

## Verbal & Non-Verbal Reasoning – Paper 8

**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 11-21**). 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.

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**Here are five words:**

ODOUR   LEMUR   SCOUR   SLUR   POSEUR

**If you wrote these five words backwards, then arranged them in alphabetical order, which of them would come:**

1.    **last?**                    \_\_\_\_\_
  2.    **first?**                   \_\_\_\_\_
  3.    **fourth?**                   \_\_\_\_\_
  4.    **second?**                   \_\_\_\_\_
  5.    **third?**                    \_\_\_\_\_
-

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

**Example:**

Q. rode Q range

6. sli \_\_\_\_ reach

7. quel \_\_\_\_ atch

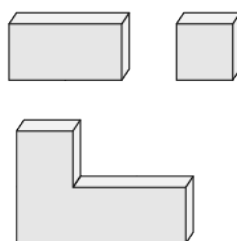
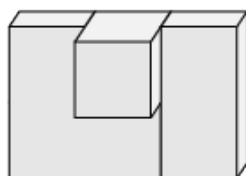
8. for \_\_\_\_ ick

9. fou \_\_\_\_ eam

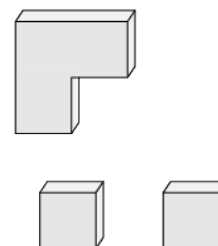
10. ren \_\_\_\_ ream

Which set of 3D blocks can be put together to form the figure on the left?

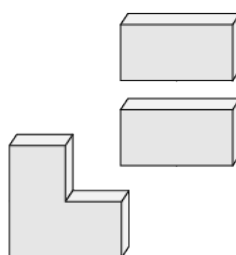
**Example:**



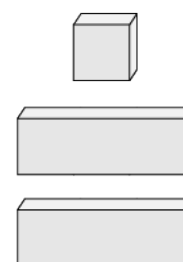
a ☐



b ☐

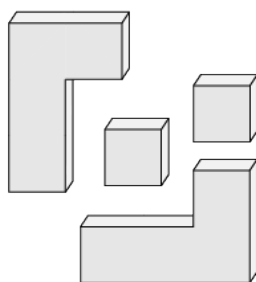
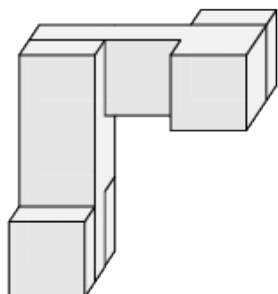


c ☒

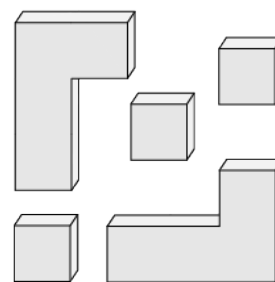


d ☐

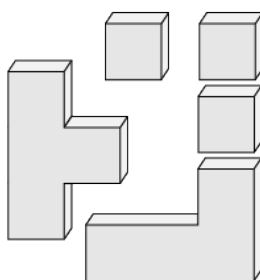
11.



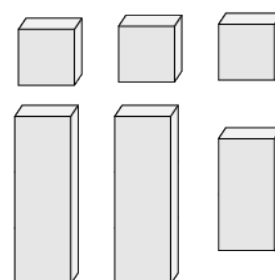
a ☐



b ☐

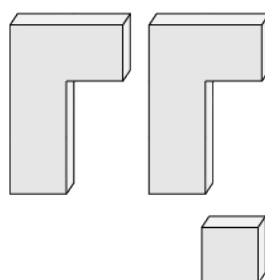
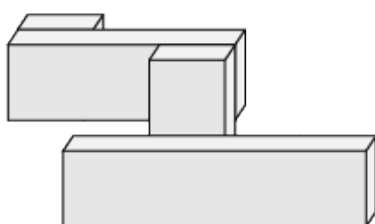


c ☐

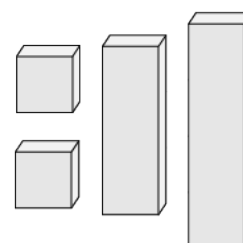


d ☐

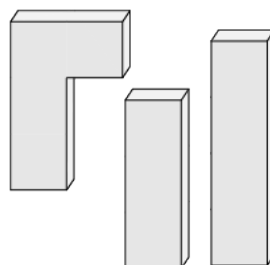
12.



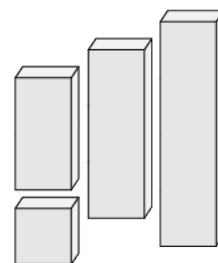
a ☐



b ☐

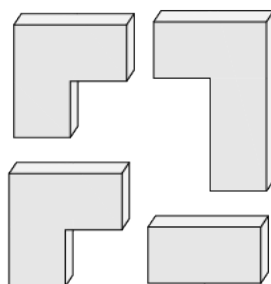
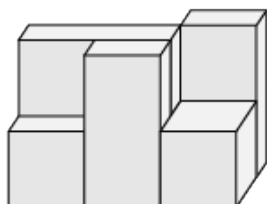


c ☐

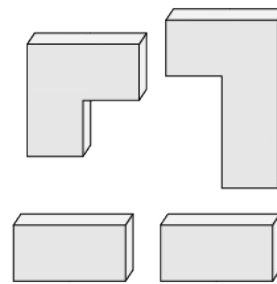


d ☐

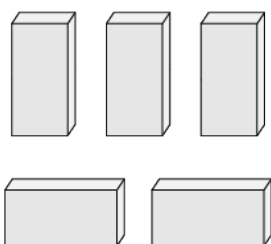
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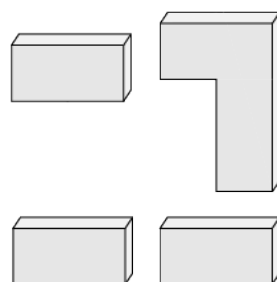
a ☐



b ☐

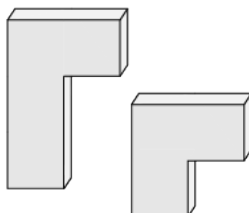
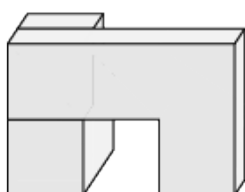


c ☐

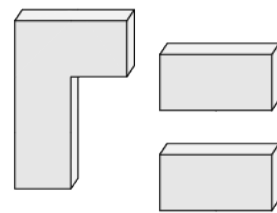


d ☐

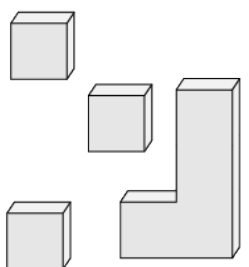
14.



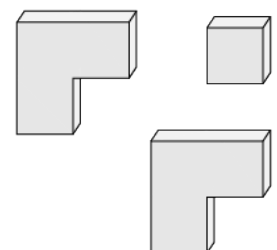
a ☐



b ☐



c ☐



d ☐

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

15. I left the gala, vanished contentedly into a taxi, and sighed. \_\_\_\_\_
16. The dove rested briefly on a chimney pot. \_\_\_\_\_
17. I watched a crab scuttle across the rocks. \_\_\_\_\_
18. The tiger celebrated its kill with a long sleep. \_\_\_\_\_
19. The orcas eagerly eat baby seals, showing great delight. \_\_\_\_\_

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.

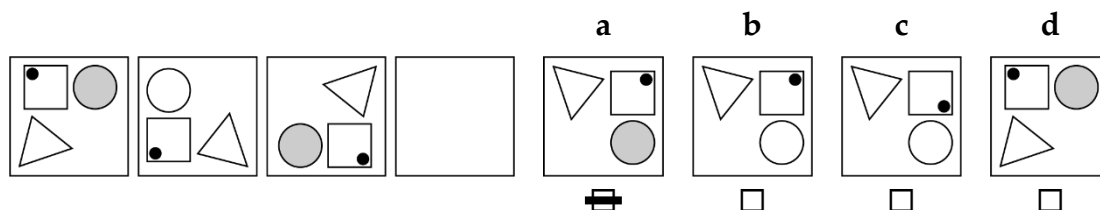
**Example:**

Q. rest repose

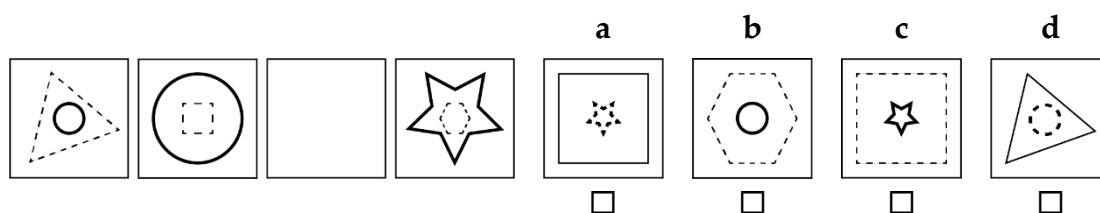
20. bright as \_\_\_\_\_e
21. stupid \_\_\_\_\_di \_\_\_\_\_t \_\_\_\_\_
22. advance p \_\_\_\_\_g \_\_\_\_\_s
23. indispensable v \_\_\_\_\_l
24. disguise \_\_\_\_\_am \_\_\_\_\_f \_\_\_\_\_

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

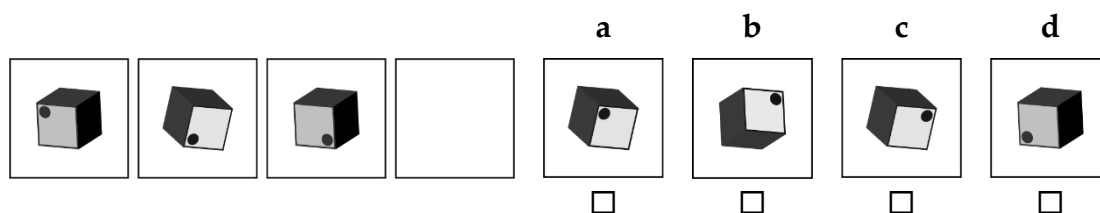
Example:



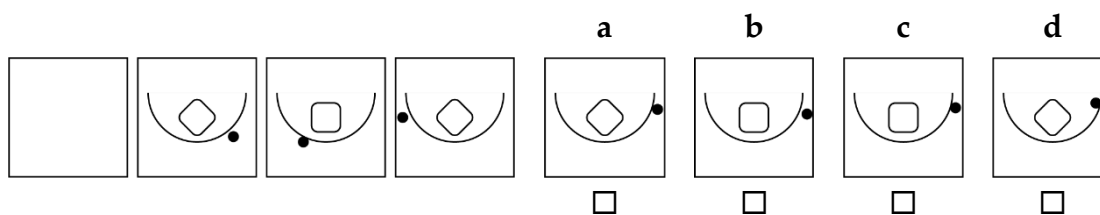
25.



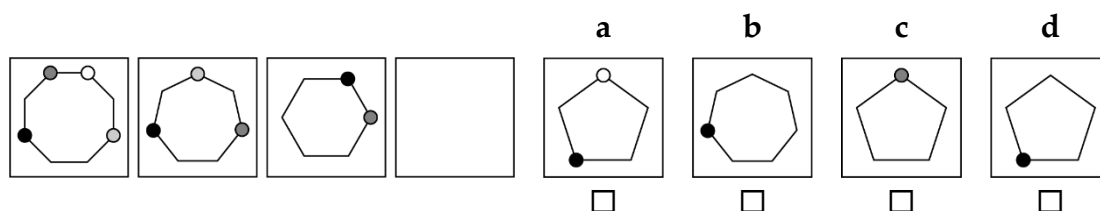
26.



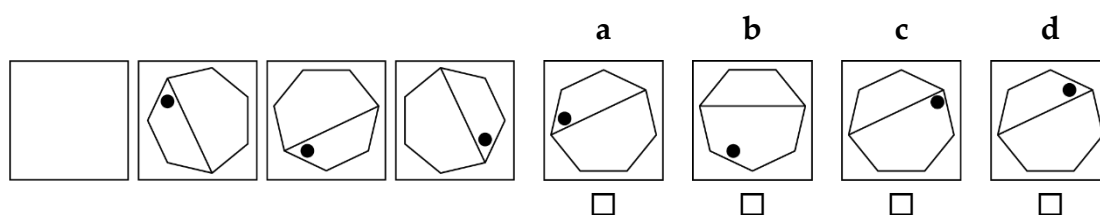
27.



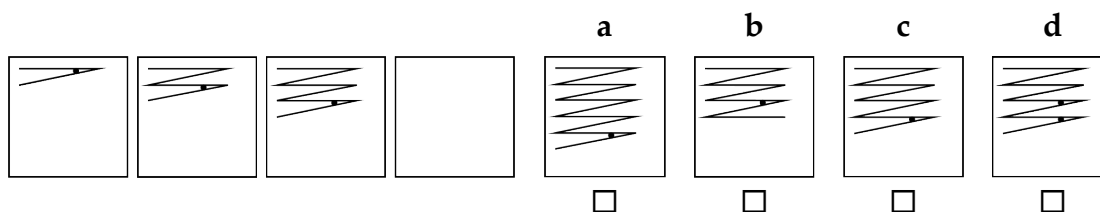
28.



29.



30.



Fill in the gaps so that the word on the right has the opposite (or almost the opposite) meaning to the word on the left.

Example:

Q. rest

activity

31. joy

\_\_r\_\_ \_\_f

32. knowledge

\_\_gn\_\_ \_\_ \_\_c\_\_

33. deny

\_\_d\_\_ \_\_t

34. friend

s\_\_ \_\_ \_\_ng\_\_ \_\_

35. brave

\_\_ \_\_wa\_\_ \_\_l\_\_

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

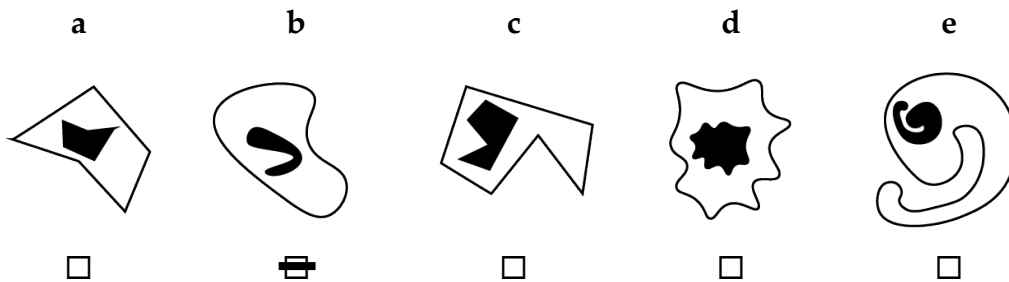
Example:

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

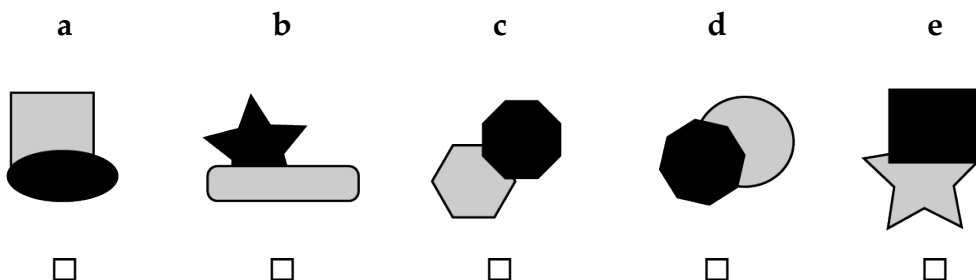
36. (fox, whale) (club, stick) rod wolf bat mammal
37. (flattening, smoothing) (dusk, sunset) planing razing gloaming evening
38. (repose, recline) (falsify, deceive) fib lie trick extend
39. (direct, head) (iron, gold) chief tin ore lead
40. (waste, garbage) (reject, decline) object dissent refuse rubbish

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

Example:

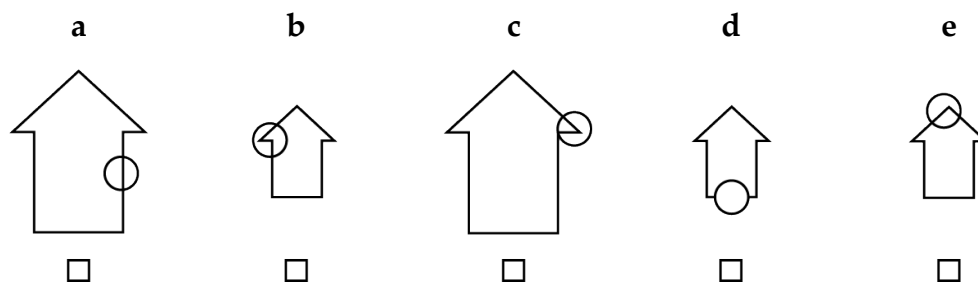


41.

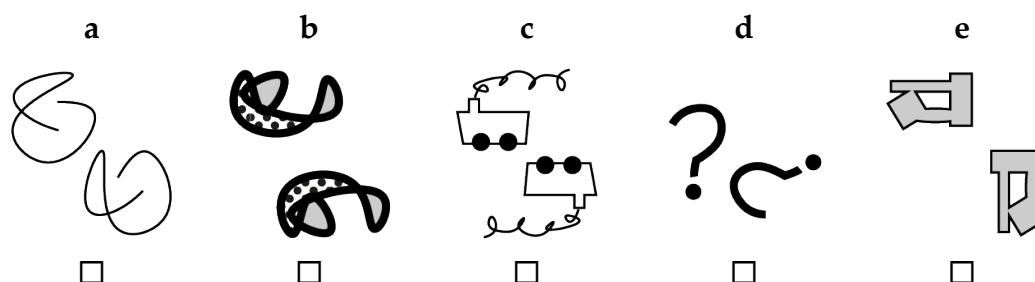




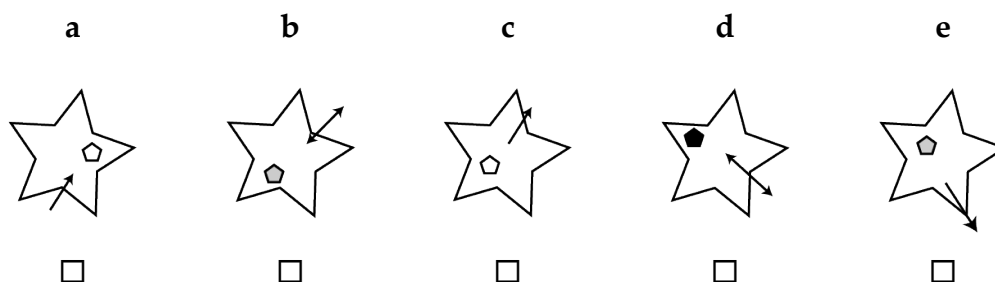
42.



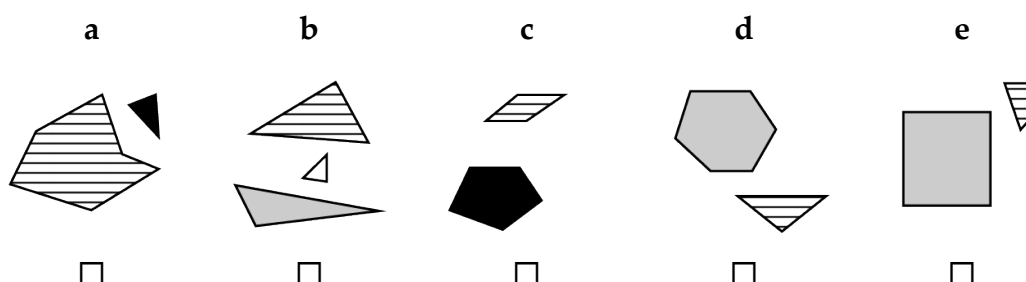
43.



44.



45.



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

46. coffee flame the pour mug into the

47. wings how I fly wish knew I to

48. out me extra help please

49. difficult malodorous questions answer these to are

50. well cheese landslide together and avocado go

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**TOTAL MARKS: 50**

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## Solutions

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

**Here are five words:**

ODOUR   LEMUR   SCOUR   SLUR   POSEUR

**If you wrote these five words backwards, then arranged them in alphabetical order, which of them would come:**

- |    |         |        |
|----|---------|--------|
| 1. | last?   | ODOUR  |
| 2. | first?  | POSEUR |
| 3. | fourth? | SCOUR  |
| 4. | second? | SLUR   |
| 5. | third?  | LEMUR  |

Here are the words written backwards and in alphabetical order:

RUESOP  
RULS  
RUMEL  
RUOCS  
RUODO

As the first two letters are always "RU", look at the third letter; then, when the third letter is the same ("RUO"), look at the fourth letter to choose between them.

It's pretty unclear from the question whether you need to write the original word or the reversed word. Therefore, I would be inclined to permit either.

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

6. sli *p* reach

7. quel *l* atch

8. for *t* ick

9. fou *r* eam

10. ren *d* ream

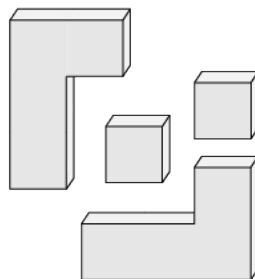
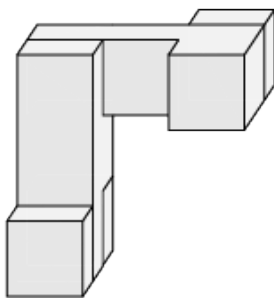
Don't get stuck staring at one side of a problem. If "sli\_" doesn't suggest an answer, look at "\_reach".

This is also likely to be the sort of task where *thinking less hard* can be useful. Look at the question and 'zone out' a little, and the answer may well pop into your head.

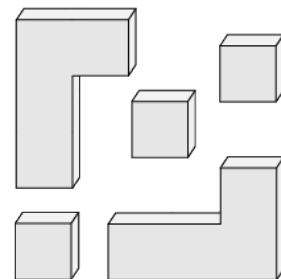
In the end, be ready to skip and circle.

Which set of 3D blocks can be put together to form the figure on the left?

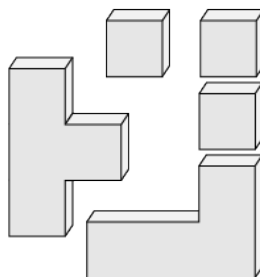
11.



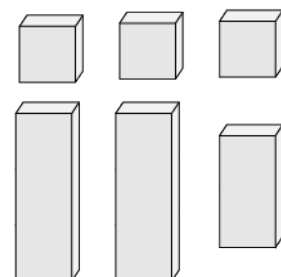
a ☐



b ☐



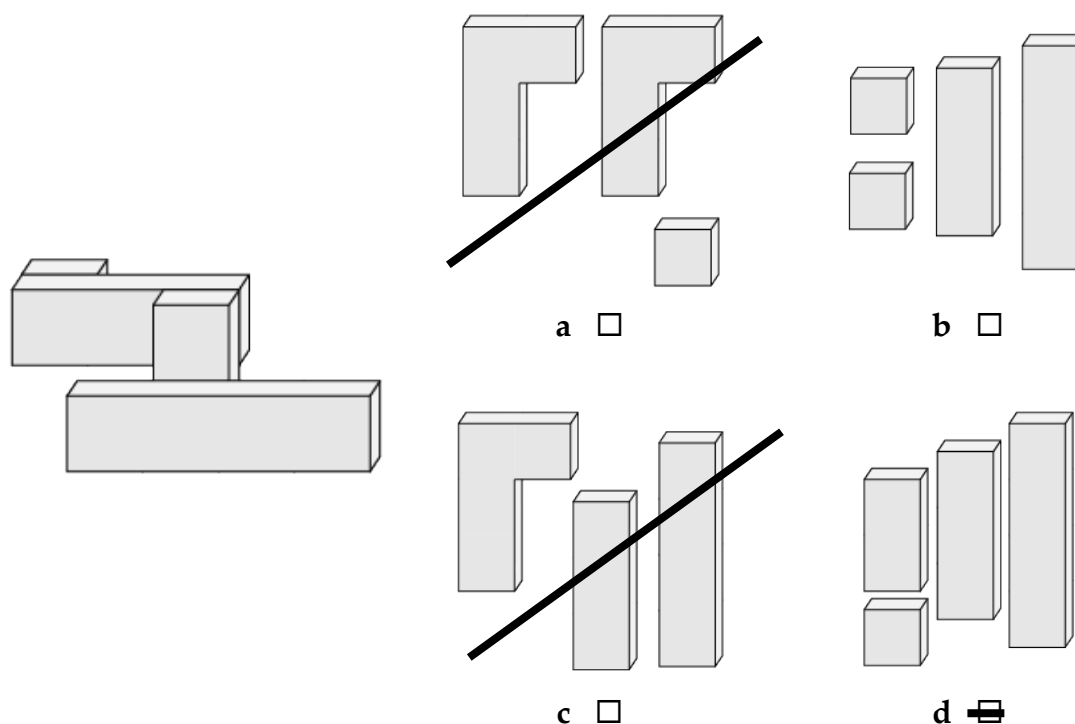
c ☒



d ☐

If you spot the T-shaped piece in the original 3D figure, you'll see that only c is possible.

12.

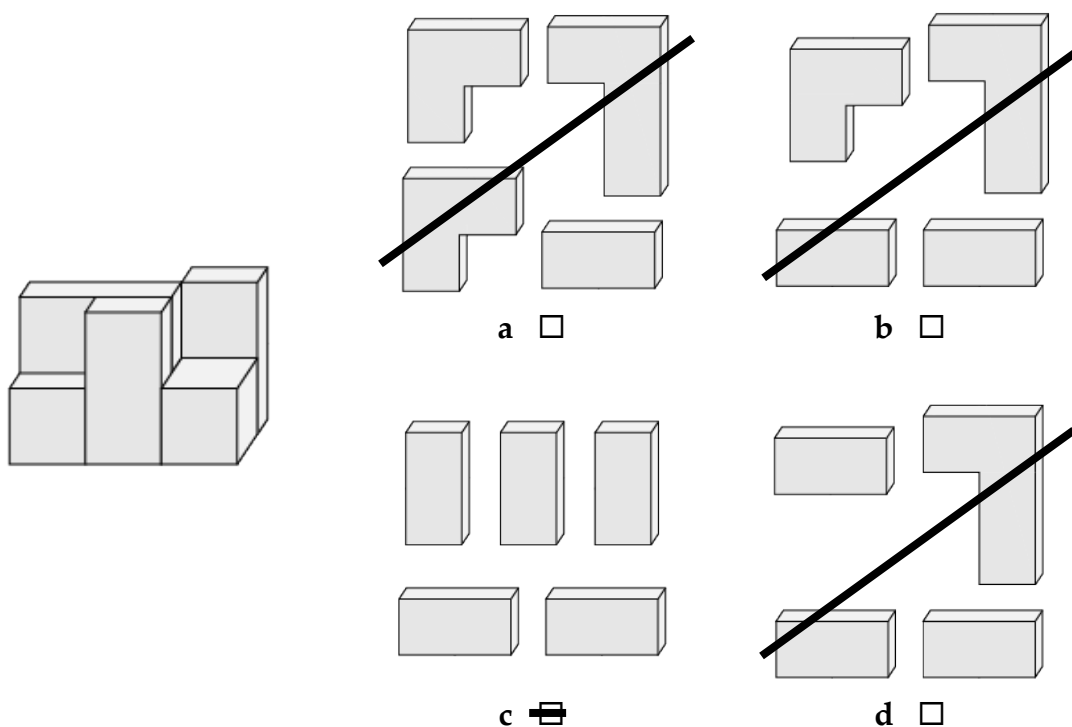


There are no L-pieces in the original figure, which rules out **a** and **c**.

Next, you need to notice that there is a 2 blocks high vertical piece, and **d** is the set of blocks which includes this.

You could also have got straight to **d** by looking for this 2-block piece.

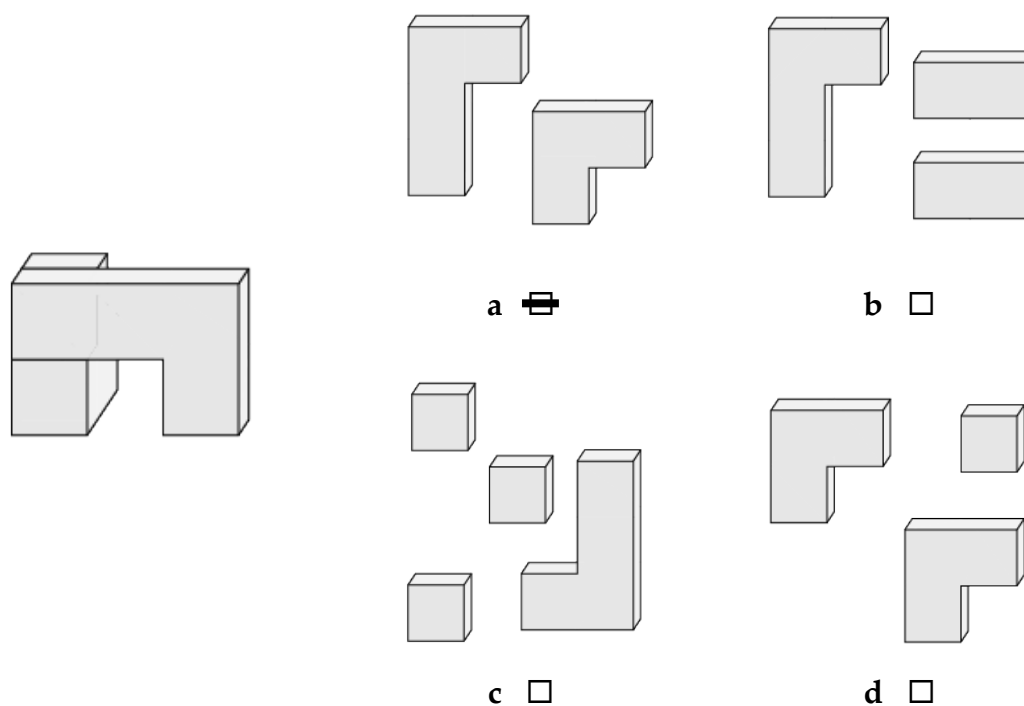
13.



This is hard.

With the shapes in c, you can make this figure. None of the other options provide enough blocks to cover what can be seen on the left.

14.



This one is a bit easier!

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.

15. I left the gala, vanished contentedly into a taxi, and sighed.

lava

Don't be distracted by the comma.

16. The dove rested briefly on a chimney pot.

over

17. I watched a crab scuttle across the rocks.

hero

18. The tiger celebrated its kill with a long sleep.

edit

Don't be tempted by "skill", which has five letters! "Halo" is almost right, but it overlaps **three** words.

19. The orcas eagerly eat baby seals, showing great delight.

case

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.

20. bright                      *astute*

This is tricky, because "bright" has two very different meanings, and "astute" is not a particularly common word.

Therefore, it may well be a question to **skip and circle**.

21. stupid                      *idiotic*

22. advance                      *progress*

Don't confuse "advance" with *advanced*.

23. indispensable

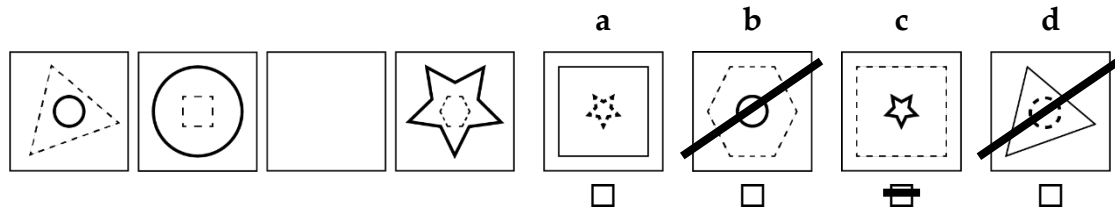
*vital*

24. disguise

*camouflage*

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

25.

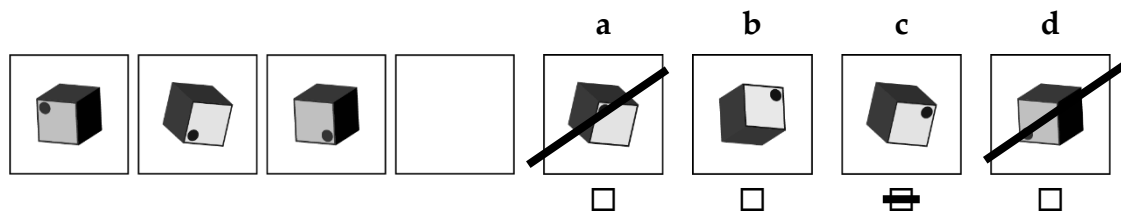


The inner shape, whatever its colouring, becomes large in the next one.

This means that the missing outer shape must be a square, and be dotted.

Also, the inner shape must be a solid star, in order to make the figure which follows.

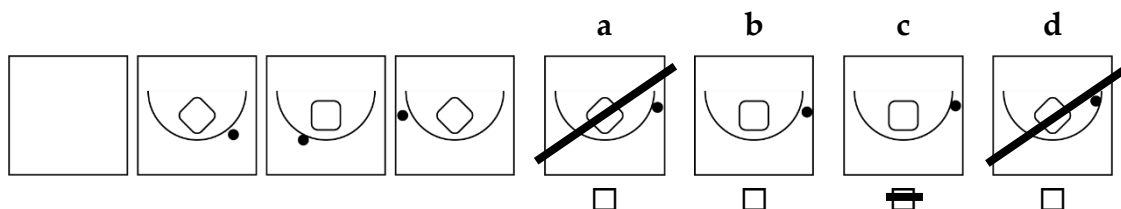
26.



The dot moves around the lighter face, from corner to corner, anticlockwise.

The overall direction/alignment of the cube alternates.

27.



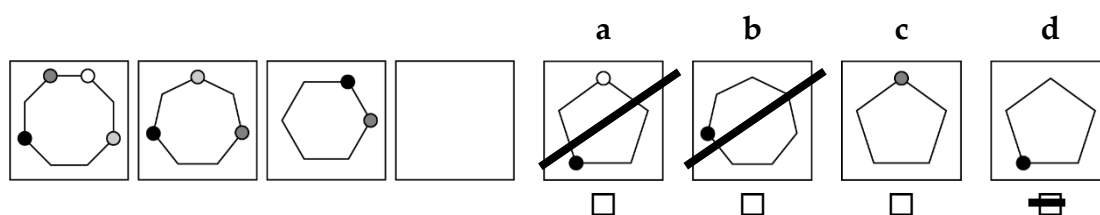
The square with rounded corners rotates 45° each time.

The dot moves around the arc.

The dot alternately touches the arc and is a small distance from it.



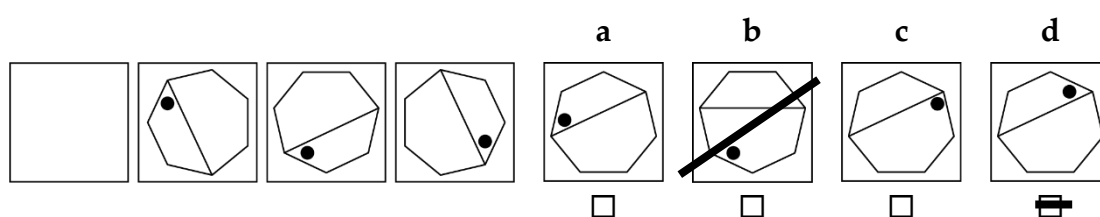
28.



The final figure will have one dot and five sides.

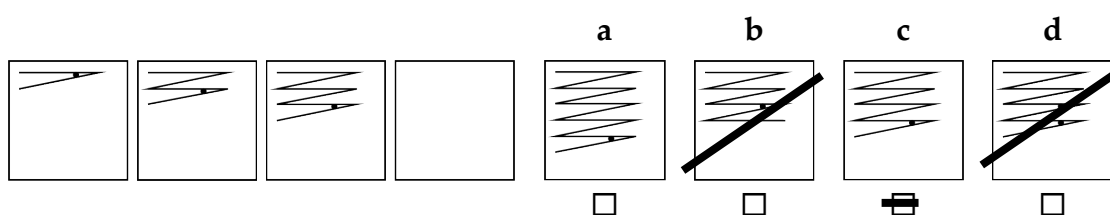
Moving from left to right, the lightest dot is eliminated each time.

29.



This is a simpler one: the whole figure rotates 90° each time.

30.



You just need to count the number of vertices/corners/points at the right-hand side of the figure and check that there is a single dot in the right place.

Fill in the gaps so that the word on the right has the opposite (or almost the opposite) meaning to the word on the left.

- |     |           |                  |
|-----|-----------|------------------|
| 31. | joy       | <i>grief</i>     |
| 32. | knowledge | <i>ignorance</i> |
| 33. | deny      | <i>admit</i>     |
| 34. | friend    | <i>stranger</i>  |
| 35. | brave     | <i>cowardly</i>  |

Broadly speaking, there are two approaches to this:

- thinking of opposites and checking these against the letters and gaps shown on the right;
- seeing what might fit with the letters and gaps on the right, and checking whether any of your ideas are opposites of the word on the left.

Sometimes one of these approaches will be more fruitful than the other. It is worth being prepared to use either.

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

36. (fox, whale) (club, stick) rod wolf bat mammal

A bat is a kind of mammal, and a piece of equipment designed for striking other objects.

37. (flattening, smoothing) (dusk, sunset) planing razing gloaming evening

Think of “evening out”, meaning “smoothing out” or “distributing more evenly”.

38. (repose, recline) (falsify, deceive) fib lie trick extend

39. (direct, head) (iron, gold) chief tin ore lead

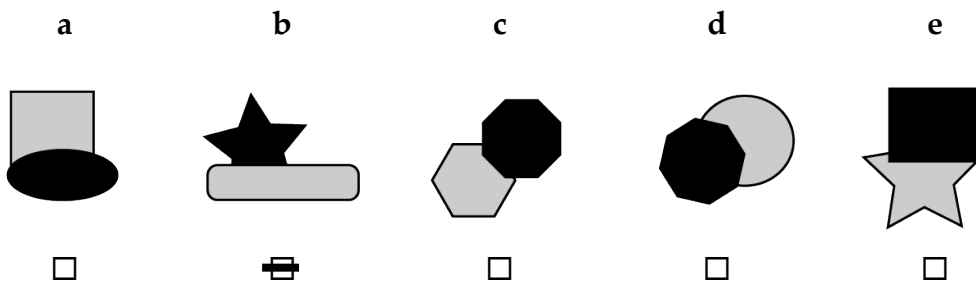
“Lead” has a different pronunciation, depending on whether it is a metal or an action.

40. (waste, garbage) (reject, decline) object dissent refuse rubbish

As with 39, the pronunciation changes depending on the word’s meaning. In this case, it’s a question of whether the stress falls in the first (rEfuse) or second (refUse) syllable.

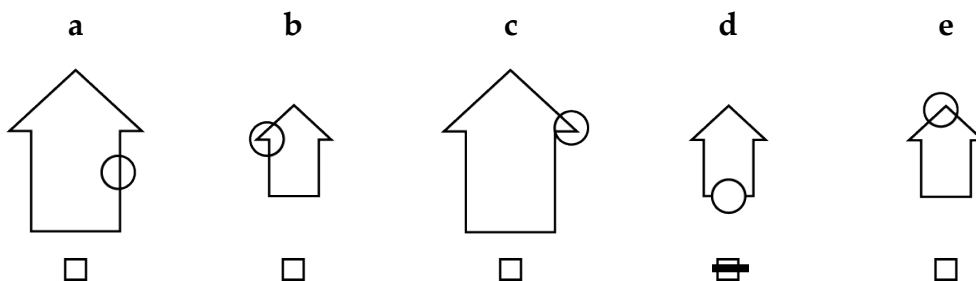
Select the figure which is most unlike the other options in its row.

41.



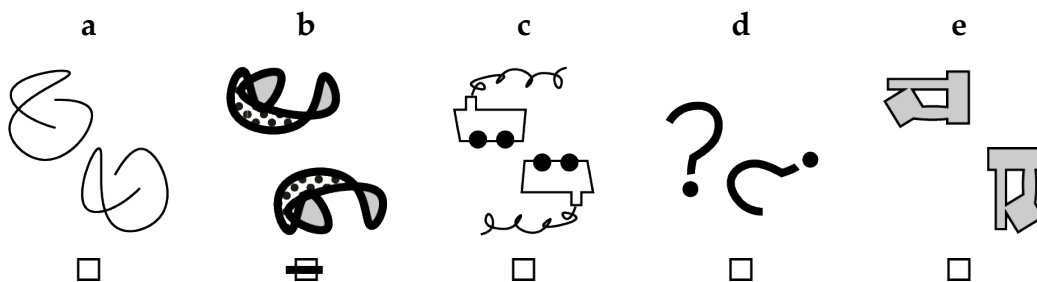
In the other figures, the black shape is in front of the grey one.

42.



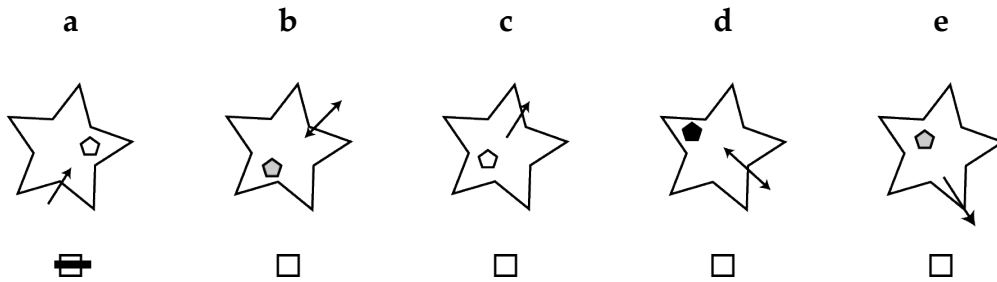
In the other figures, the circle is transparent.

43.



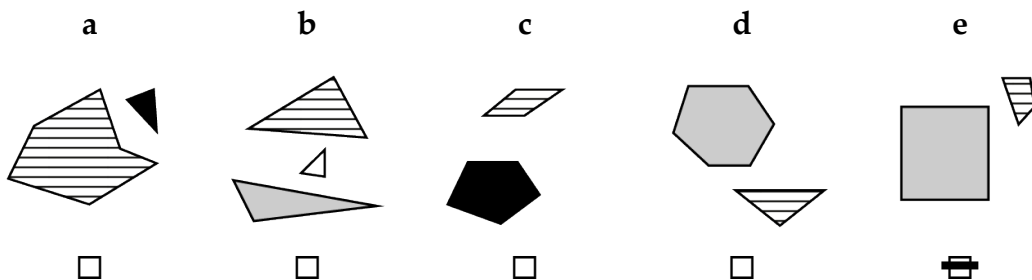
The two shapes are **rotations** of each other, except in **b**, where they have been **reflected** and moved.

44.

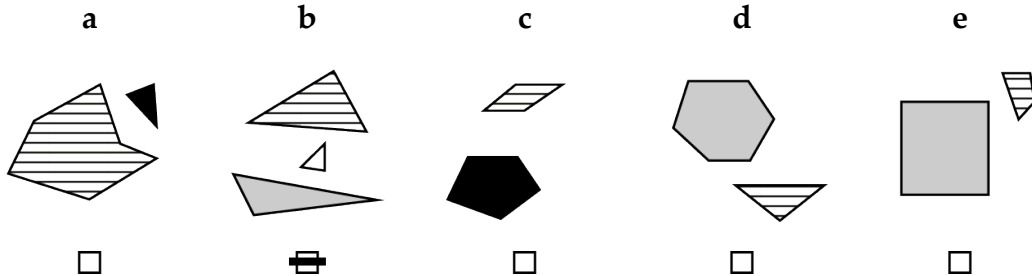


Except in **a**, there is always an arrowhead pointing away from the small shape.

45. [See note below]



OR



In the first solution, each of the other figures contains a total of 9 faces (e.g. **d** contains a hexagon with 6 faces and a triangle with 3 faces).

**EDIT:** As a young reader has pointed out, **b** is a more straightforward answer, on the basis that it contains three shapes rather than two. Therefore, an answer of "b" should also be marked as correct. Rather than deleting or altering the question, I will let it stand as a memorial to the simple fact that everybody makes mistakes!

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.

46. coffee ~~flame~~ the pour mug into the

*Pour the coffee into the mug.*

47. ~~wings~~ how I fly wish knew I to

*I wish I knew how to fly.*

48. out me ~~extra~~ help please

*Please help me out.*

49. difficult ~~malodorous~~ questions answer these to are

*These questions are difficult to answer.*

50. well cheese ~~landslide~~ together and avocado go

*Cheese and avocado go well together.*

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END

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