

## Verbal & Non-Verbal Reasoning – Paper 2

**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 9-20**). 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.

**Fill in the gaps so that the word on the right has the same (or almost the same) meaning as the word on the left.**

**Example:**

Q. rest

re**po**se

1. drink

b\_\_v\_\_ \_\_ \_\_ \_\_ \_\_

2. hurry

ru\_\_ \_\_

3. exercises

\_\_ \_\_rk\_\_ \_\_t

4. angry

\_\_nra\_\_ \_\_ \_\_

5. inspiring

m\_\_ \_\_iv\_\_ \_\_ \_\_ \_\_ \_\_al

Underline the word on the right which would belong with the words in either set of brackets.

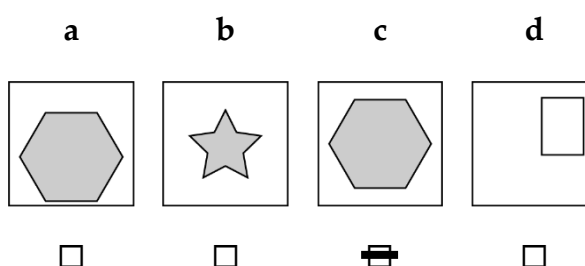
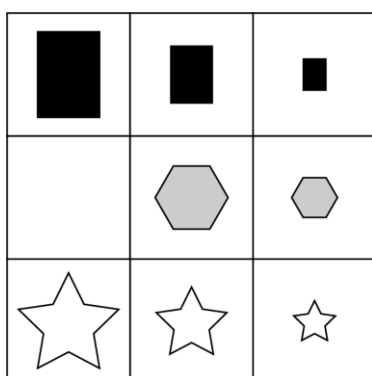
**Example:**

Q. (attach, glue) (stay, remain) adhere endure stick fasten

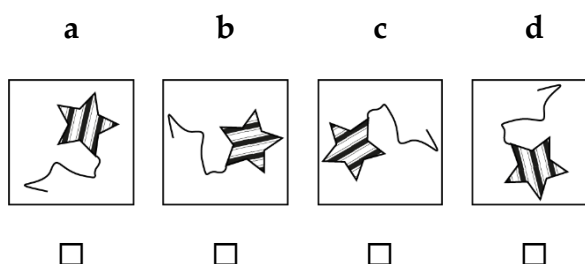
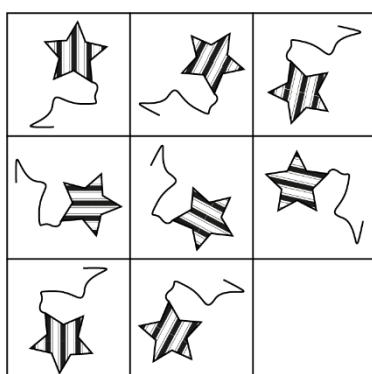
6. (brightness, illumination) (easy, bearable) glare light doable simple
7. (select, choose) (sketch, depict) draw design paint extract
8. (ticket, permission) (overtake, exceed) admission coupon speed pass
9. (lump, mass) (obstruct, impede) block counter object cube
10. (indicate, gesture) (apex, vertex) sign angle corner point

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

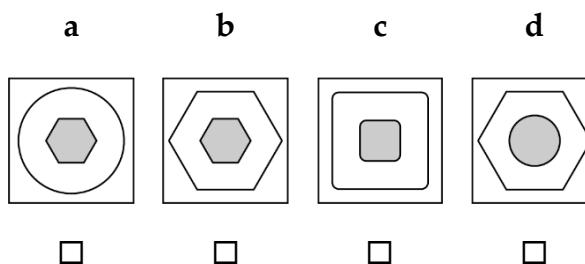
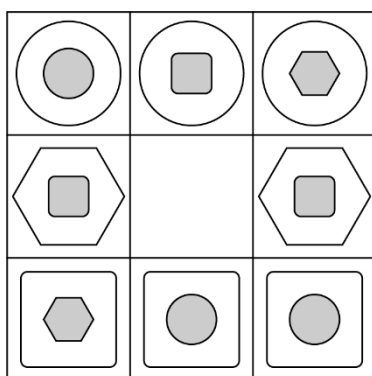
**Example:**



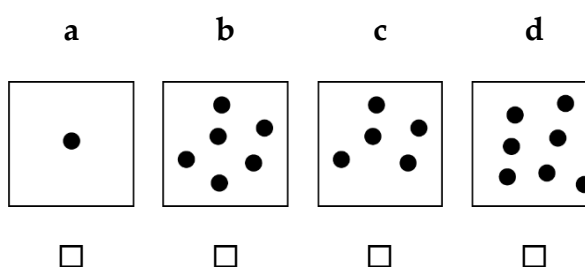
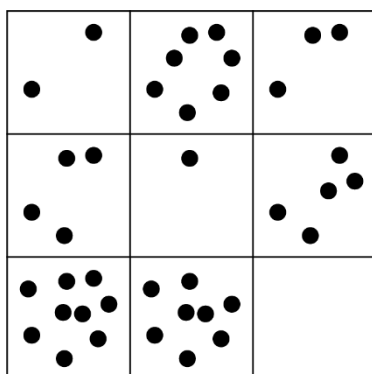
11.



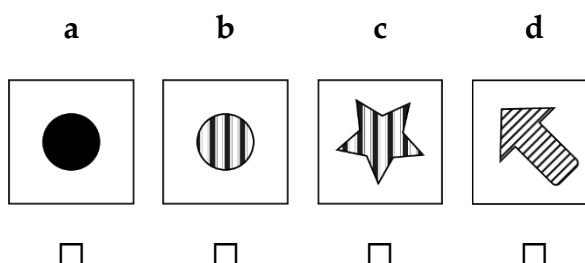
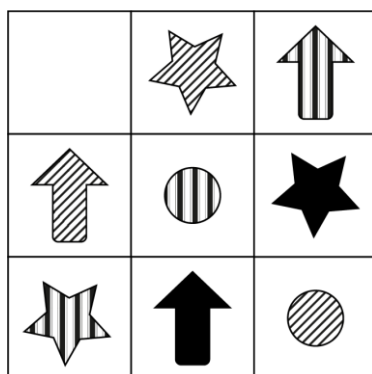
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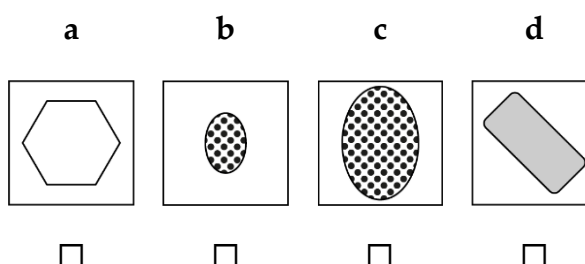
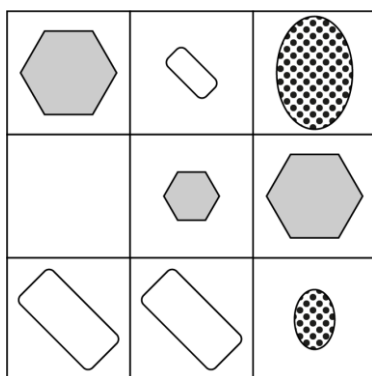
13.



14.



15.



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

16. I'm sorry: I didn't want to OF you. \_\_\_\_\_

17. Don't SBLE the letters up! I'm practising Scrabble! \_\_\_\_\_

18. I won't play if you keep CING. \_\_\_\_\_

19. Igor SCED, and the sound echoed round the cave. \_\_\_\_\_

20. The meadow was covered with daisies and CL. \_\_\_\_\_

In the gap, write one letter which can end the first word and begin the second word.

**Example:**

Q. rode O range

21. war \_\_\_\_ rack

22. woun \_\_\_\_ ead

23. spar \_\_\_\_ arn

24. bun \_\_\_\_ un

25. spin \_\_\_\_ vent

Select the figure which is most unlike the other options in its row.

**Example:**

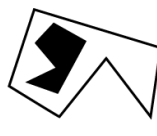
a



b



c



d

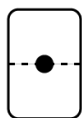


e

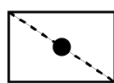


26.

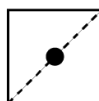
a



b



c



d



e



27.

a



b



c



d



e

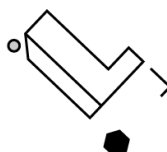


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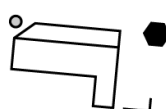
a



b



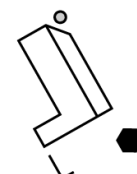
c



d



e



29.

a



b



c



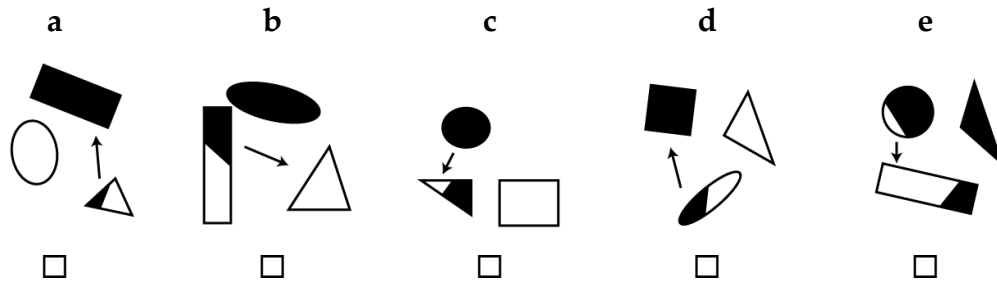
d



e



30.



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

31. racket                      din    confusion    peace    bat

32. rock                      stabilise    iron    mineral    element

33. near                      sidle    painful    needle    approach

34. perky                      cheerful    sharp    dark    spicy

35. steel                      rob    prepare    gold    filch

If you delete one word, the rest can be rearranged to form a sentence which reads naturally and makes good sense.

Cross out the word which should be deleted.

Example:

Q. feel    ~~hit~~    I    angry

36. places    summer    helmet    to    aren't    there    ski    many    in

37. ecstatic    exam    life    short    is    for    too    stress

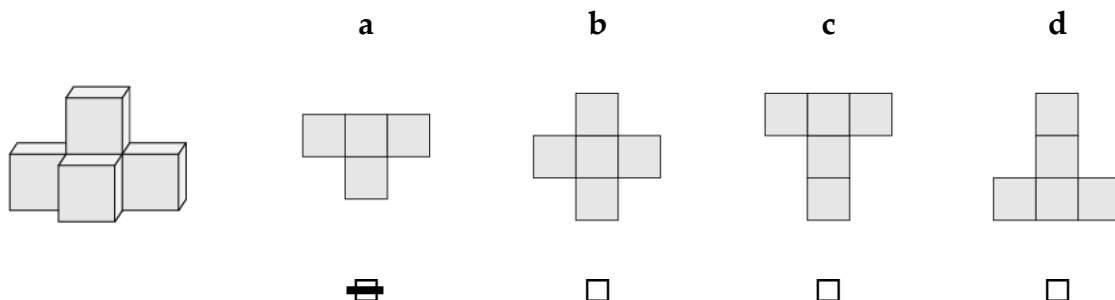
38. past    normal    please    go    let    me

39. air    I    the    I    wish    wings    fly    could    through

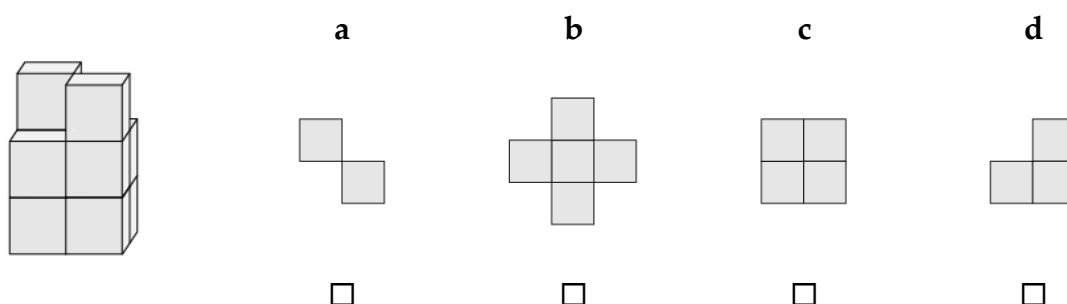
40. and    make    food    despondent    salt    pepper    can    tastier

Which option on the right is a top-down 2D view of the 3D figure on the left?

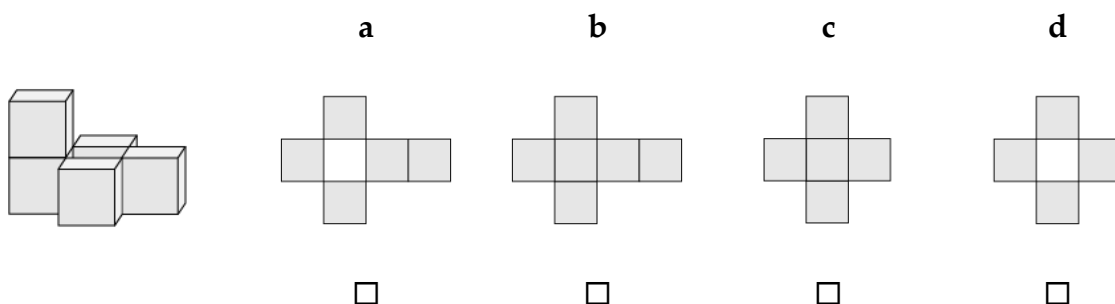
Example:



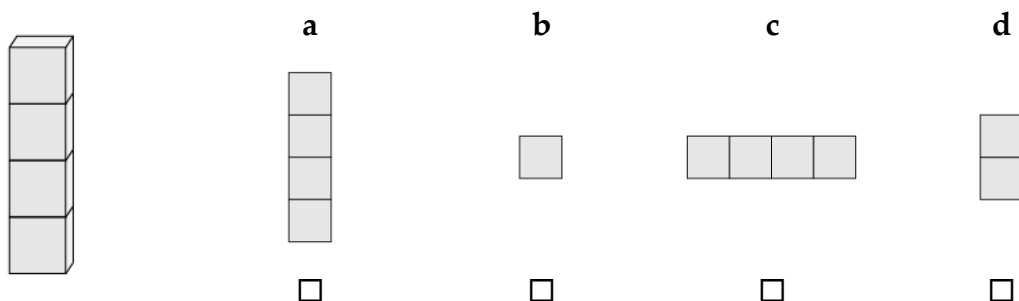
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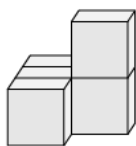
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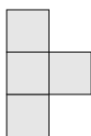
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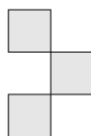
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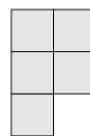
a


☐

b


☐

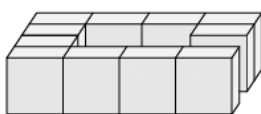
c


☐

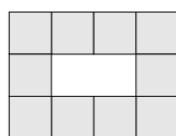
D


☐

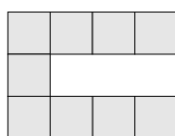
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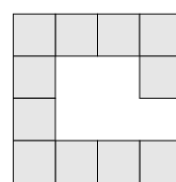
a


☐

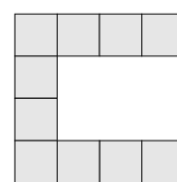
b


☐

c


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d


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Each one of the five words matches one of the number codes listed below. Write the correct word next to each number code. Each single-digit number always represents the same letter.

STIR

PINT

KITS

RINK

MARK

46. 2 3 4 5 \_\_\_\_\_

47. 5 4 6 7 \_\_\_\_\_

48. 7 4 3 2 \_\_\_\_\_

49. 8 9 5 7 \_\_\_\_\_

50. 1 4 6 3 \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL MARKS: 50**



## Solutions

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

**Fill in the gaps so that the word on the right has the same (or almost the same) meaning as the word on the left.**

- |    |       |                 |
|----|-------|-----------------|
| 1. | drink | <i>beverage</i> |
| 2. | hurry | <i>rush</i>     |

The left-hand words are both examples of words which might be verbs or nouns, so keep your options open as you consider possibilities!

- |    |           |                |
|----|-----------|----------------|
| 3. | exercises | <i>workout</i> |
|----|-----------|----------------|

Notice that a singular noun can have an equivalent meaning to a plural noun:

"Each morning I do my exercises." "Each morning I do my workout."

- |    |           |                     |
|----|-----------|---------------------|
| 4. | angry     | <i>enraged</i>      |
| 5. | inspiring | <i>motivational</i> |

**Underline the word on the right which would belong with the words in either set of brackets.**

- |    |   |                                  |
|----|---|----------------------------------|
| 6. | (brightness, illumination) (easy, bearable) | glare <u>light</u> doable simple |
|----|---|----------------------------------|

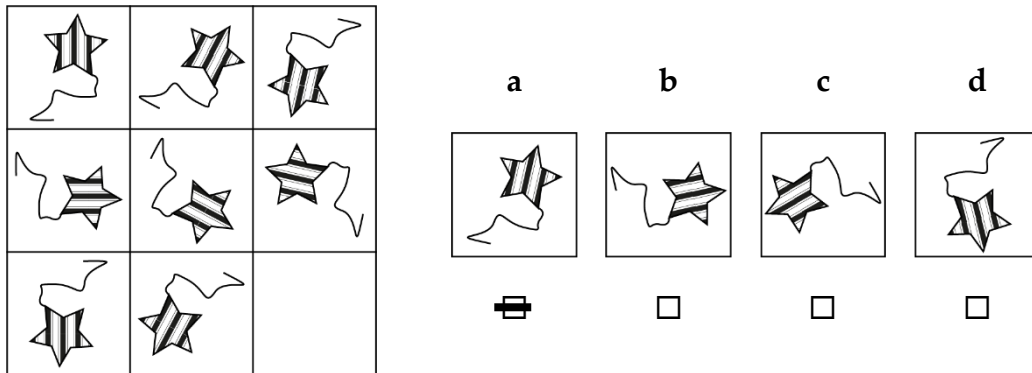
Because the left-hand words are nouns and the right-hand words are adjectives, look for a word which could be either.

- |     |   |                                    |
|-----|---|------------------------------------|
| 7.  | (select, choose) (sketch, depict)       | <u>draw</u> design paint extract   |
| 8.  | (ticket, permission) (overtake, exceed) | admission coupon speed <u>pass</u> |
| 9.  | (lump, mass) (obstruct, impede)         | <u>block</u> counter object cube   |
| 10. | (indicate, gesture) (apex, vertex)      | sign angle corner <u>point</u>     |

8, 9 and 10 are all questions in which one set of brackets contains only verbs and the other only nouns. Therefore, you need a word which can be either of these.

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

11.



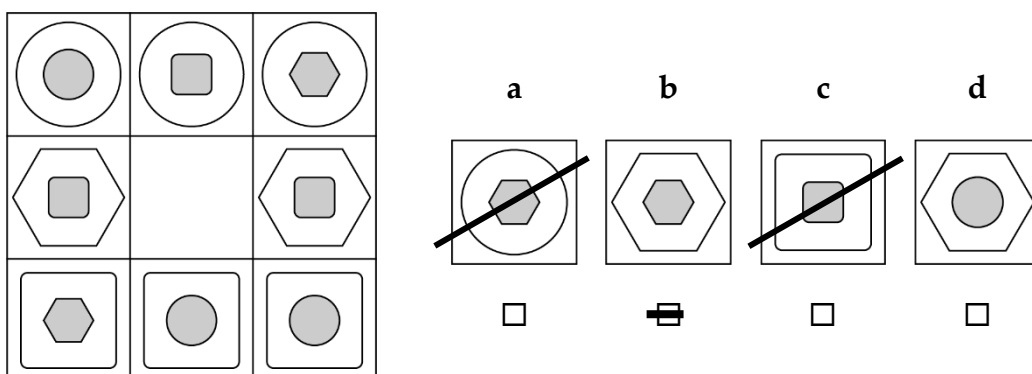
You might be tricked into choosing **c** if you think that the figure rotates regularly as you move from left to right.

However, if you look at the first and second rows, you will see that this isn't the case: the last column does not fit with this rule.

In fact, the regular rotation happens **from top to bottom**.

The lesson is that you must **always consider all rows and columns before choosing an answer**.

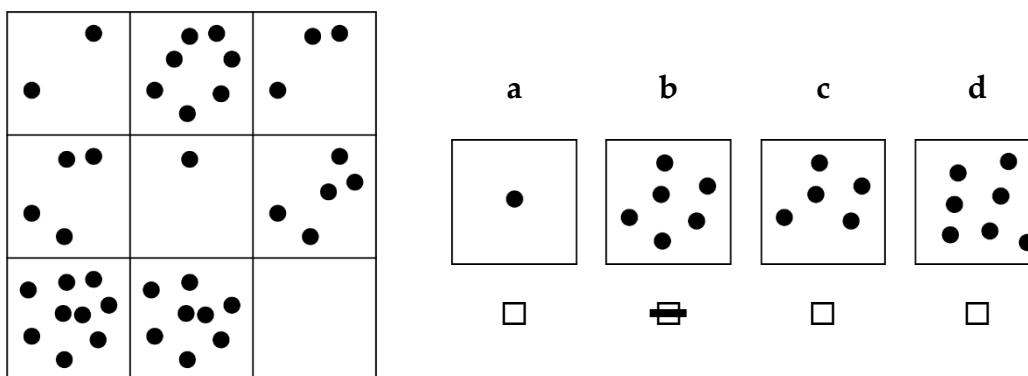
12.



You can rule out the options where the outer shape is not a hexagon.

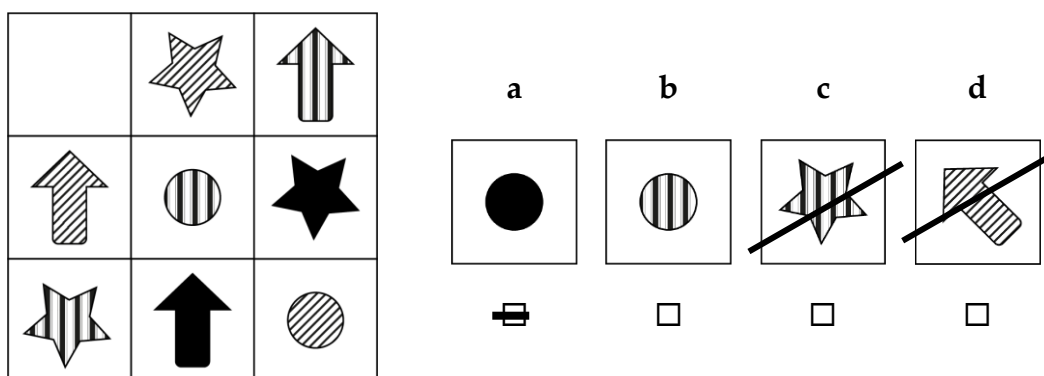
Then, notice that the grid contains three each of the different inner shapes – except for the hexagon, which is one short.

13.



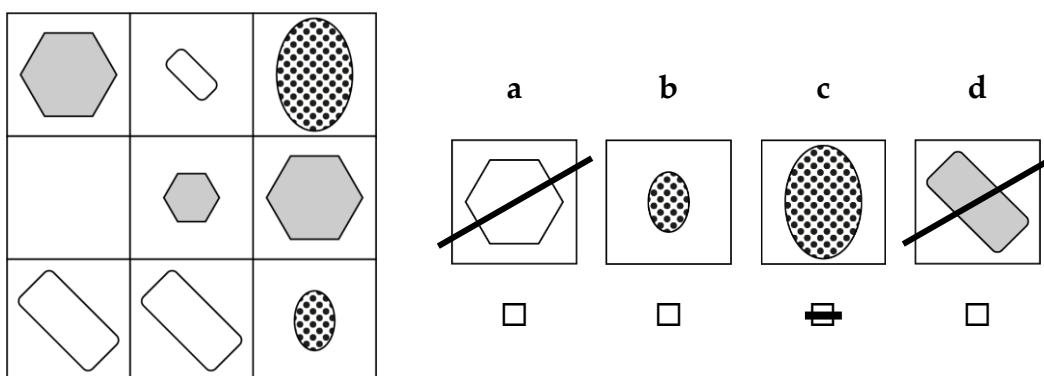
The table contains each number of dots from 1 to 9, but with 6 missing.

14.



This follows a similar principle, but with two rules: there should be three of each kind of shape, and three of each colour/pattern.

15.



This is another similar problem.

This time, there are two large versions and a small one of each shape.

**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.**

16. I'm sorry: I didn't want to OF you. FEND

OFFEND would be the complete word.

You need to explore two parallel thought patterns.

- One process is to think about the meaning of the sentence, and imagine the situation. Why is there the phrase "I'm sorry"? Why is there a reference to "play" in 18, or to a "meadow" in 20? These things will give you useful clues.
- The second process is to look at each point in the word (including the very beginning and the end), and imagine making a four-letter gap there, a bit like the gaps in Questions 1-5 above.

If, having gone through both these thought processes quickly, you don't find an answer, **skip and circle**.

17. Don't SBLE the letters up! I'm practising Scrabble! CRAM

SCRAMBLE

18. I won't play if you keep CING. HEAT

CHEATING

19. Igor SCED, and the sound echoed round the cave. REAM

SCREAMED

20. The meadow was covered with daisies and CL. OVER

CLOVER

**In the gap, write one letter which can end the first word and begin the second word.**

21. war *t* rack

22. woun *d* ead

23. spar *e* arn

24. bun *S* un or bun *g* un

25. spin e vent

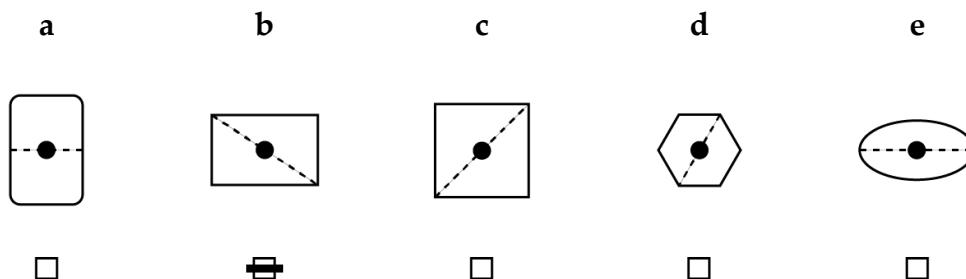
If the answer isn't obvious, quickly cycle through the alphabet; but be prepared to **skip and circle** quickly if you don't see a solution.

Occasionally, a solution may come to mind which involves very obscure words. For example, a conceivable answer to 24 would give "bunt" and "tun". While, strictly speaking, this is correct, it is not certain that these words would be on an official exam mark scheme. Look for more mainstream words if at all possible ... though naturally, an answer of that kind is much better than leaving a blank space.

"Bund" is a less ambiguous case: it is almost certainly too obscure and archaic a word (in English – it will sometimes appear in books about modern German history, but that's another matter) to be acceptable. English is a vast language, and there are many strange words which might be found in a very large dictionary, but which are not in modern usage. It is unlikely that an examiner has such words in mind, and they are best avoided in circumstances like this!

Select the figure which is most unlike the other options in its row.

26.



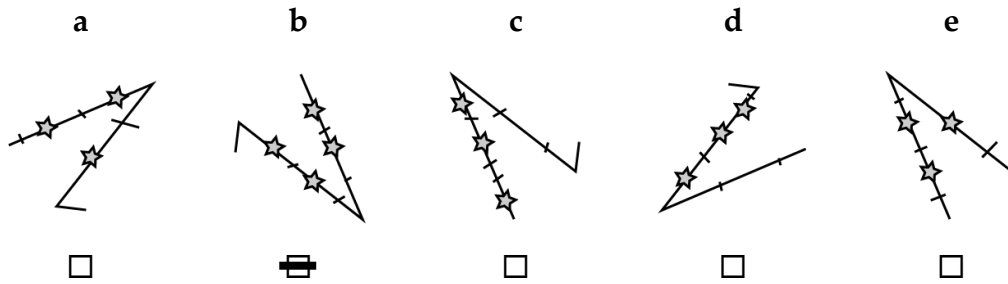
There isn't much point trying to eliminate impossible answers here: by the time you have found the rule, you can choose the option which doesn't fit it, and that will be the answer. Before you've found the rule, you aren't in a position to rule anything out!

You will need to consider various possibilities. Are we looking at the outer shapes – the number of sides, for example – or the line through them? Is the circle relevant?

You will also need to consider whether the rule linking four of the figures just involves one of these things, or a combination of them.

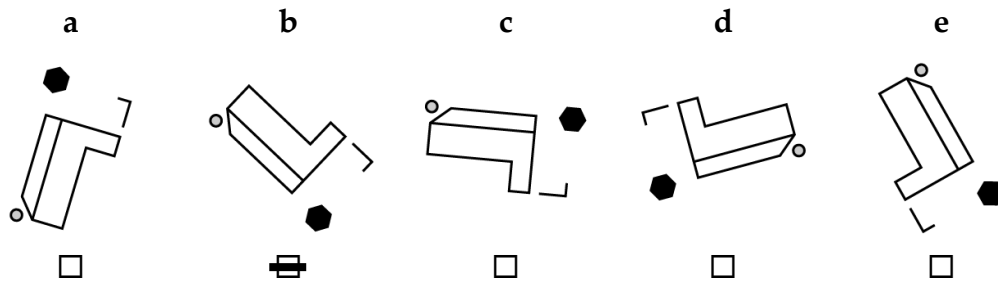
In this question, the diagonal line is a mirror line (line of symmetry) in all cases except **b**.

27.



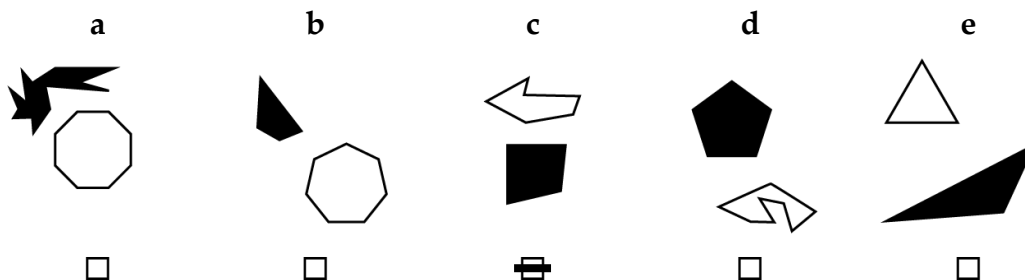
There are lots of distracting possibilities here, but the rule is simply that a figure must include three stars.

28.



These are all rotations of the same figure, except for **b**, which has also been reflected: therefore, it is 'kicking' in the wrong direction, anticlockwise.

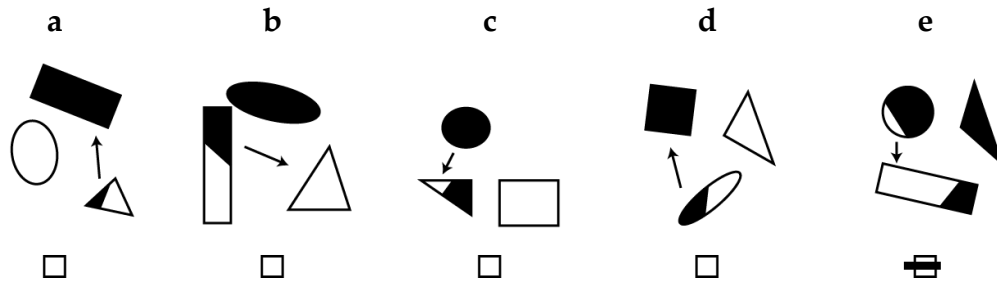
29.



Don't be tempted to start counting sides, at least of the black shapes ... look at **a**! Even an examiner isn't likely to be that unkind.

The rule here is that one shape should be regular (with equal sides and angles), and the other irregular.

30.



This is difficult.

It's natural to assume that the arrow is involved: should it point towards black or away from it? Should it connect the same colour, or opposite ones?

In fact, the rule has nothing to do with the arrow. **e** is the odd one out, because there are two shapes which are split between black and white, whereas the other figures each have only one such shape, along with a black one and a white one.

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

31. racket                      din    confusion    peace    bat

"Racket" and "bat" are quite close in meaning – these words describe broadly similar objects – but "racket" and "din" are closer, meaning the same thing when describing an annoying sound.

32. rock                      stabilise    iron    mineral    element

There's a bit of general knowledge involved here. This does happen on occasion!

33. near                      sidle    painful    needle    approach

34. perky                      cheerful    sharp    dark    spicy

Metaphorically, "perky" might be used to mean "spicy" ("This sauce is a bit perky!"), but its literal meaning of "cheerful" is much closer.

35. steel                      rob    prepare    gold    filch

Don't be tricked by **homophones**! "Steel" and "steal" may sound the same, but "steel" does not mean "rob"! In metaphorical – but common – usage, to "steel" yourself is to "prepare" for something difficult.

**If you delete one word, the rest can be rearranged to form a sentence which reads naturally and makes good sense.**

**Cross out the word which should be deleted.**

36. places summer ~~helmet~~ to aren't there ski many in

"There aren't many places to ski in summer."

37. ~~ecstatic~~ exam life short is for too stress

"Life is too short for exam stress."

You have to choose a sentence which "makes good sense". Therefore, your sentence needs to reflect as ordinary a thought as possible! "Life is too ecstatic for exam stress" would make sense grammatically, and it is just about possible to understand what it might mean, but it would be a very odd thing to say.

38. past ~~normal~~ please go let me

"Please let me go past."

39. air I the I wish ~~wings~~ fly could through

"I wish I could fly through the air."

As with 37, while "I wish wings could fly through the air" would make some sense, it is not the most natural solution because it is a very odd statement!

40. and make food ~~dependent~~ salt pepper can tastier

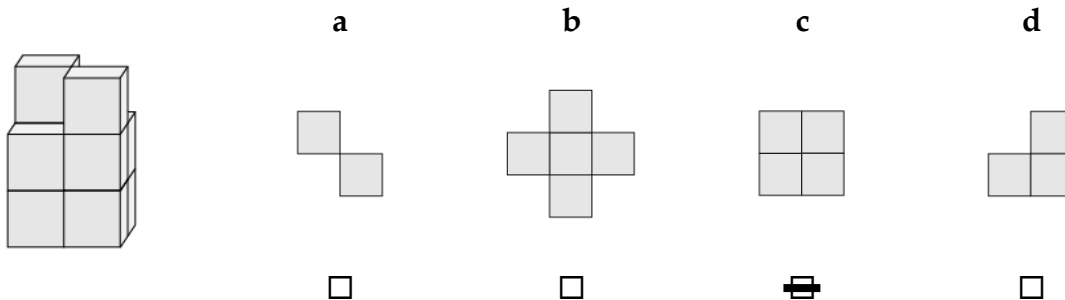
"Salt and pepper can make food tastier."

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Which option on the right is a top-down 2D view of the 3D figure on the left?

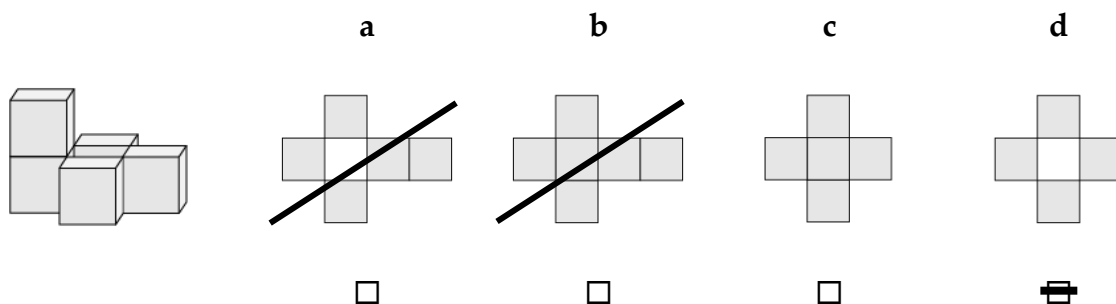
41.



Bear in mind that you are asked for a “2D view”. The fact that the very top layer of the 3D shape only contains two cubes is not relevant. **If you placed the 3D shape on a white tablecloth and looked straight down at it, a 2x2 area (i.e. 4 small squares) of the tablecloth would be hidden.**

You can't be sure, just by looking at it, that there isn't something else hidden behind the 3D shape, at the left; but none of the solutions offer this possibility

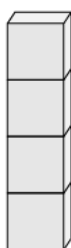
42.



Perspective can be deceptive! Just because the 3D figure looks long, this does not mean that it is. **a** and **b** are each a square too long from left to right.

If you look carefully, you should also be able to notice that a central block is missing.

43.



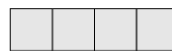
a



b



c

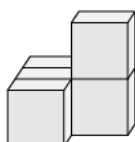


d

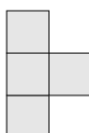


This is an easier question, but for precisely this reason you need to take the time to think about it properly. It would be easy to think “Oh good, an easy one!” and fall head-first into a silly mistake.

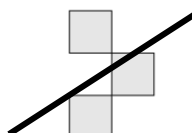
44.



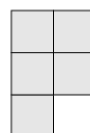
a



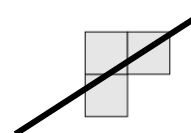
b



c

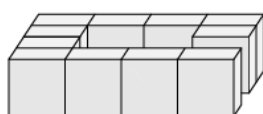


d

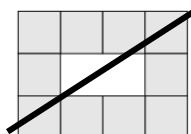


You need to look very carefully at the 3D figure to make sure that there isn't a block tucked away behind, which might make c correct.

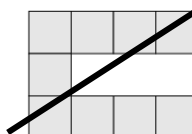
45.



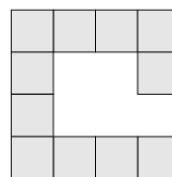
a



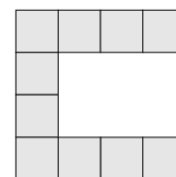
b



c



d



This just involves careful counting: in particular, to recognise that the 3D figure is 4 blocks deep (i.e. from front to back).

Each one of the five words matches one of the number codes listed below. Write the correct word next to each number code. Each single-digit number always represents the same letter.

	STIR	PINT	KITS	RINK	MARK
46.	2 3 4 5	<i>STIR</i>			
47.	5 4 6 7	<i>RINK</i>			
48.	7 4 3 2	<i>KITS</i>			
49.	8 9 5 7	<i>MARK</i>			
50.	1 4 6 3	<i>PINT</i>			

See **Paper 1, Solutions 41-45** for a question which is almost the same, but with the words and code numbers reversed. I discuss the process in detail there, and the same technique works here.

I included the following overall guidance in Paper 1:

To bring this kind of question down to its essentials, there are two kinds of starting logic which you should look for:

**Type A:** A certain letter appears a unique number of times in a certain place. For example, Q is the second letter in two words, while the other two words have different letters in this spot. Meanwhile, 5 is the second letter in two numbers, so Q is 5.

**Type B:** Overall letter-count: X is the only letter to appear exactly four times across the words, and this is also the case for the digit 9 in the codes: X is 9.

Here's an example of an approach which works:

- **K ends two words and so does 7**, so K = 7.
- **K begins one word**, KITS, so this must be the code beginning in 7: 7432.
- This gives us the numbers for I, T and S, which makes the rest of the words easy to match.

Another example of a way in would be to notice that PINT and RINK have the same middle letters, and the middle numbers 46 appear twice: therefore I = 4 and N = 6.

There are plenty of other approaches which would work. Have a look at the box above explaining “Type A” and “Type B”, and practise finding as many different ways into the question as possible.

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**END**

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