

Verbal & Non-Verbal Reasoning – Paper 16

Beginner time limit: 30 minutes

Intermediate time limit: 25 minutes

Expert time limit: 20 minutes

Don't just *do* these questions: **learn everything you can from them**, using the solution pages which follow (**pages 9-17**). The key techniques are explained there in detail.

Remember that you will never know every word in English. The people who do best in verbal reasoning are those who can deal skilfully with *unfamiliar* words.

Rather than trying to memorise each new word and every kind of picture pattern, focus on improving **how you think logically about the questions**.

No single 11 Plus Lifeline paper will contain every possible kind of reasoning question. However, once you have completed a number of these papers, you will be very well prepared for most of the question styles which are likely to appear in any 11-plus exam.

Practise **skipping and circling**: if a question seems likely to take time, skip it, circle the question number, and come back to it when you have done the rest.

Based only on the two statements below, underline the one option which is definitely correct.

Example:

Q. Statement 1: Ethel eats crisps.

Statement 2: Crisps are a food made of potatoes.

Ethel eats most kinds of food made of potatoes.

Ethel eats at least one kind of food made of potatoes.

Ethel likes potato crisps.

Ethel probably eats oven chips.

1. Statement 1: I eat at 10:30pm.

Statement 2: A meal after 10pm is known as supper.

I eat late.

I am very precise with my daily schedule.

I eat supper.

I like to eat supper.

Complete each of the following sequences. The alphabet has been written out for you to refer to.

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Example:

Q. JL IM HN GO FP EQ

2. ACE DFH GIK _____ MOQ

3. _____ NM OL PK QJ RI

4. BQT ZTR XWP _____ TCL RFJ

5. G I _____ N Q S

Underline the word which best completes each of the following sentences.

Example:

Q. Spine is to back as eyeball is to (centre, face, body).

6. Tidy is to disorderly as regular is to (unpredictable, even, ordinary).

7. Water is to bottle as ice cream is to (mouth, cream, tub).

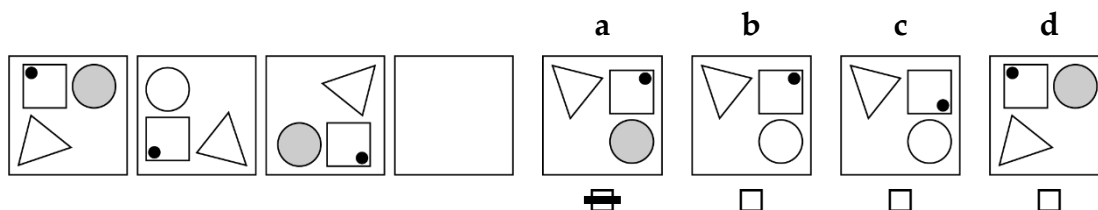
8. Herd is to cattle as flock is to (pigeons, bird, group).

9. Eccentric is to strange as malodorous is to (wrong, clean, smelly).

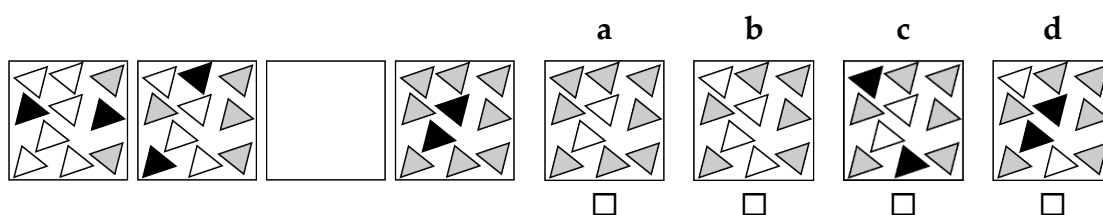
10. Wish is to hope as expire is to (die, run, live).

Choose the figure on the right which goes best in the empty square on the left.

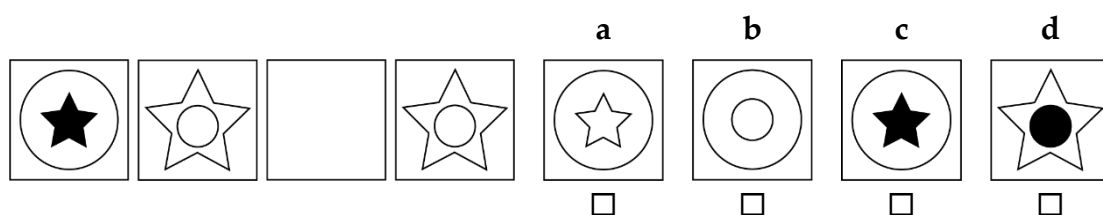
Example:



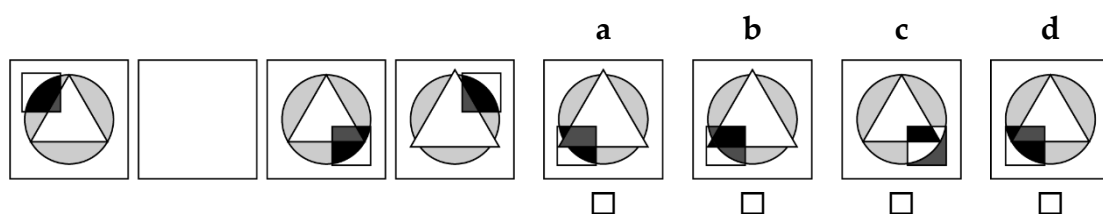
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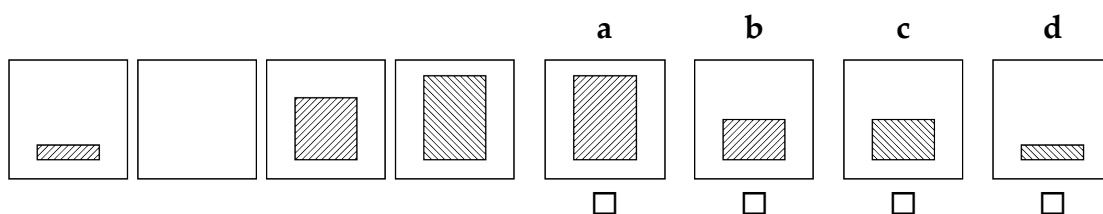
12.



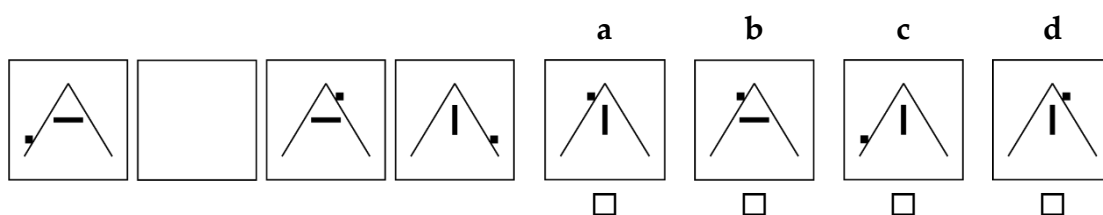
13.



14.



15.



In the gap, write two letters which can end the first word and begin the second word.

Example:

Q. fly e r rant

16. cr ____ ____ ner
17. crad ____ ____ nd
18. scr ____ ____ brage
19. twin ____ ____ neral
20. cr ____ ____ le

Underline the most appropriate word in each set of brackets, so that the sentence makes the best possible sense.

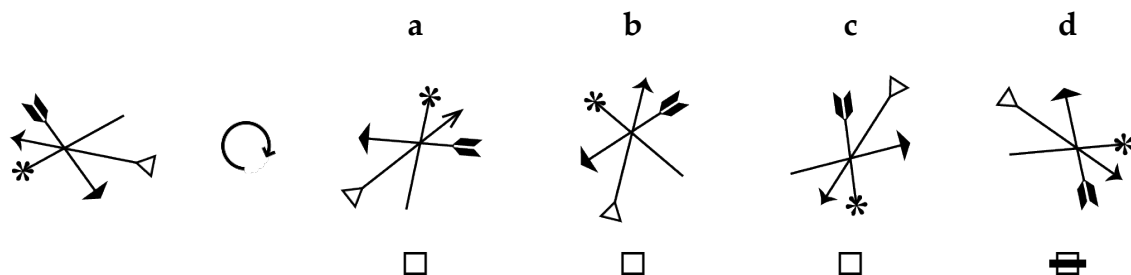
Example:

Q. Once upon a (castle, time, story), there was an (alkaline, ambient, elderly) giant who lived out his years in a remote (episode, castle, discomfort).

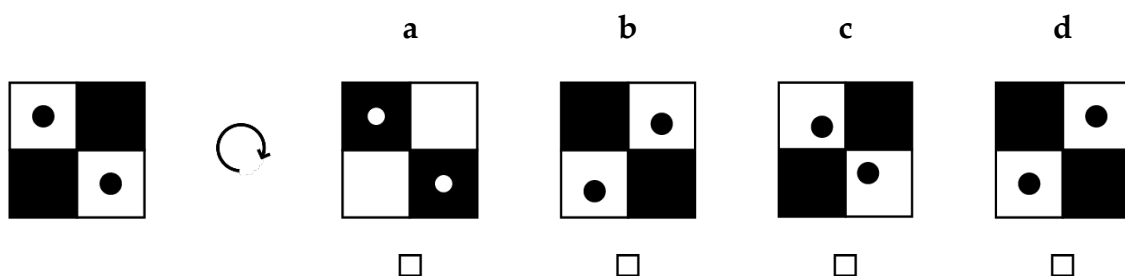
21. Bunches of (beef, sugar, grapes) are picked in the (autumn, ground, carts) and piled high in wooden (carts, grapes, silage).
22. Please buy (shampoo, car, shop) when you go to the (skip, shampoo, supermarket), and don't forget to keep the (orange, receipt, shop).
23. (Elegant, Waterproof, Thin) clothing is (essential, optional, trivial) when (sliding, sleeping, hiking) in stormy conditions.
24. Cats must be (deprived, attended, offered) food and (water, socks, dogs) if they are to remain (fluffy, busy, healthy).
25. Peel the (knife, apple, kitchen) carefully then (slice, throw, indict) it into small (apples, pieces, hair).

Choose the figure on the right which is a rotation of the figure on the left.

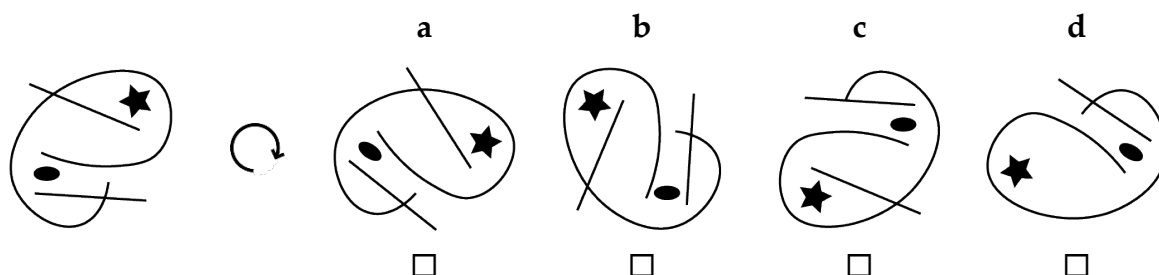
Example:



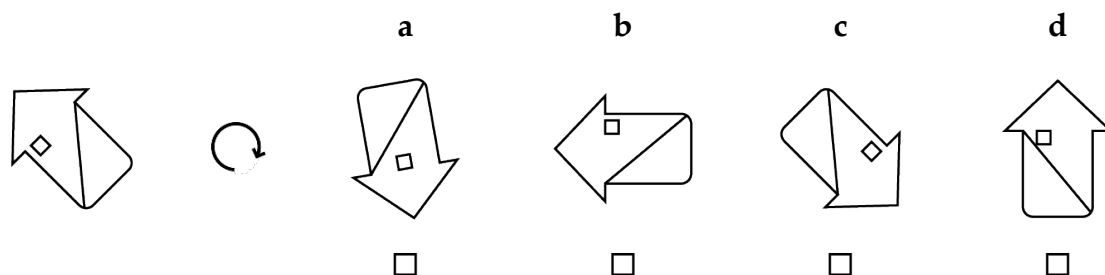
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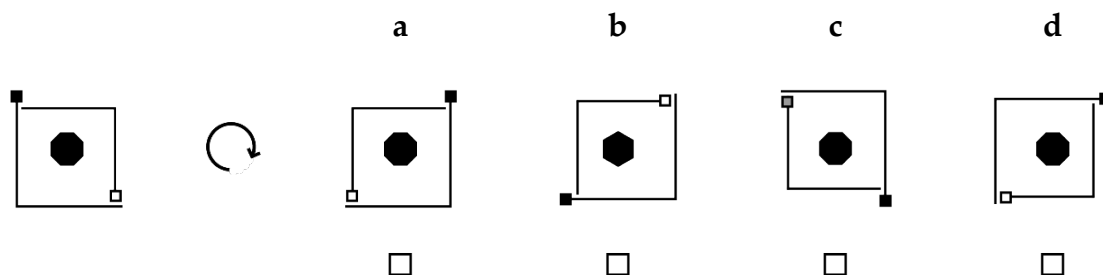
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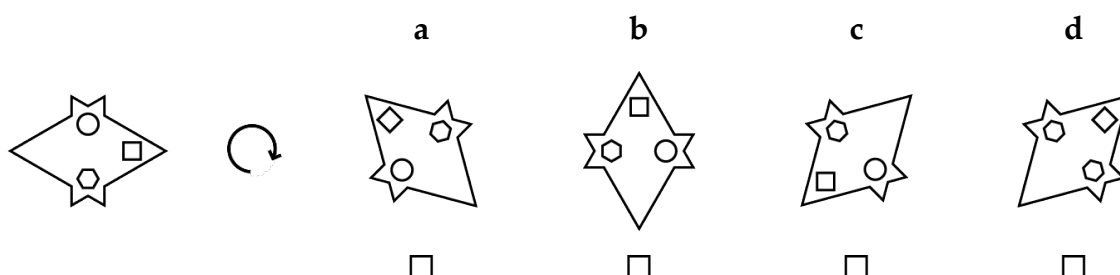
28.



29.



30.



A four-letter word can be added to the capital letters, making a longer word which fits logically within the sentence. Write the four-letter word in the gap.

Example:

Q. Water poured from all the DOWNSS.

POUT

31. His appearance was dirty and UNT. _____

32. The shooting star BD across the sky. _____

33. She smiled with CONMENT. _____

34. Look at that SLED hen in the yard! _____

35. The children SERED away happily. _____

In each of these sentences there is a hidden four-letter word, which overlaps the end of one word and the beginning of the next. Write it in the answer space.

Example:

Q. Don't start entering the pool until I tell you!

tent

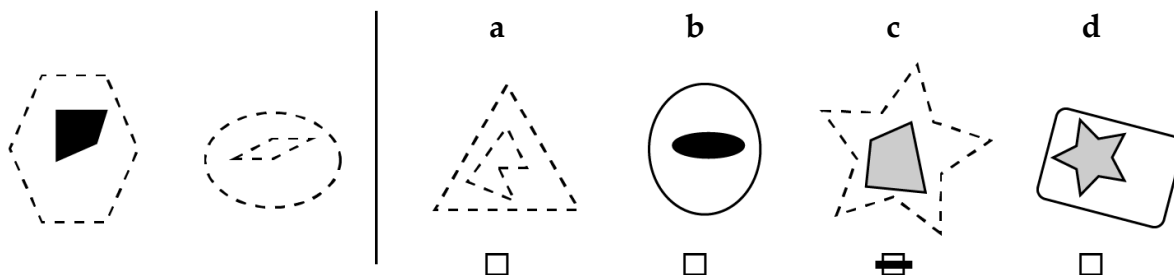
36. He passed his rival with an explosion of pace. _____

37. Please stop anticipating my questions! _____

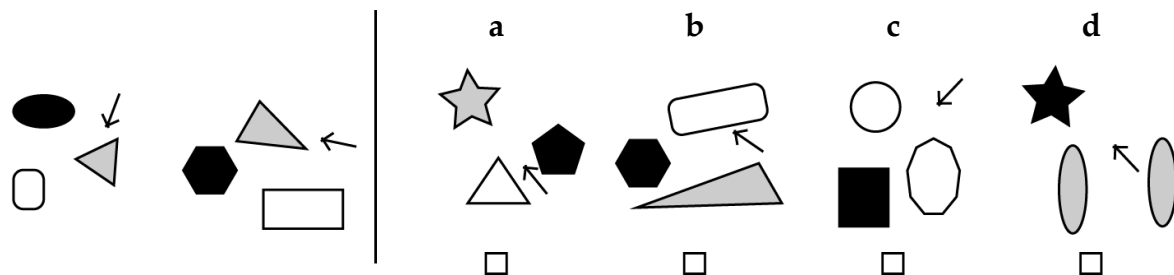
38. Would you mind feeding my twin gerbils? _____
39. The conniving jewellers subtly swap ingots. _____
40. You'll make a mess if you snap layers of pasta. _____

Select the option which is most like the two pictures on the left.

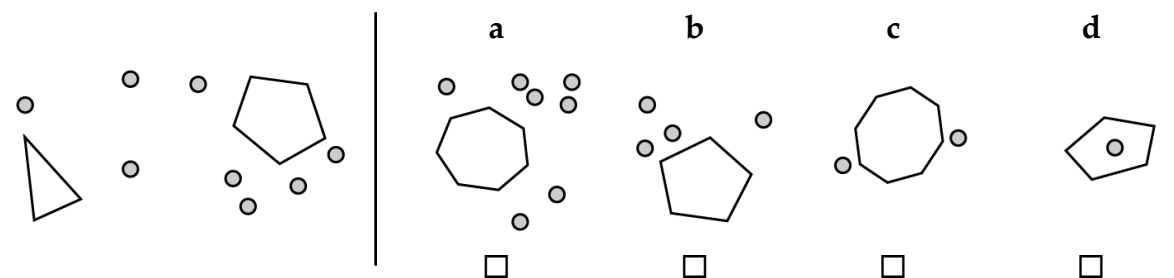
Example:



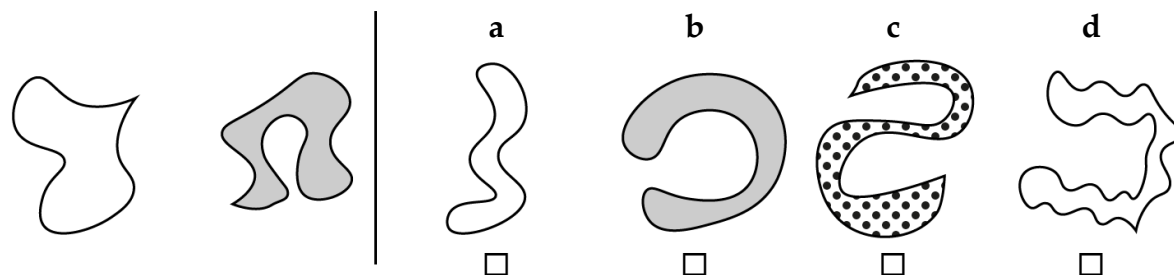
41.



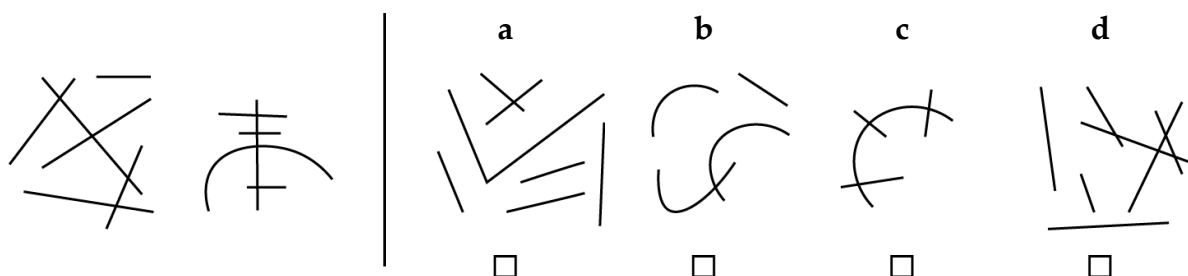
42.



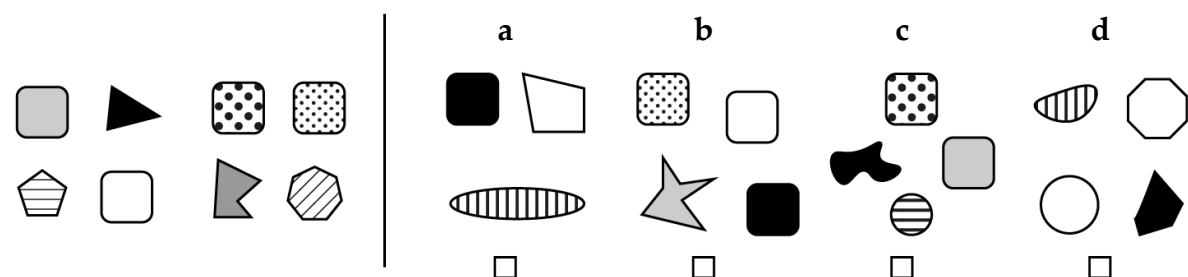
43.



44.



45.



Underline the word on the right which is most similar in meaning to the word on the left.

Example:

Q. **stench** odour stink smell bench

46. **release** costless free escape trap

47. **incinerate** lose reprimand burn stain

48. **reticent** quiet poor enthusiastic purple

49. **prescience** foresight forward history primitive

50. **angst** hatred worry malnourishment closeness

TOTAL MARKS: 50

Solutions

You will find a dictionary useful as you review your answers.

Based only on the two statements below, underline the one option which is definitely correct.

1. **Statement 1:** I eat at 10:30pm.
 Statement 2: A meal after 10pm is known as supper.
- I eat late.
 I am very precise with my daily schedule.
I eat supper.
 I like to eat supper.

Make sure to keep exactly to the information provided and not reach your own conclusions based on external assumptions or knowledge. You might regard 10:30pm as a late dinner; somebody from Spain might not.

Whether this eating time reflects the general punctuality of my schedule is not demonstrated.

There is nothing to suggest that I *like* eating at this time, rather than being forced into it by circumstances.

Complete each of the following sequences. The alphabet has been written out for you to refer to.

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

2. ACE DFH GIK ILN MOQ

Look at one letter at a time.

The first letters skip three places with each hop: A, D, G, J, M.

It then becomes apparent that the second and third letters follow the same pattern.

3. MN NM OL PK QJ RI

The first letter of each pair counts up through the alphabet, one step at a time.

The second letter does the same, but **in reverse**.

4. BQT ZTR XWP VZN TCL RFJ

The first letter counts back two spaces in the alphabet each time.

Note that the end of the alphabet is continuous for this kind of question: it could also be written **N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z A B C D E F G H I J K L M**, for example.

The second letter skips forward three spaces.

The last letter skips back two spaces, like the first letter.

5. G I L N Q S

The jumps/intervals alternate between two and three letters.

Underline the word which best completes each of the following sentences.

6. Tidy is to disorderly as regular is to (unpredictable, even, ordinary).

“Unpredictable” is not a precise opposite of “regular” (“irregular” or “uneven” would be), but it is extremely close.

7. Water is to bottle as ice cream is to (mouth, cream, tub).

8. Herd is to cattle as flock is to (pigeons, bird, group).

“Bird” is not right, because this is singular, whereas the example (“cattle”) shows that a plural noun is required.

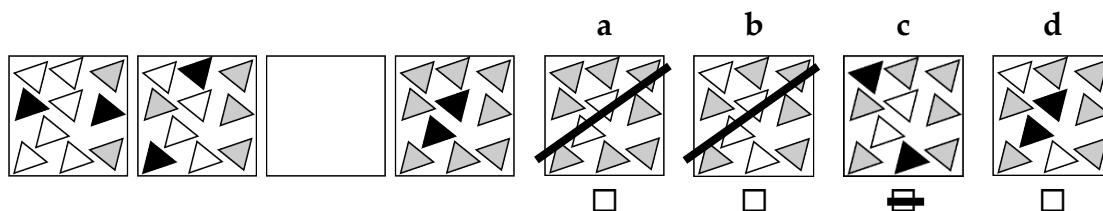
9. Eccentric is to strange as malodorous is to (wrong, clean, smelly).

10. Wish is to hope as expire is to (die, run, live).

These are testing your knowledge of synonyms.

Choose the figure on the right which goes best in the empty square on the left.

11.

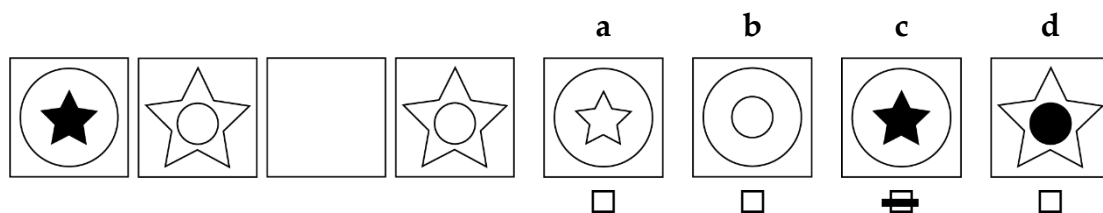


You can rule out the figures without two black triangles.

Now look closely: the black triangles fill in two white triangles from the previous figure, while the black triangles in the previous figure become grey.

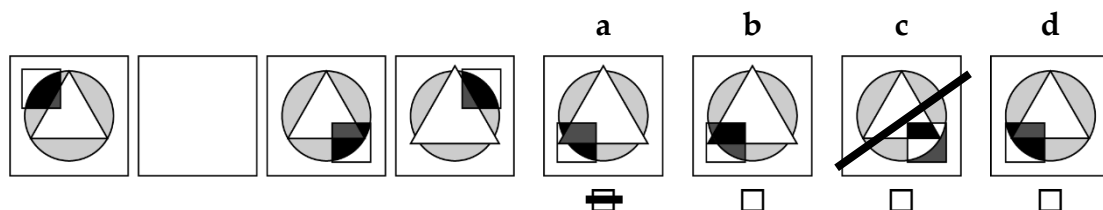
Only **c** fits this pattern.

12.



This is so simple that it may trick you into assuming that something more complex is afoot! Trust your judgement and don't be diverted.

13.



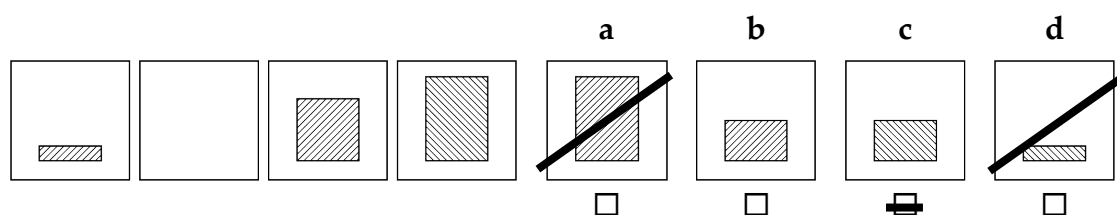
The overlapping square moves 90° around the circle at each stage.

The triangle alternates between sitting snugly within the circle and extending slightly beyond it.

This leaves **a** and **b** as options.

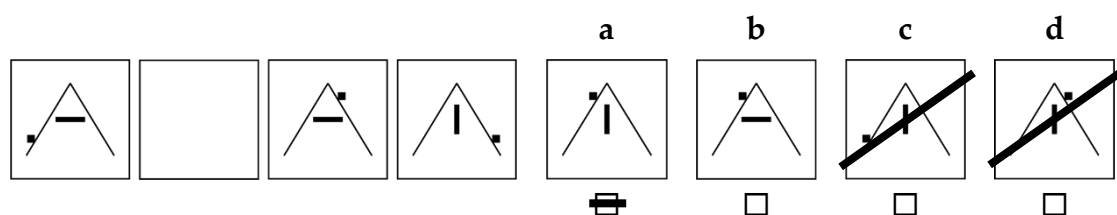
The area where the small square overlaps the triangle is grey.

14.



Notice how the direction of the fill pattern alternates.

15.



The dot works its way up and over the mountain.

The small rod rotates 90° with each stage.

In the gap, write two letters which can end the first word and begin the second word.

16. cr o w ner

17. crad l e nd

18. scr u m brage

19. twin g e neral

20. cr a b le

Underline the most appropriate word in each set of brackets, so that the sentence makes the best possible sense.

21. Bunches of (beef, sugar, grapes) are picked in the (autumn, ground, carts) and piled high in wooden (carts, grapes, silage).
22. Please buy (shampoo, car, shop) when you go to the (skip, shampoo, supermarket), and don't forget to keep the (orange, receipt, shop).
23. (Elegant, Waterproof, Thin) clothing is (essential, optional, trivial) when (sliding, sleeping, hiking) in stormy conditions.
24. Cats must be (deprived, attended, offered) food and (water, socks, dogs) if they are to remain (fluffy, busy, healthy).

Question 24 illustrates some useful points:

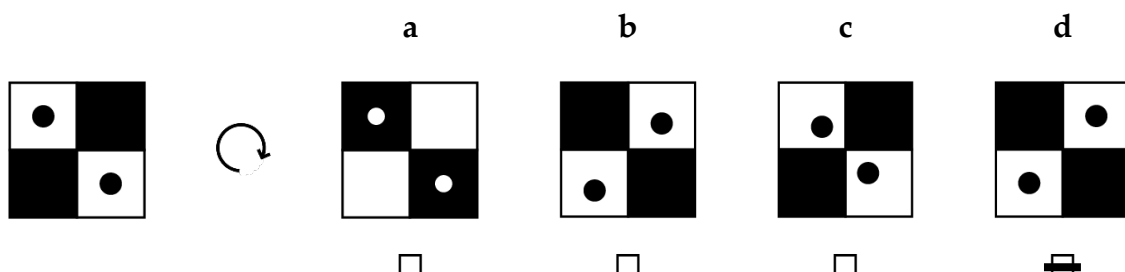
- Sometimes it is as useful to think about the grammar of the sentence as its meaning. For example, you can't be "deprived food" (this would need "of").
- You also need to focus on the most probable/central answer in each case. It could be that lack of water and food might make a cat less "fluffy"; but the most direct effect would be to make it unhealthy, of which defluffification* would be only a symptom.

* Not a real word!

25. Peel the (knife, apple, kitchen) carefully then (slice, throw, indict) it into small (apples, pieces, hair).

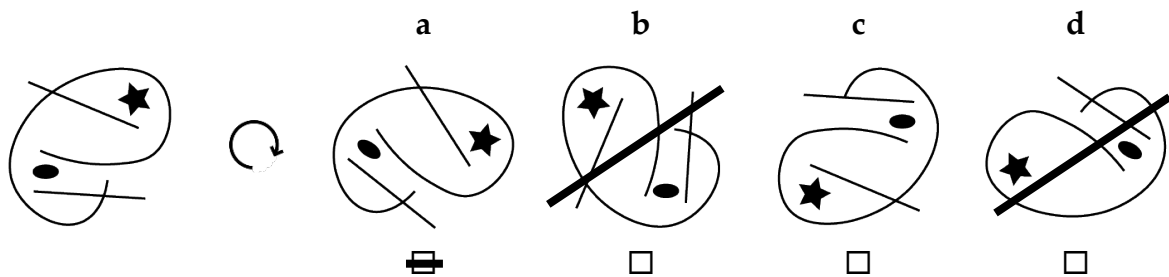
Choose the figure on the right which is a rotation of the figure on the left.

26.



Compare **b** and **d** very carefully!

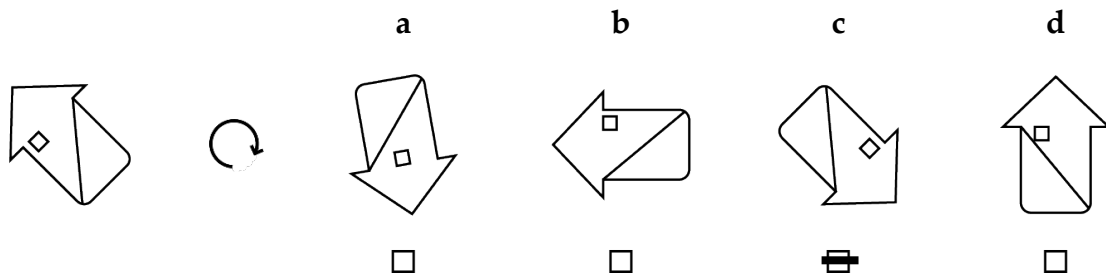
27.



You can rule out **b** because the little lozenge is oriented the wrong way, and **d** because there is a line missing.

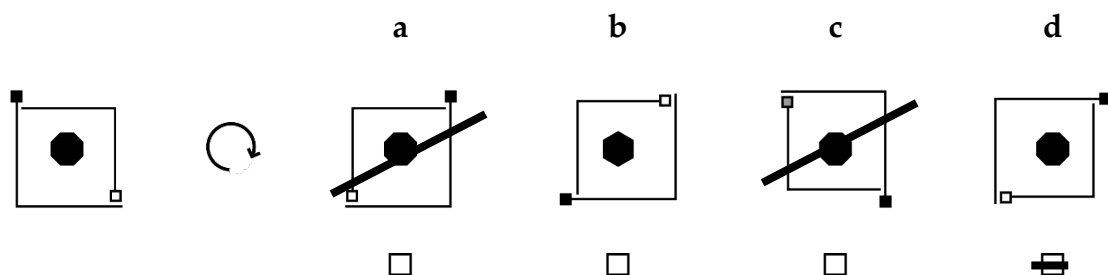
To rule out **c**, notice the point where the curved line meets one of the straight lines, but does not cross it: in the original figure, these lines overlap.

28.



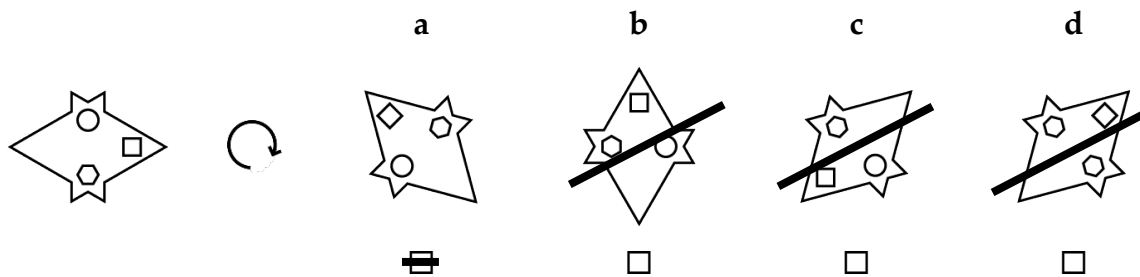
For this question, it may be useful to rotate the paper and observe major features, such as the direction of the diagonal and which side the small square is on.

29.



Notice the direction (clockwise or anticlockwise) in which the 'arrows' point. Also pay attention to the central shape, as well as whether the small white box becomes grey.

30.



With the square at the top of the figure, the circle is on the left-hand side.

A four-letter word can be added to the capital letters, making a longer word which fits logically within the sentence. Write the four-letter word in the gap.

31. His appearance was dirty and UNT.

KEMP

UNKEMPT

32. The shooting star BD across the sky.

LAZE

BLAZED

B and D don't belong next to each other, so the missing letters are likely to go in between.

She smiled with CONMENT.

TENT

CONTENTMENT

MENT is likely to be the ending of a word, suggesting that the missing letters come before this point. -MENT is a common ending for an emotion ("excitement", "astonishment"), so ask yourself which emotions might cause a person to smile.

34. Look at that SLED hen in the yard!

PECK

SPECKLED

35. The children SERED away happily.

CAMP

or AUNT

SCAMPERED or SAUNTERED

In each of these sentences there is a hidden four-letter word, which overlaps the end of one word and the beginning of the next. Write it in the answer space.

36. He passed his rival with an explosion of pace.

than

37. Please stop anticipating my questions!

pant

38. Would you mind feeding my twin gerbils?

wing

39. The conniving jewellers subtly swap ingots.

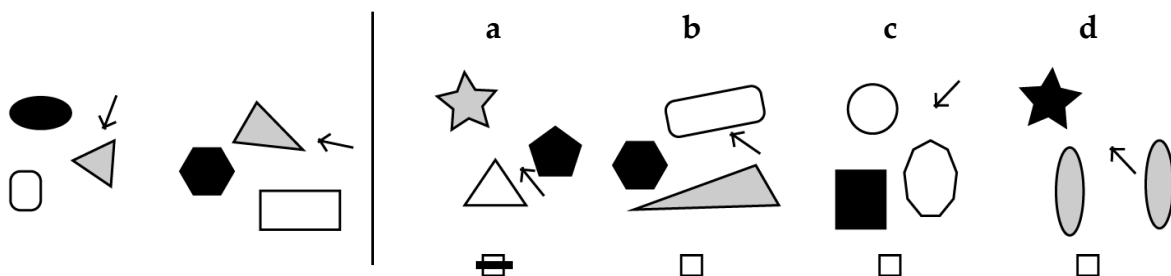
ping

40. You'll make a mess if you snap layers of pasta.

play

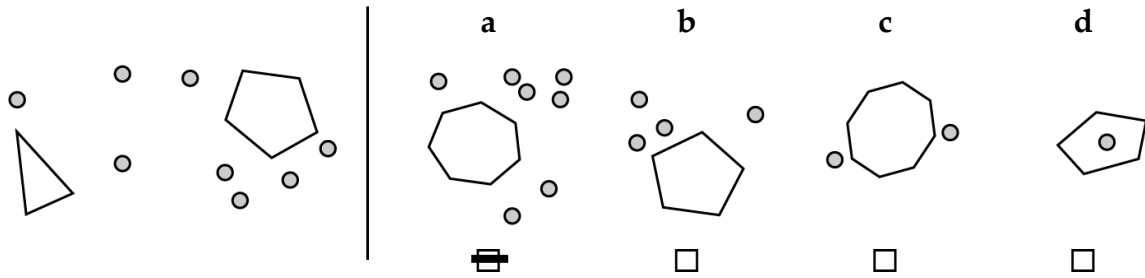
Select the option which is most like the two pictures on the left.

41.



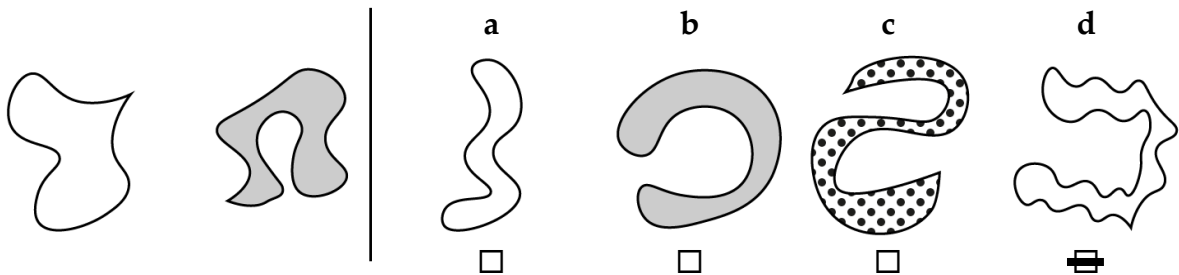
The arrow is pointing at a grey shape.

42.



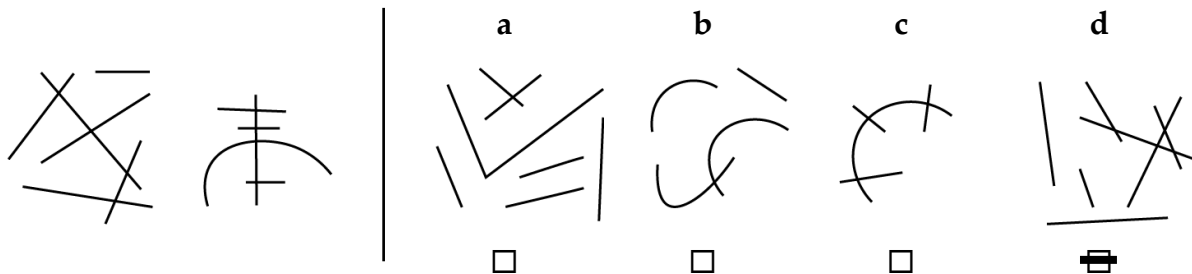
The number of dots matches the number of sides on the inner polygon.

43.



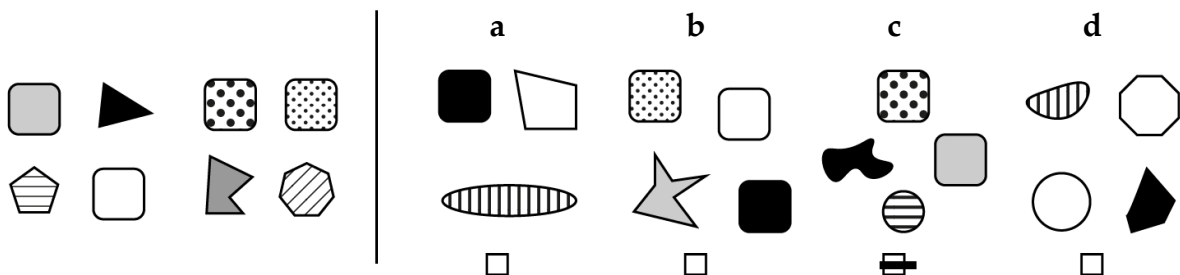
Look for the shape with a single 'kink' in its border.

44.



Count four points where lines intersect (cross) one another.

45.



Look for two squares with rounded corners. Everything else is a distraction!

Underline the word on the right which is most similar in meaning to the word on the left.

46. **release** costless free escape trap

You release something or someone ("I release the prisoner"), where as you yourself escape. You "escape from prison", but you can't "escape the prisoner", unless you mean by this that you are running away from them – in which case, the meaning is not relevant to this question.

47. **incinerate** lose reprimand burn stain

48. **reticent** quiet poor enthusiastic purple

49. **prescience** foresight forward history primitive

Notice the prefix "pre-" meaning "before". This should make the first two options seem most likely. If you don't know the word's meaning, a one-in-two guess is much better than one-in-four!

50. **angst** hatred worry malnourishment closeness

This is the sort of answer that you either know or you don't. They happen sometimes. Don't waste time on them, and guess if you have to.

END
