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# SOIL MECHANICS

## CIVIL ENGINEERING

**Date of Test : 14/04/2023****ANSWER KEY >**

1. (a)	7. (a)	13. (c)	19. (b)	25. (c)
2. (b)	8. (b)	14. (d)	20. (c)	26. (d)
3. (c)	9. (a)	15. (b)	21. (c)	27. (c)
4. (d)	10. (d)	16. (c)	22. (c)	28. (a)
5. (d)	11. (d)	17. (d)	23. (c)	29. (b)
6. (c)	12. (d)	18. (b)	24. (d)	30. (c)

## DETAILED EXPLANATIONS

1. (a)

Equivalent permeability,

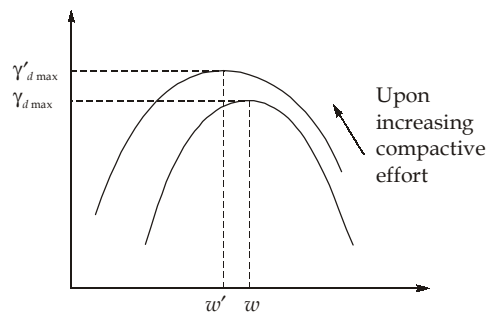
$$k_e = \sqrt{k_x k_y}$$

$$13 \times 10^{-7} = \sqrt{3 \times 10^{-7} \times k_y}$$

$$k_y = \frac{169 \times 10^{-14}}{3 \times 10^{-7}}$$

$$k_y = 5.63 \times 10^{-6} \text{ cm/s}$$

2. (b)



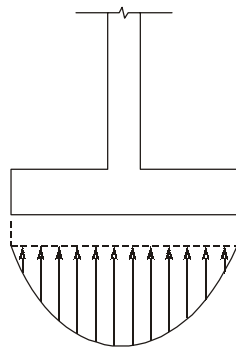
$$\gamma'_{d \max} > \gamma_{d \max} \text{ and } w' < w$$

3. (c)

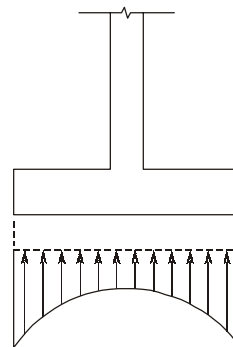
$$S_n = \frac{C}{\gamma H} = \frac{60}{18 \times 6} = 0.56$$

4. (d)

Contact pressure distribution:



Rigid footing on granular soil



Rigid footing on clayey soil

5. (d)

As per IS : 2911 (Part-1) 2010

Minimum spacing for point bearing piles = 2.5 D

and Minimum spacing for friction piles = 3 D

6. (c)

$$B = \frac{\Delta U_3}{\Delta \sigma_3} = \frac{0.19 - 0.09}{0.3 - 0.1} = \frac{0.1}{0.2} = 0.5$$

7. (a)

$$\begin{aligned} i_c &= (G - 1)(1 - n) \\ &= (2.5 - 1)(1 - 0.5) \\ &= 1.5 \times 0.5 \\ &= 0.75 \end{aligned}$$

8. (b)

$$Ar = \frac{D_o^2 - D_i^2}{D_i^2} = \frac{50^2 - 40^2}{40^2} = 0.5625 \text{ or } 56.25\% \simeq 56\%$$

9. (a)

$$k_0 = \frac{\mu}{1 - \mu} = \frac{0.25}{1 - 0.25} = \frac{1}{3}$$

10. (d)

In plate load test:

For clayey soil,

$$q_{uf} = q_{up}$$

Given,

$$q_{up} = 180 \text{ kN/m}^2$$

 $\therefore$ 

$$q_{uf} = 180 \text{ kN/m}^2$$

 $\therefore$  Difference of ultimate bearing capacity of foundation and plate = 0

Note: For cohesionless soil,

$$q_{uf} = q_{up} \times \frac{B_f}{B_p}$$

11. (d)

$$\text{Factor of safety } F = \left( 1 - \frac{\gamma_w h}{\gamma_{avg} z} \right) \frac{\tan \phi}{\tan i}$$

$$\gamma_{avg} = \frac{20 \times 5 + 15 \times 5}{10} = 17.5 \text{ kN/m}^3$$

 $\therefore$ 

$$F = \left( 1 - \frac{10 \times 5}{17.5 \times 10} \right) \times \frac{\tan 45^\circ}{\tan 30^\circ} = \frac{5\sqrt{3}}{7} = 1.24$$

12. (d)

The effect of overburden pressure on SPT value may be approximated by the equation.

$$N = N' \left( \frac{350}{\bar{\sigma} + 70} \right)$$

 $\bar{\sigma}$  = Effective overburden pressure at test level

$$= 18 \times 6 = 108 \text{ kN/m}^2 \neq 280 \text{ kN/m}^2 \text{ (OK)}$$

 $\therefore$ 

$$N = 28 \times \left( \frac{350}{108 + 70} \right) = 55$$

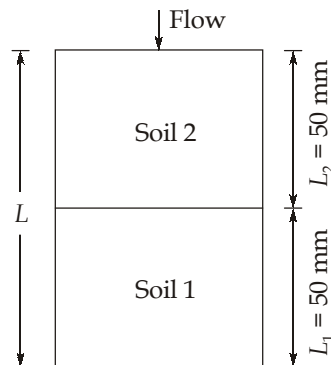
13. (c)

Case-1: Soil sample I

$$k_1 = \frac{aL_1}{At_1} \ln\left(\frac{h_1}{h_2}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{L_1}{k_1} = \frac{At_1}{a \ln\left(\frac{h_1}{h_2}\right)} = \frac{4560 \times 60}{130 \ln\left(\frac{900}{135}\right)} = 1109.37 \text{ sec}$$

Case-2: Soil sample II placed on soil sample I for permeability test on both soils



$$k_v = \frac{aL}{At} \ln\left(\frac{h_1}{h_2}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow k_v = \frac{130 \times L}{4560 \times 140} \ln\left(\frac{900}{135}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{L}{k_v} = 2588.54 \text{ sec}$$

$$\therefore \frac{L}{k_v} = \frac{L_1}{k_1} + \frac{L_2}{k_2}$$

$$\Rightarrow 2588.54 = 1109.37 + \frac{50}{k_2}$$

$$\Rightarrow k_2 = 0.0338 \text{ mm/s}$$

14. (d)

$$\therefore T_v = \frac{C_v t}{H^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow T_v = \frac{5 \times 10^{-2} \times 3 \times 365 \times 24 \times 60 \times 60}{\left(\frac{6500}{2}\right)^2} = 0.4478$$

$$\text{But } T_v = \frac{\pi}{4} \left(\frac{U_z}{100}\right)^2 = 0.4478 \text{ for } U_z < 60\%$$

$$\Rightarrow U_z = 75.51\% > 60\%$$

Thus,

$$T_v \neq \frac{\pi}{4} \left( \frac{U_z}{100} \right)^2$$

$$\therefore T_v = 1.781 - 0.933 \log_{10} (100 - U_z)$$

$$\Rightarrow 0.4478 = 1.781 - 0.933 \log_{10} (100 - U_z)$$

$$\Rightarrow 100 - U_z = 26.85$$

$$\Rightarrow U_z = 73.15\% > 60\% \quad (\text{OK})$$

Thus consolidation due to fill material is 73.15%.

15. (b)

Cu test is conducted on a normally consolidated clay, thus

$$C' = 0$$

$$\sigma_1 = \sigma_3 + \sigma_d = 75 + 60 = 135 \text{ kPa}$$

$$\bar{\sigma}_1 = \sigma_1 - U = 135 - 35 = 100 \text{ kPa}$$

$$\bar{\sigma}_3 = \sigma_3 - U = 75 - 35 = 40 \text{ kPa}$$

$$\bar{\sigma}_1 = \bar{\sigma}_3 \tan^2 \left( 45^\circ + \frac{\phi}{2} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow 100 = 40 \tan^2 \left( 45^\circ + \frac{\phi'}{2} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \phi' = 25.38^\circ$$

16. (c)

Given:

$$B = 5 \text{ m}, L = 7 \text{ m}, D = 2 \text{ m}, C = 60 \text{ kN/m}^2$$

$$\therefore q_u = \left( 1 + 0.3 \frac{B}{L} \right) C N_c + q N_q + 0.5 \left( 1 - 0.2 \frac{B}{L} \right) \times B N_\gamma \gamma$$

In case of clays

$$N_c = 5.7, N_q = 1, N_\gamma = 0$$

$$\therefore q_u = \left( 1 + 0.3 \times \frac{5}{7} \right) \times 60 \times 5.7 + 1 \times \gamma D_f + 0$$

$$\therefore q_{u \text{ net}} = q_u - \gamma D_f$$

$$= \left( 1 + 0.3 \times \frac{5}{7} \right) \times 60 \times 5.7$$

$$= 415.29 \text{ kN/m}^2$$

17. (d)

$$\frac{\Delta H}{H_0} = \frac{\Delta e}{1 + e_0}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{35 - 25}{35} = \frac{1.2 - e_f}{1 + 1.2}$$

$$\Rightarrow e_f = 0.57$$

18. (b)

$$\gamma_{\text{sat}} = 17.5 \text{ kN/m}^3 \quad (\text{Given})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma' &= \gamma_{\text{sat}} - \gamma_w \\ &= 17.5 - 9.81 \\ &= 7.69 \text{ kN/m}^3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore i_c = \frac{\gamma'}{\gamma_w} = \frac{7.69}{9.81} = 0.784$$

19. (b)

Given:

$$\% \text{ passing 75 micron sieve} = 30\%, w_L = 40\%, w_p = 20\%$$

$$\text{Group index, GI} = 0.2a + 0.005ac + 0.01bd$$

where

$$a = \% \text{ passing 75 micron} - 35 \not\geq 40$$

$$b = \% \text{ passing 75 micron} - 15 \not\geq 40$$

$$c = w_L - 40 \not\geq 20$$

$$d = I_p - 10 \not\geq 20$$

So,

$$a = 30 - 35 = -5 = 0 \quad (\text{as negative value not possible})$$

$$b = 30 - 15 = 15$$

$$c = 40 - 40 = 0$$

$$d = (w_L - w_p) - 10 = 20 - 10 = 10$$

So,

$$\text{GI} = 0.2a + 0.005ac + 0.01 \times bd$$

$$= 0.01 \times 15 \times 10 = 1.5$$

20. (c)

- Local shear failure, generally occurs in soil having somewhat plastic stress-strain curve e.g., loose sand and soft clays.
- Cyclic pile load test is carried out when it is required to determine, skin friction and end bearing capacity separately for a pile load on a single pile.

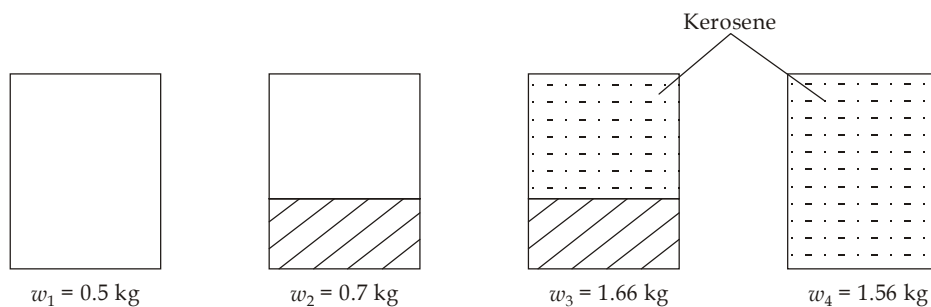
21. (c)

$$\begin{aligned} q_{\text{safe}} &= \frac{q_{nu}}{FOS} + \gamma D_f \\ &= \frac{160}{3} + 18 \times 1.5 = 80.33 \text{ kN/m}^2 \end{aligned}$$

$\therefore$  Allowable load,

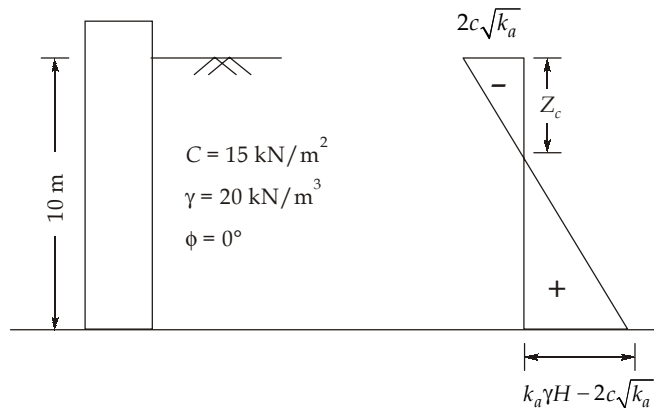
$$\begin{aligned} Q &= q_{\text{safe}} \times \text{Area} \\ &= 80.33 \times 3 \times 3 = 723 \text{ kN} \end{aligned}$$

22. (c)



$$\begin{aligned}
 G_s &= \left( \frac{w_2 - w_1}{w_4 - w_3 + w_2 - w_1} \right) \times G_k \\
 &= \left( \frac{0.7 - 0.5}{1.56 - 1.66 + 0.7 - 0.5} \right) \times 0.8 = \left( \frac{0.2}{0.1} \right) \times 0.8 \\
 G_s &= 1.6
 \end{aligned}$$

23. (c)



Active earth pressure coefficient,

$$k_a = \frac{1 - \sin \phi}{1 + \sin \phi}$$

$$k_a = 1$$

For  $Z_c \Rightarrow$ 

$$k_a \gamma Z_c = 2c\sqrt{k_a}$$

$$Z_c = \frac{2c}{\gamma\sqrt{k_a}}$$

$$Z_c = \frac{2 \times 15}{20 \times 1} = 1.5 \text{ m}$$

If tension cracks are developed,

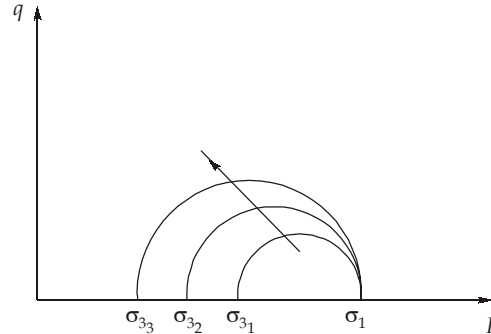
Active thrust, 
$$P_a = \frac{1}{2} \times (H - Z_c) \times (k_a \gamma H - 2c\sqrt{k_a})$$

$$P_a = \frac{1}{2} \times 8.5 \times 170$$

$$P_a = 722.5 \text{ kN/m}$$

24. (d)

Stress path will be from right to left upwards as minor principal stress is decreasing over the time in the case of active earth pressure on retaining walls.



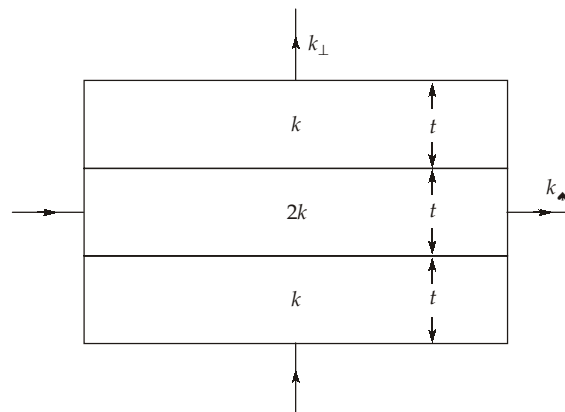
25. (c)

- With decrease in size, maximum dry density is lower and occur at higher water content.
- With increase in compactive effort, maximum dry density is higher and occurs at lower water content.

26. (d)

- Pycnometer test is most suitable for cohesionless soils as it is difficult to saturate the fine-grained soil completely.
- Calcium carbide test is the quickest field test. It takes only 5-7 minutes.

27. (c)



$$k_{\perp} = \frac{\sum k_i z_i}{\sum z_i} = \frac{kt + 2kt + kt}{3t} = \frac{4kt}{3t} = \frac{4k}{3}$$

$$k_{\parallel} = \frac{\sum z_i}{\sum \frac{z_i}{k_i}} = \frac{3t}{\frac{t}{k} + \frac{2t}{2k} + \frac{t}{k}} = \frac{3t}{\frac{3t}{k}} = k$$

$$\text{Ratio} = \frac{K_{\perp}}{K_{\parallel}} = \frac{\frac{4}{3}k}{k} = \frac{4}{3} = 1.33$$



28. (a)

29. (b)

$$i_{cr} = \frac{G-1}{1+e} = (G-1)(1-n)$$

$$\Rightarrow i_{cr} = (2.7 - 1)(1 - 0.3)$$

$$\Rightarrow i_{cr} = 1.19$$

$$i_{allowable} = \frac{1.19}{FOS}$$

$$\Rightarrow i_{allowable} = \frac{1.19}{1.5} = 0.7933$$

$$\therefore (2 + x) \times 0.7934 = 1.90$$

$$\Rightarrow 2 + x = 2.395$$

$$\Rightarrow x = 0.395 \text{ m} \simeq 0.4 \text{ m}$$

**Alternatively**

Given,

$$n = 0.3, G_s = 2.7$$

Seepage head,

$$H_L = 1.9 \text{ m}$$

$$FOS = 1.5$$

$$FOS = \frac{\text{Buoyant weight}}{\text{Seepage force}}$$

$$= \frac{\gamma_{sub}(2+x)A}{\gamma_w h_L A} = \frac{\left(\frac{G_s - 1}{1 + e}\right) \gamma_w (2+x)}{\gamma_w \times h_L}$$

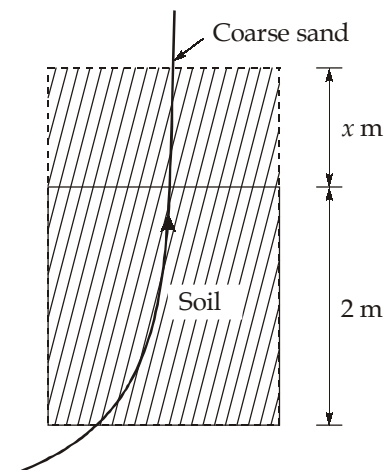
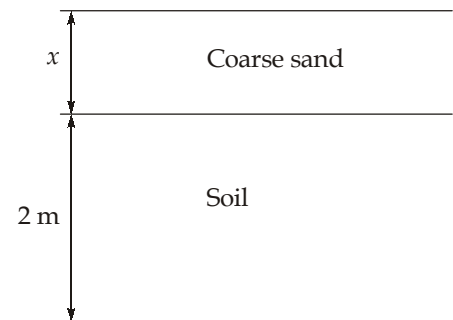
$$= (G_s - 1) \frac{(1-n)(2+x)}{h_L}$$

$$1.5 = (2.7 - 1) \frac{(1-0.3)(2+x)}{1.9}$$

$$(2+x) = \frac{1.5 \times 1.9}{1.7 \times 0.7}$$

$$x = \frac{1.5 \times 1.9}{1.7 \times 0.7} - 2$$

$$= 0.395 \simeq 0.4 \text{ m}$$



30. (c)

$$D_{60} = 0.45 \text{ mm}$$

$$D_{30} = 0.2 \text{ mm}$$

$$D_{10} = 0.04 \text{ mm}$$

$$\therefore \text{Uniformity coefficient, } C_u = \frac{D_{60}}{D_{10}} = \frac{0.45}{0.04} = 11.25$$

$$\text{Coefficient of curvature, } C_c = \frac{D_{30}^2}{D_{60} \times D_{10}} = \frac{0.2^2}{0.45 \times 0.04} = 2.22$$

■■■■