keep the people indoors, wasting the good weather, and D refuses to go out, which is the opposite of what 'hence' demands.

Tip: Words like 'hence', 'so' and 'therefore' promise agreement between the two halves. Pick the ending that flows from the first half, and drop any option that fights it.

22. She never visits any zoo because she is a strong opponent of the idea of (1)

- A. feeding the animals while others are watching
- B. going out of the house on a holiday
- C. setting the animal free in to the forest
- D. ✓ **holding the animal in captivity for our joy**

Answer: D

The sentence needs the idea she opposes, and it must explain why she avoids zoos in particular. What zoos do is keep animals enclosed for visitors, so opposing **holding the animal in captivity for our joy** completes the logic, and D is correct. B is about disliking outings in general, which would keep her from many places, not zoos specifically. C is the reverse trap: someone against setting animals free would not mind zoos at all.

Tip: When a sentence gives a reason for avoiding something, the missing idea must be a feature of that exact thing. Test each option by asking whether it truly explains the behaviour.

23. I felt somewhat more relaxed (1)

- A. as there was already no tension at all
- B. ✓ **and tension free as compared to earlier**
- C. but tense as compared to earlier
- D. and tense as compared to earlier

Answer: B

'Somewhat more relaxed' compares the speaker's feeling now with an earlier moment, so the ending must carry that comparison through. B does exactly that: relaxed and tension free **as compared to earlier**. A breaks the logic: if there had already been no tension at all, the speaker could not become 'more' relaxed. C and D bring tension back into the sentence, which fights the word 'relaxed'.

Tip: A comparative like 'more' or 'less' needs a reference point. Choose the ending that supplies it and reject any ending that contradicts the main clause.

24. Practically, very little work could be completed in the last week as it was (1)

- A. a very busy week
- B. a very hectic week
- C. ✓ **full of holidays**
- D. full of working days

Answer: C

The sentence explains why very little work was completed, so the ending must give a cause of low output. A week **full of holidays** means few working days, so little gets done, and C is correct. A and B describe a busy week, which would normally mean more activity, not less, and D (full of working days) points the opposite way entirely.

Tip: When the sentence states a result, the blank holds its cause. Check each option by asking: would this really produce that result?

25. Despite all the efforts made to stop the war, (1)
- A. ✓ **the two groups seem determine to continue fighting**
- B. the two groups expressed interest for peace
- C. the two groups agreed to negotiate
- D. the two groups do not seem to continue fighting

Answer: A

'Despite' promises a contrast: efforts were made to stop the war, yet the outcome went the other way. A delivers that contrast: the two groups seem determined to continue fighting. B, C and D all describe peace moves succeeding, which would need a connector like 'because of', not 'despite'.

Tip: Contrast words such as 'despite', 'although' and 'however' demand an ending that goes against the first half. If an option agrees with the first half, cross it out immediately.

26. Two dice are rolled and the numbers on top are added. What is probability that the sum is less than 4 ? (1)
- A. 5/36
- B. 5/6
- C. 1/6
- D. ✓ **1/12**

Answer: D

Two dice give $6 \times 6 = 36$ equally likely outcomes. A sum less than 4 means a sum of 2 or 3. Sum 2 comes from (1,1) and sum 3 from (1,2) and (2,1), so there are 3 favourable outcomes. The probability is $\frac{3}{36} = \frac{1}{12}$, which is D.

Tip: For two-dice questions, list the favourable pairs by hand and divide by 36. Counting pairs directly is faster and safer than any formula.

27. Last year a phone model had a battery that lasted 12 hours. This year the battery lasts only for 8.16 hours. What percent of the battery life has decreased? (1)
- A. 68%
- B. 54%
- C. ✓ **32%**
- D. 47%

Answer: C

Percent decrease is the drop divided by the original value. The drop is $12 - 8.16 = 3.84$ hours. Divide by the original 12 hours: $\frac{3.84}{12} = 0.32$. Multiply by 100 to get **32%**, which is C. Option A (68%) is the share of battery life that remains, a classic trap.

Tip: Always divide by the original (older) value in percent change questions, and watch for the trap option that shows what is left instead of what was lost.

28. A library normally collects 47 birr in fees in a month. But in March they collected 59.22 birr. What is the percent increase in fees collected in March? (1)
- A. 62%
- B. 79%
- C. 20.6%
- D. ✓ **26%**

Answer: D

Percent increase is the rise divided by the normal (original) amount. The rise is $59.22 - 47 = 12.22$ birr. Divide by the normal 47 birr: $\frac{12.22}{47} = 0.26$. Multiply by 100 to get **26%**, which is D. Dividing by the new amount 59.22 instead gives about 20.6%, which is exactly the trap in option C.

Tip: The base of a percent change is always the value before the change. One of the wrong options is usually built from dividing by the new value.

29. - A manufacturer produces two types of telephones. The more expensive model requires 1 hour manufacture and 30 minutes to assemble. (1)
- The 769 less expensive model requires 45 minutes to manufacture and 15 minutes to assemble. If the company allocates 150 hours for manufacturing and 60 hours for assembly, how many of each type can be produced?
- A. ✓ **60 of the more expensive model; 120 of the less expensive model**
- B. 60 of the more expensive model; 90 of the less expensive model
- C. 15 of the more expensive model; 90 of the less expensive model
- D. 15 of the more expensive model; 120 of the less expensive model

Answer: A

Let x be the expensive model and y the cheaper one. Manufacturing hours: $x + 0.75y = 150$. Assembly hours: $0.5x + 0.25y = 60$. Multiply the assembly equation by 3 to get $1.5x + 0.75y = 180$, then subtract the manufacturing equation: $0.5x = 30$, so $x = 60$. Substitute back: $0.5(60) + 0.25y = 60$ gives $y = 120$. Check: manufacturing $60 + 90 = 150$ hours and assembly $30 + 30 = 60$ hours, both exact. So A is correct: 60 expensive and 120 cheaper phones.

Tip: With answer choices given, you can skip the algebra: plug each pair into both hour totals and keep the one that matches exactly.

30. A large square pizza has 49 pieces (square pieces). Ali, Alemu and Abche ate all the pieces in the ratio 4:2:1, respectively. How many pieces did Alemu eat? (1)
- A. 12 pieces
- B. ✓ **14 pieces**
- C. 10 pieces
- D. 18 pieces

Answer: B

The ratio 4:2:1 has $4 + 2 + 1 = 7$ parts in total. The 49 pieces split evenly over those parts: $49 \div 7 = 7$ pieces per part. Alemu's share is 2 parts, so he ate $2 \times 7 = 14$ pieces, which is B. Quick check: Ali gets 28, Alemu 14, Abche 7, and $28 + 14 + 7 = 49$.

Tip: For ratio sharing, add the ratio numbers first to find the size of one part, then multiply by each person's ratio number. Finish with a quick sum check.

— END OF MARKING KEY —