

■ Simplification – Smart Notes for Government Exams

Simplification tests your accuracy and speed in basic arithmetic using BODMAS, fractions, percentages, and approximations. It appears in SSC, Banking, Railways, and Defence exams.

■ Common Question Patterns & Examples

Pattern	Example	Trick / How to Solve
BODMAS	$25 + (12 \div 3) \times (4 - 2)^2$	Follow order: Bracket → Of → Division → Multiplication → Addition
Fractions	$3/4 + 5/8 - 7/16$	Use LCM of denominators to add/subtract fractions
Roots & Powers	$\sqrt{144} + 3^2 - 2^3$	Remember squares & cubes till 25
Approximation	$49.8 \times 20.1 \approx ?$	Round off → $50 \times 20 = 1000$ (for Banking exams)
Percentages	25% of 480 + 12.5% of 240	Convert % → Fraction or use mental math
Recurring Decimals	$1.6\overline{6} = ?$	Write repeating digits over 9 → $1 + 6/9 = 5/3$
Algebraic	$(a+b)^2 - (a-b)^2$	Apply identity: $(a+b)^2 - (a-b)^2 = 4ab$
Chain Rule	$(3/5)/(15/25)$	Flip & multiply to simplify
'Of' and 'x' Confusion	3/5 of 250 + 20% of 150	'Of' = x; convert % as needed
Word Statement	Half of 40 added to one-third of 90	Translate words into equation → $40/2 + 90/3$

■ Quick Tricks & Tips

- Memorize squares (1–25), cubes (1–15), and fraction–percentage–decimal conversions.
- BODMAS rule is your base — always apply step by step.
- Approximate quickly for banking-style questions.
- Use 9, 99, 999 for recurring decimals.
- For $(a+b)^2 = a^2 + b^2 + 2ab$ and $(a-b)^2 = a^2 + b^2 - 2ab$.
- Practice 10–15 simplification problems daily under 7 minutes.

■ Practice smart, not hard! Accuracy + Speed = Success. ■