



**SRM Institute of Science and Technology**  
Ramapuram campus  
**Department of Mathematics**  
**18MAB302T- DISCRETE MATHEMATICS**

**Year/Sem: III/V**

**Branch: CSE,ECE,EEE**

**UNIT-2 -COMBINATORICS**

(1) If  $np_4 = 360$ , then the value of  $n$ .

- (a) 5                      (b) 6                      (c) 7                      (d) 8                      **Ans: b**

**Solution:** Given

$$np_4 = 360$$

$$n(n-1)(n-2)(n-3) = (n^2-n)(n^2-5n+6)$$

$$(n^2-n)(n^2-5n+6) = 360$$

Therefore  $n = 6$

(2) If  $10p_r = 360$ , then the value of  $r$ .

- (a) 3                      (b) 6                      (c) 7                      (d) 8                      **Ans: a**

**Solution:** Given

$$10p_r = 360$$

$$10 \times 9 \times 8 \times \dots \text{ to } r \text{ factors} = 720 = 10 \times 9 \times 8$$

Therefore  $r = 3$

(3) Which one of the following is correct?

- $np_r = nc_r$                       (b)  $np_r = rnc_r$                       (c)  $np_r = r! \times nc_r$                       (d)  $r! \times np_r = nc_r$

**Solution:**

$$np_r = \frac{n!}{(n-r)!} \quad nC_r = \frac{n!}{r!(n-r)!}$$

**Ans: d**

$$r! \times np_r = nc_r$$

(4) How many numbers of four digits can be formed with the digits 1,2,3,4 and 5 (no repetition)?

- (a) 120                      (b) 150                      (c) 100                      (d) 110

**Solution:**

$$n = 5 \text{ and } r = 4$$

$$\text{required number} = 5p_4 = 120$$

**Ans: a**

(5) How many numbers between 400 and 1000 can be made with the digits 2,3,4,5,6 and 0?

- (a) 50                      (b) 60                      (c) 65                      (d) 70                      **Ans: b**

**Solution:**

$$3 \times 5p_2 = 60$$

Hundreds place can be filled up by any one of the digits 4,5,6 and remaining two places can be filled up by remaining five digits in  $5p_2$

(6) How many ways can 6 boys and 4 girls sit in a row if the boys are to sit together and the girls are to sit together ?

- (a) 34500                      (b) 34200                      (c) 34560                      (d) 34650

**Ans: c**

**Solution:**

No of ways can 6 boys and 4 girls sit in a row if the boys are to sit together and the girls are to sit together is

$$2 \times 6! \times 4! = 34560$$

In two ways, the boys can be arranged in  $6!$  ways and the girls can be arranged in  $4!$  ways.

(7) If  ${}^{15}C_{3r} = {}^{15}C_{r+3}$ , then what is the value of  $r$ ?

- (a) 8                      (b) 5                      (c) 6                      (d) 3                      **Ans: d**

**Solution :**

$${}^{15}C_{3r} = {}^{15}C_{r+3},$$

$3r = r + 3$  gives  $r = 1.5$  that is not possible  $r$  is integer

$$3r + r + 3 = 15 \text{ hence } r = 3$$

(8) If  $nC_6 = n - 3C_3 = 33$ , then the value of  $n$  is .

- (a) 10                      (b) 9                      (c) 11                      (d) 8                      **Ans: c**

**Solution:**

$$\frac{n!}{(n-3)!} \times \frac{3!}{6!} = \frac{33}{4}$$

$$n(n-1)(n-2) = 33 \cdot 6 \cdot 5$$

$$n(n-1)(n-2) = 11 \cdot 10 \cdot 9 \text{ Therefore } n = 11.$$

(9) A club consisting of 6 men and 7 women , in how many ways can we select a committee of 3 men and 4 women ?

- (a) 500                      (b) 700                      (c) 600                      (d) 800                      **Ans: b**

**Solution:** They can be selected in  $C(6,3) \cdot C(7,4) = 700$  ways

(10) A club consisting of 6 men and 7 women , in how many ways can we select a committee of 4 persons has at most one man ?

- (a) 230                      (b) 245                      (c) 254                      (d) 250

**Ans: b**

**Solution :**

No of ways we select a committee of 4 persons has at most one man

$$C(6,0).C(7,4) + C(6,1).C(7,3) = {}^6C_0.{}^7C_4 + {}^6C_1.{}^7C_3 = 245 \text{ ways}$$

(11) A club consisting of 6 men and 7 women , in how many ways can we select a committee of 4 persons that has persons of both sexes ?

- (a) 625                      (b) 650                      (c) 665                      (d) 664                      **Ans: c**

**Solution:**

No of ways we select a committee of 4 persons that has persons of both sexes

$$C(6,1).C(7,3) + C(6,2).C(7,2) + C(6,3).C(7,1) \\ = {}^6C_1.{}^7C_3 + {}^6C_2.{}^7C_2 + {}^6C_3.{}^7C_1 = 665 \text{ ways.}$$

(12) There are 3 piles of identical red , blue and green balls where each pile contains at least 10 balls.In how many ways can 10 balls be selected with no restriction?

- (a) 64                      (b) 65                      (c) 66                      (d) 67                      **Ans: c**

**Solution:**

$$n=3 \text{ and } r=10$$

$$C(n+r-1, r) = C(12,10) = {}^{12}C_{10} = 66$$

(13) If we select 10 points in the interior of an equilateral triangle of side 1, then there must be at least two points whose distance apart is

- (a) Less than  $1/3$     (b) greater than  $1/3$     (c) equal to  $1/3$     (d) less than 3                      **Ans: a**

**Solution :**

9 sub triangles may be regarded as 9 pigeon holes and 10 interior points may be regarded as 10 pigeons .The distance between any two interior points of any sub triangle is less than  $1/3$ .

(14) If the linear combination of a and b is  $gcd(a, b) = ma + nb$  ,then

- (a) m and n integers                      (b) m and n are rationals                      (c) m and n are real  
(d) m and n are only positive integers

**Ans: d**

**Solution:**

If  $gcd(a, b)$  is defined by the expression,  $gcd(a, b) = ma + nb$  where  $m, n$  are positive integers and  $a, b$  is both not zero, then the expression is called Bezout's Identity and  $m, n$  can be calculated by extended form of Euclidean algorithm.

(15) Which one of the following is hold true?

- (a)  $gcd(ka, kb) = gcd(a, b)$                       (b)  $gcd(ka, kb) = k gcd(a, b)$   
(c)  $gcd(ka, kb) = gcd(a, b) / k$                       (d)  $gcd(ka, kb) = k^2 gcd(a, b)$

**Ans: b**

**Solution :**

Let  $d = gcd(a, b)$  then  $ma + nb = d$  where m and n are integers .

$$m(ka) + n(kb) \\ = kd = k.gcd(a, b)$$

(16) The value of  $gcd(1819, 3587)$  is

- (a) 15                      (b) 16                      (c) 17                      (d) 51

**Ans: c**

**Solution:**

By division algorithm ,  $3587 = 1.1819 + 1768$  ;

$$1819 = 1.1768 + 51 ;$$

$$1768 = 34.51 + 34 ;$$

$$51 = 1.34 + 17 ;$$

$$34 = 2.17 + 0$$

(17) The value of  $lcm(231, 1575)$  is

- (a) 51775                      (b) 51765                      (c) 17325                      (d) 51985

**Ans: c**

**Solution:**

$$lcm(231, 1575) = 3^{(0,1)} \times 7^{(1,1)} \times 11^{(0,1)} \times 15^{(0,2)} \\ = 3.7.11.15^2 = 17325$$

(18) If  $gcd(a, 4) = gcd(b, 4) = 2$  ,then  $gcd(a+b, 4)$  is

- (a) 4                      (b) 5                      (c) 6                      (d) 8

**Ans: a**

**Solution:**

let  $a=2m$  and  $b=2n$   $m$  and  $n$  are odd integers  $a+b = 2(m+n) = 2.2r$   
 Therefore  $\gcd(4r,4) = 4$

(19) If  $a$  and  $b$  be two positive integers , then  $\text{lcm}(a, b)$ .  $\gcd(a, b)$  is

**Solution:**

- (a) 1                      (b)  $ab$                       (c)  $a/b$                       (d)  $a+b$                       **Ans: b**

**Solution:**

By Theorem:  $\text{lcm}(a, b) \times \gcd(a, b) = ab$  for any positive integers  $a, b$ .

(20) If 25 dictionaries in a library contain a total of 40,325 pages , then one of the dictionaries must have atleast

- (a) 1614                      (b) 1615                      (c) 1610                      (d) 1618                      **Ans: a**

**Solution:**  $\left\lceil \frac{m-1}{n} \right\rceil + 1 = \left\lceil \frac{40325-1}{25} \right\rceil + 1 = 1614$

no. of pages =  $m = 40325$  ; no. of dictionaries =  $n = 25$

(21) If  $\gcd(a,b)=1$ , then for any integer  $c$  ,

- (a)  $\gcd(ac,b) = \gcd(c,b)$       (b)  $\gcd(a,b) = \gcd(c,b)$   
 (c)  $\gcd(a,b) = \gcd(c,b)$       (d)  $\gcd(ac,b) = a \cdot \gcd(c,b)$                       **Ans: a**

**Solution:**

By Theorem: If  $\gcd(a,b)=1$  then  $\gcd(ac,b) = \gcd(c,b)$

Hence the solution is  $\gcd(ac,b) = \gcd(c,b)$

(22) The value of  $\gcd(231,1575)$  is

- (a) 9                      (b) 15                      (c) 7                      (d) 5                      **Ans: c**

**Solution:**  $\gcd(231,1575)$

$$= 3^{(0,1)} \times 7^{(1,1)} \times 11^{(0,1)} \times 15^{(0,2)}$$

$$= 3^0 \cdot 7^1 \cdot 11^0 \cdot 15^0 = 7$$

(23) Among 100 people, at least ..... of them were born in the same month.

- (a) 10                      (b) 9                      (c) 8                      (d) 7                      **Ans: b**

**Solution:**

no. of pages =  $m = 100$

no. of dictionaries =  $n = 12$

$$\left\lceil \frac{m-1}{n} \right\rceil + 1 = \left\lceil \frac{100-1}{12} \right\rceil + 1 = 9$$

(24) How many positive integers not exceeding 1000 are divisible by 7 or 11?

- (a) 200            (b) 210            (c) 205            (d) 220

**Ans: d**

**Solution:**

$$|A| = \left[ \frac{1000}{7} \right] = 142; |B| = \left[ \frac{1000}{11} \right] = 90;$$

$$|A \cap B| = \left[ \frac{1000}{77} \right] = 12 \text{ by principle of inclusion and exclusion}$$

$$|A \cup B| = |A| + |B| - |A \cap B| = 220$$

(25) How many positive integers not exceeding from 1 to 100 are not divisible by 5 or 7?

- (a) 65            (b) 68            (c) 63            (d) 64

**Ans: b**

**Solution:**

$$|A| = \left[ \frac{100}{5} \right] = 20; |B| = \left[ \frac{100}{7} \right] = 14;$$

$$|A \cap B| = \left[ \frac{100}{35} \right] = 2 \text{ by principle of inclusion and exclusion}$$

$$|A \cup B| = |A| + |B| - |A \cap B| = 32 \text{ not divisible} = 100 - 32 = 68$$