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## Half Group Task (HGT)

Half Group Task (HGT) is very much similar to the Progressive Group Task (PGT). It is the second outdoor task of GTO. In this task, the group is divided into two equal halves. So, each group has 4 to 5 candidates. Since, it is a smaller group and the task allotted is the same, each candidate is observed in a great detail. The purpose behind conducting Half Group Task is to give a chance to those candidates who feel that they were not able to give their best in PGT. So, it gives the candidates better opportunities to demonstrate their caliber. GTO too gets an opportunity to make a closer and more detailed assessment of the performance of each candidate. It is essentially a group task and the members must work for the group in the core spirit of cooperation and coordination.



## Objectives of HGT

The main objectives of the Half Group Task is to judge the following qualities of the candidates :

- His/Her ability to grasp the rules and conditions
- Team spirit and cooperation
- Organising ability
- Observation power
- Social adaptability
- Practical intellect
- Innovative skill
- Analytical skill
- Responsibility
- Determination and courage

## Rules and Procedures

Following are the rules that the candidates have to follow :

1. GTO will explain the procedure and requirement of the test for the candidates.
2. GTO will tell them that supporting material like plank, rope, balli, will assist the candidates in finding the solution of problem.
3. In the Half Group Task, only one obstacle is to be tackled for which generally 10 to 15 minutes are allotted.
4. Candidates have to carry a load like a sand bag or an empty drum from the start line to finish line with the help of supporting material like plank, rope and balli.
5. While one group is doing the task, other groups are not allowed to watch.
6. Various structures available in the out of bounds area are bench shaped structures, goal post, raised platforms, cross shaped structures and T-shaped structures.
7. All the other rules of the Progressive Group Task except the group rule is also applied here.

### *Colour Rule*

The obstacles are painted in following colours

- (i) White – Both the candidate and the helping materials can touch the obstacle at this region.
- (ii) Black – It has no significance.
- (iii) Red – Anything painted in red is out of bound for everything.
- (iv) Green/Blue/Yellow – These colours are in bound for the candidates but out of bound for the helping material.

### *Rigidity Rule*

This rule pertains to the rigid helping materials like planks, ballies. No two rigid supporting materials can be tied together for making an extension. e.g. if you have a plank and a balli, you are not supposed to tie them together to increase the length. However, you can keep one on the top of the other and use it.

### *Distance Rule*

In the obstacles, it will be seen, that neither you are touching the ground nor the helping material should touch the ground. You have to utilise the permanent structures on the ground and the helping materials to cross the obstacle. The candidates are allowed to jump distances upto a maximum of 4 ft in length or height but distances exceeding 4 ft have to be crossed only with the help of supporting material.

### *Rule of Infinity*

The start line and the finish line should extend to infinity on either side.

## **Principles for Tackling Obstacle**

1. The given obstacle has at least 2-3 solutions. So, always look for the best possible solution.
2. To find the best solutions, look at the structure as well as the supporting material then only you will have an idea which route to take.
3. The planks can be used as a bridge or as a lever with the rope tied at one end and supported on a drum.
4. If the distance is less than 4 ft then take a jump.
5. Use plank and balli as cantilever beam whenever these are required.
6. Tie the plank on the bench shaped structure with the help of rope.
7. If required, the rope can be used to serve as a ladder too.
8. Make a swing with the rope using the goal post.



### **Do's and Don'ts for HGT**

#### ***Do's***

- ◆ Try to take the initiative by applying workable ideas.
- ◆ Once you have found out solution, take the lead and explain it to the whole group.
- ◆ If your plan is acceptable to the group then ensure the completion of the task smoothly.
- ◆ You should be an active participant throughout the outdoor task.
- ◆ Help your group members to carry the helping material as it is reasonably heavy.
- ◆ Encourage the weaker members of the group and do not neglect them.
- ◆ Your body language should reflect enthusiasm, zeal, energy, interest and smartness.
- ◆ Your voice should be loud and clear.
- ◆ Be particular about observing the rules and take restorative action whenever you break it.
- ◆ Always boost up the morale of your group members and keep on encouraging them.

#### ***Don'ts***

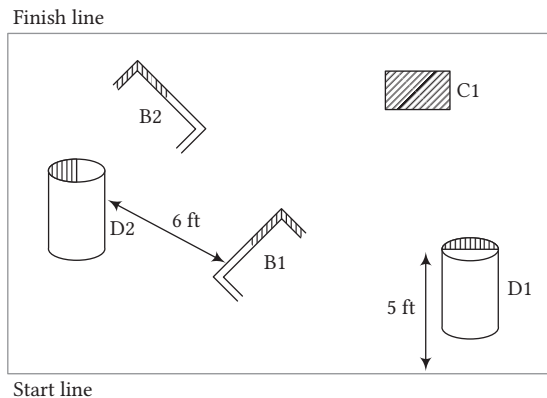
- ◆ Never try to gain GTO attention by looking at him.
- ◆ Never lose temper or shout at others but be patient and cheerful.
- ◆ If you are running short of time then do not get aggressive as it will ruin the situation.

## Illustration of Half Group Task

Men and material used by the group are as follows :

- A group of 4 candidates.
- Wooden plank 6 ft long.
- Two ropes each about 12 to 16 ft long.
- Ballies 4 to 6 ft long.
- A load like an empty drum or a sand bag.

### Structure



### Requirement

You have to cross the obstacle with men and material from start line to finish line and do not break any rule.

### Solution

1. First go on D1 with the help of plank.
2. Make a bridge between D1 and white side of B1.
3. From B1 go to D2, this distance is 6 ft so, put the plank on the edge of the drum.
4. Go in the group of two. Next group should also carry load with themselves.
5. Connect D2 with B2 with the help of plank.
6. From B2, directly jump over the finish line because this distance is less than 4 ft.