

Verbal & Non-Verbal Reasoning – Paper 17

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. 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

repose

1. scrutinize

ex _ _ _ _ e

2. feeble

fl _ _ _ y

3. myth

l _ g _ _ _

4. gigantic

c _ l _ _ _ _ l

5. reveal

_ _ SC _ _ S _

Cross out the word which does not belong with the other three. The other three words may not have exactly the same meaning as each other.

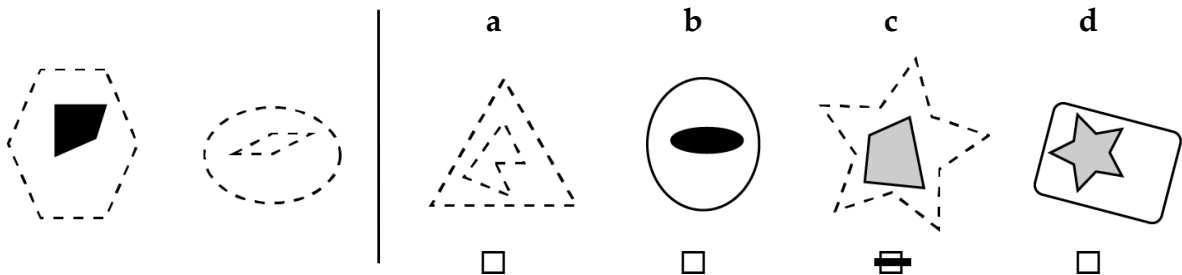
Example:

Q. hasten rush ~~delay~~ hurry

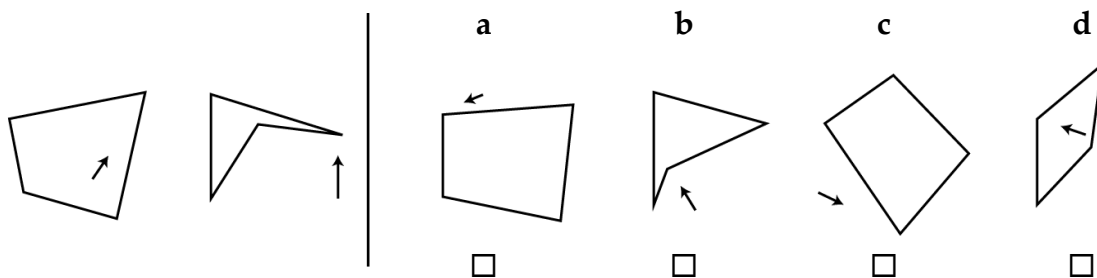
6. France Asia Paraguay Canada
7. insightful hypothermia exuberant telegenic
8. apathetic entertained careless uninterested
9. chaotic organised tidy systematic
10. green lush shady verdant

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

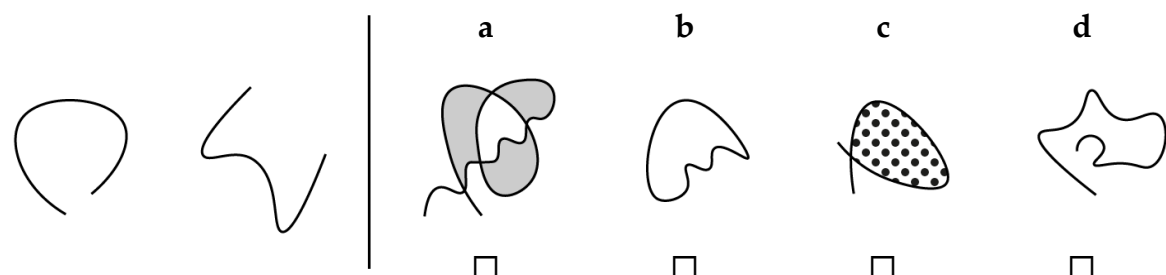
Example:



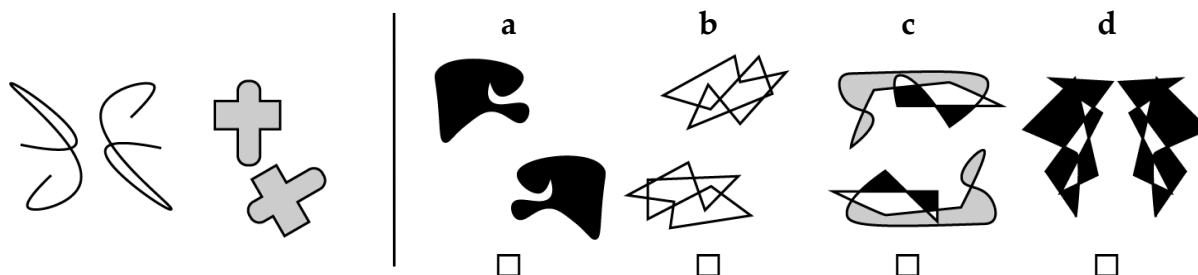
11.



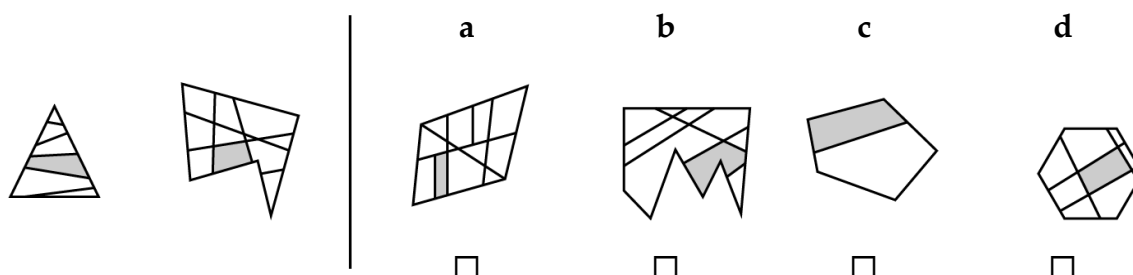
12.



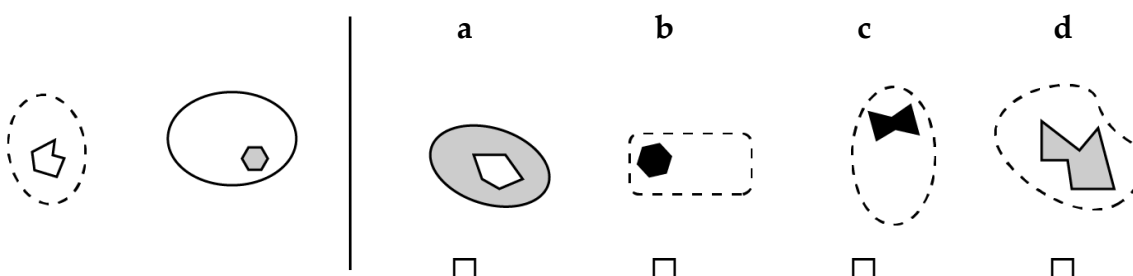
13.



14.



15.



Underline the two words (one from each group) which are most similar in meaning.

Example:

Q. (twin, pair, triplet)

(group, birth, couple)

16. (testy, fragile, tangy)

(phlegmatic, peevish, obtuse)

17. (amble, amber, ambush)

(psalter, save, saunter)

18. (melanoma, machismo, melancholy)

(dismal, dismiss, magnify)

19. (accelerate, execute, explain)

(traffic, exorcise, effect)

20. (coy, conniving, skittish)

(decoy, jumpy, placid)

Underline the two words (one from each group) which are the closest to being opposite in meaning.

Example:

Q. (without, above, through) (under, hiding, hidden)

21. (leave, begin, exit) (depart, cease, travel)

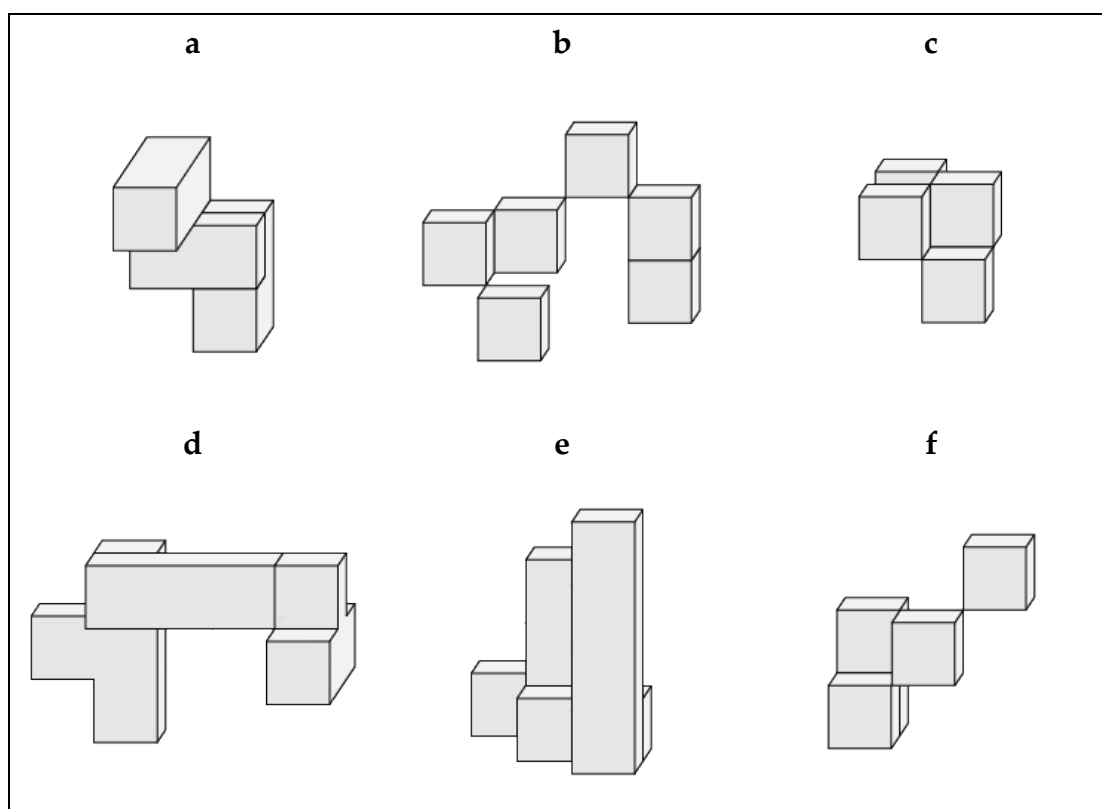
22. (fasten, secure, lock) (explore, navigate, uncertain)

23. (ponder, consider, deliberate) (accidental, improper, philosophise)

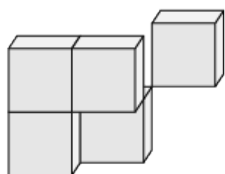
24. (for, to, by) (contrary, transverse, obtuse)

25. (like, compliment, attack) (address, defame, hit)

Which of the 3D figures in the box has been rotated to make the new figure?

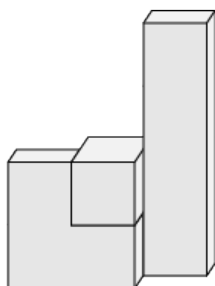


26.



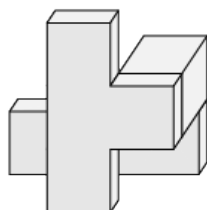
a ☐ b ☐ c ☐ d ☐ e ☐ f ☐

27.



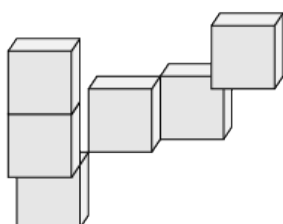
a ☐ b ☐ c ☐ d ☐ e ☐ f ☐

28.



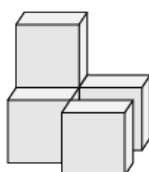
a ☐ b ☐ c ☐ d ☐ e ☐ f ☐

29.



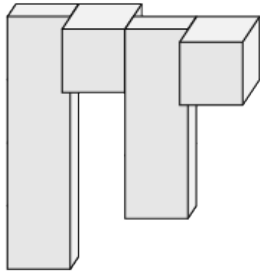
a ☐ b ☐ c ☐ d ☐ e ☐ f ☐

30.



a ☐ b ☐ c ☐ d ☐ e ☐ f ☐

31.



a ☐ b ☐ c ☐ d ☐ e ☐ f ☐

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

32. Fast birds snack on slow ants all day. _____

33. She passed the bun, groaning with cheese and pickle, to his friend. _____

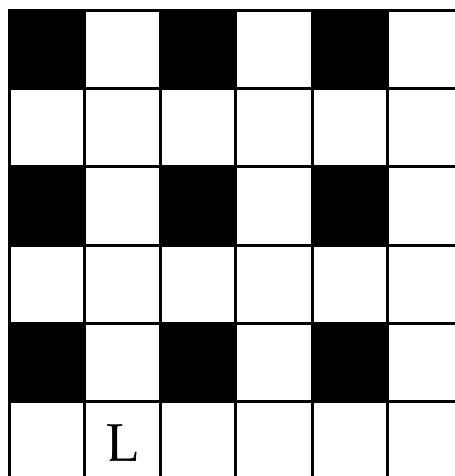
34. With the season's first victory, the club ushered in a bright new epoch. _____

35. Cassandra smiled with ill-disguised contempt. _____

Use all the given words to complete the crossword. Words run from left to right or from top to bottom.

36.

PRIMAL
ARTFUL
FLATLY
SLUSHY
OFFLET
AMBLES



In order for each of these sentences to make sense, two words need to be swapped round. Underline them.

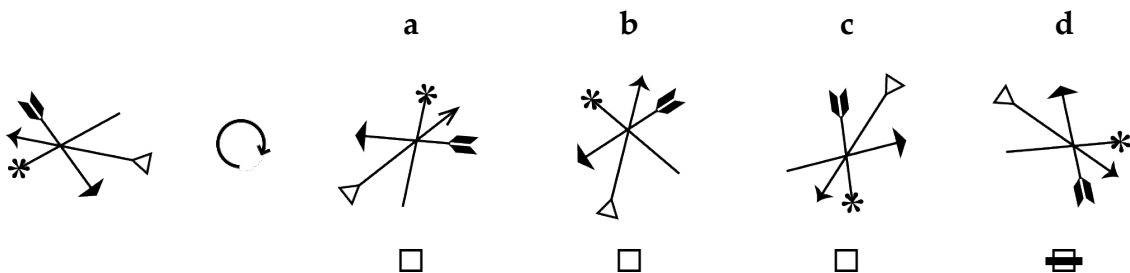
Example:

Q. The mat cat is sitting on the fat.

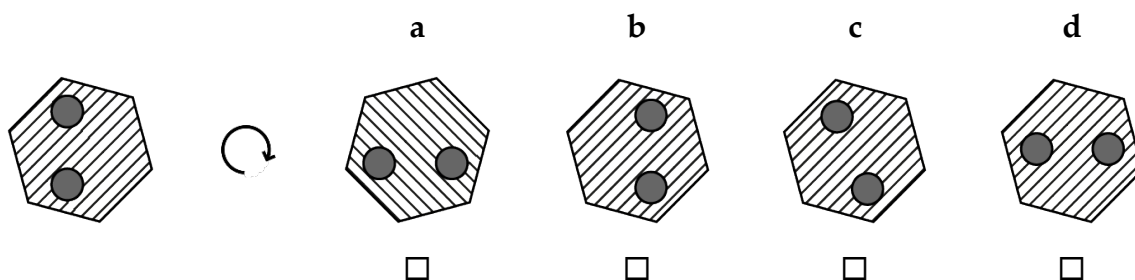
37. Silent the birds have fallen even!
38. Now it's cold to jump into a deep, time lake.
39. Even walking from the heat to the kitchen feels like an effort in this office!
40. Always think about the words, and not just the context themselves.
41. Stop doing so much fun and have some revision!

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

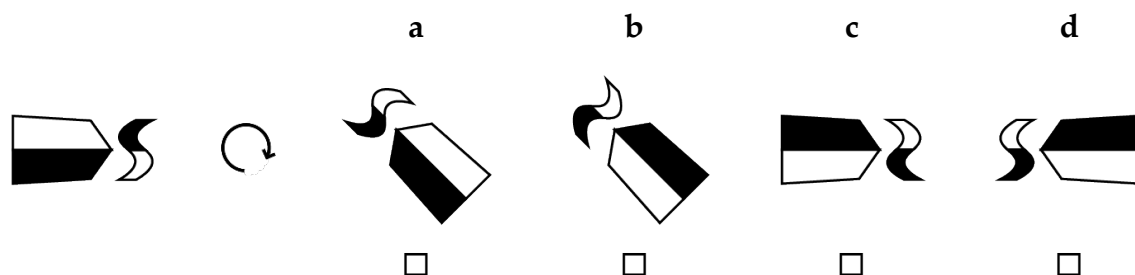
Example:



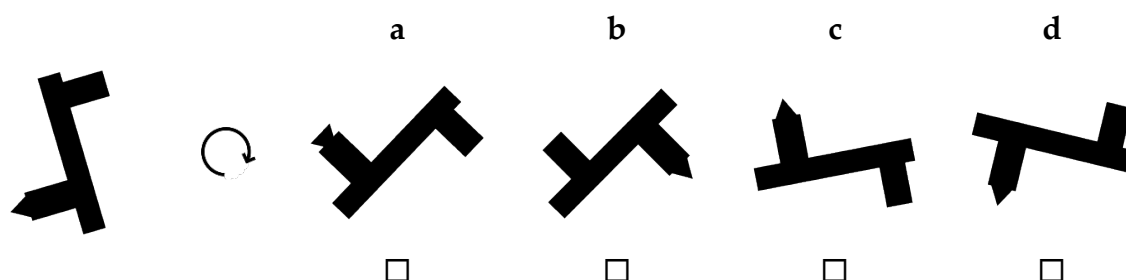
42.



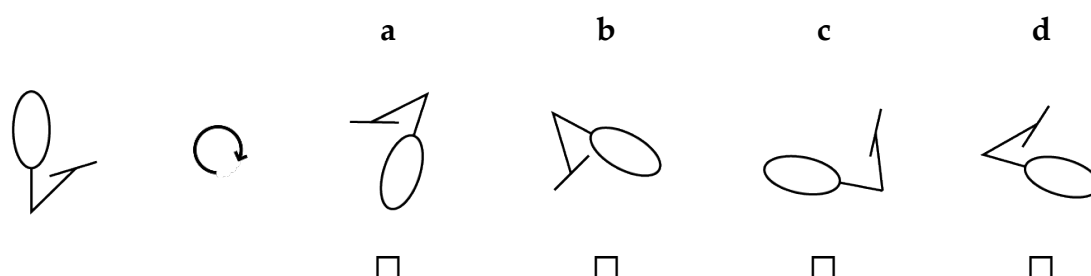
43.



44.



45.



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

46. The prisoner was SLED to the bench.

47. Mandy SLED out of the room, looking at her toes.

48. The fairy lights FER in the dark hall.

49. Seeing the gun, Eric PAED.

50. Her eyes always TLE with merriment.

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. | scrutinize | <u>examine</u> |
| 2. | feeble | <u>flimsy</u> |

"Flabby" and "floppy" are similar in meaning to "feeble", but not close enough.

- | | | |
|----|------|---------------|
| 3. | myth | <u>legend</u> |
|----|------|---------------|

There are some differences between these words, but they can also be used synonymously in many contexts.

- | | | |
|----|----------|-----------------|
| 4. | gigantic | <u>colossal</u> |
| 5. | reveal | <u>disclose</u> |

Cross out the word which does not belong with the other three. The other three words may not have exactly the same meaning as each other.

- | | | | | |
|----|--------|-----------------|----------|--------|
| 6. | France | Asia | Paraguay | Canada |
|----|--------|-----------------|----------|--------|

Countries, not continents!

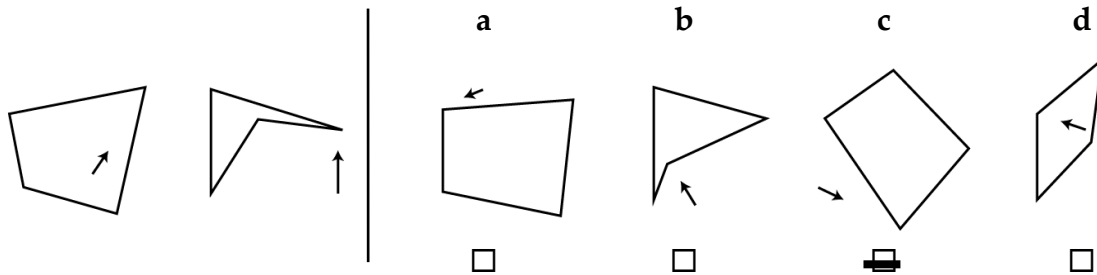
- | | | | | |
|----|------------|------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| 7. | insightful | hypothermia | exuberant | telegenic |
|----|------------|------------------------|-----------|-----------|

Adjectives, not nouns.

- | | | | | |
|-----|--------------------|------------------------|------------------|--------------|
| 8. | apathetic | entertained | careless | uninterested |
| 9. | chaotic | organised | tidy | systematic |
| 10. | green | lush | shady | verdant |

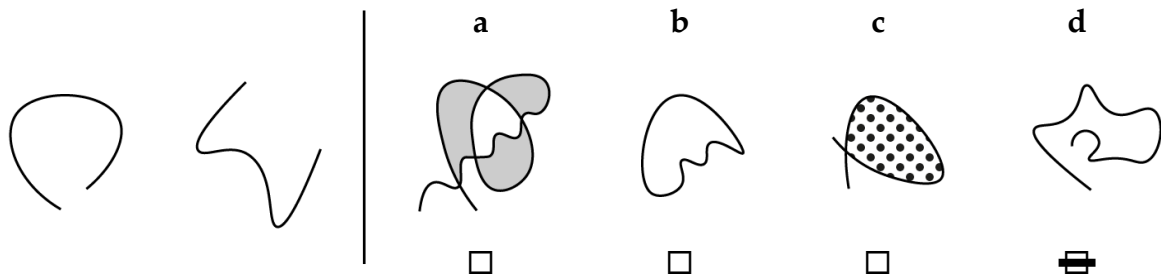
Select the option which is most like the two pictures on the left.

11.



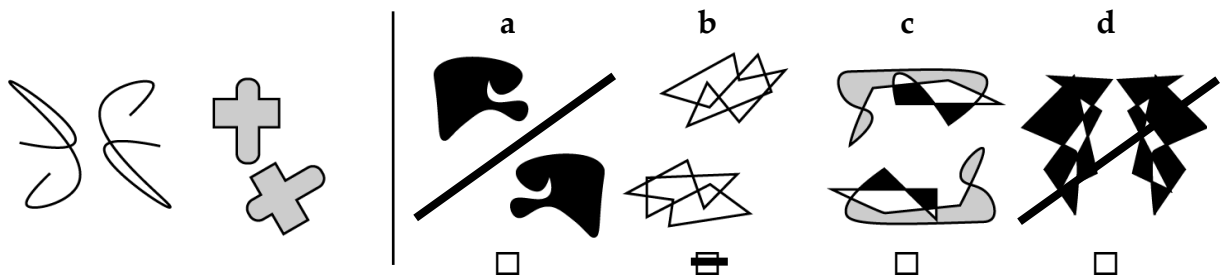
The arrow points to an **acute angle** (less than 90°).

12.



The line does not meet or cross itself.

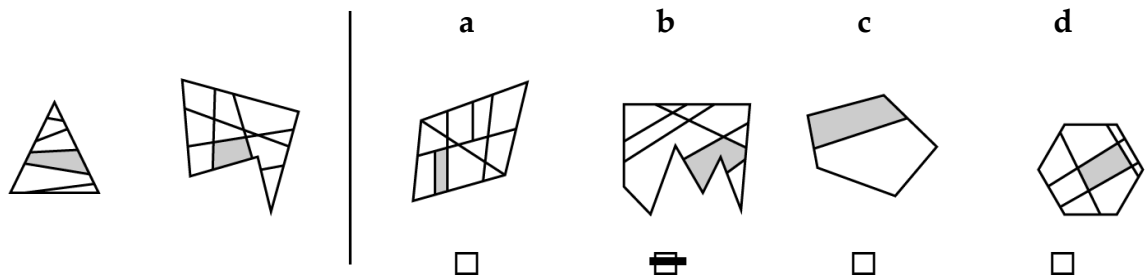
13.



The figures are rotations of one another.

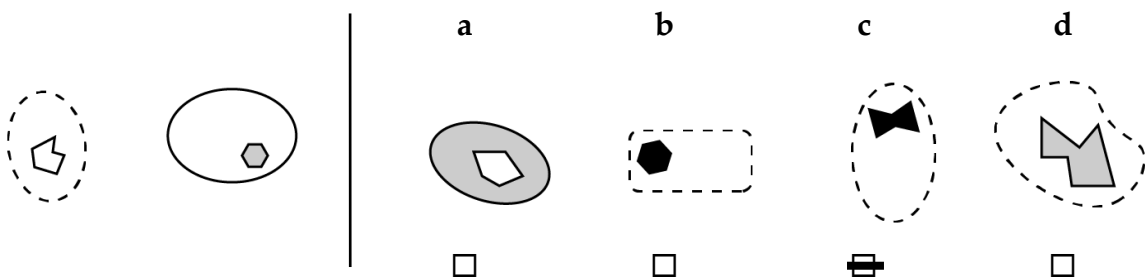
a and **d** show reflected figures. **c** looks like a rotation, but in fact some points have been made curved and vice versa, when you compare one figure with another.

14.



Five lines cross each figure. There is a lot else to mislead you here! For example, the shading is irrelevant and does not establish any patterns.

15.



An oval contains a hexagon (six-sided shape).

Underline the two words (one from each group) which are most similar in meaning.

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| 16. (<u>testy</u> , fragile, tangy) | (phlegmatic, <u>peevish</u> , obtuse) |
| 17. (<u>amble</u> , amber, ambush) | (psalter, save, <u>saunter</u>) |
| 18. (melanoma, machismo, <u>melancholy</u>) | (<u>dismal</u> , dismiss, magnify) |
| 19. (accelerate, <u>execute</u> , explain) | (traffic, exorcise, <u>effect</u>) |

Beware of the difference between “effect” (put into practice) and “affect” (change or influence). These words (usually verbs) have different meanings as nouns, but that is another story!

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| 20. (coy, conniving, <u>skittish</u>) | (decoy, <u>jumpy</u> , placid) |
|--|--------------------------------|

Underline the two words (one from each group) which are the closest to being opposite in meaning.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 21. (leave, <u>begin</u> , exit) | (depart, <u>cease</u> , travel) |
| 22. (fasten, <u>secure</u> , lock) | (explore, navigate, <u>uncertain</u>) |
| 23. (ponder, consider, <u>deliberate</u>) | (<u>accidental</u> , improper, philosophise) |

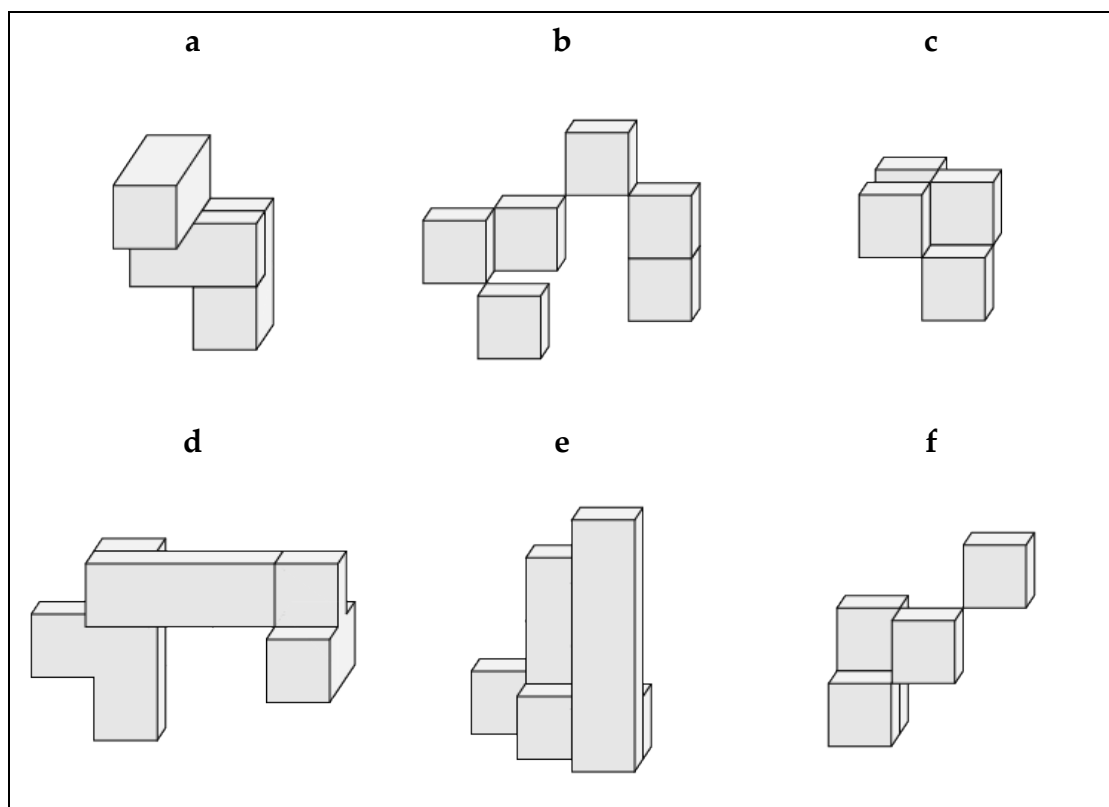
Look out for words such as “deliberate”. This can be an adjective or a verb – with rather different meanings, depending on which it is.

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| 24. (<u>for</u> , to, by) | (<u>contrary</u> , transverse, obtuse) |
|----------------------------|---|

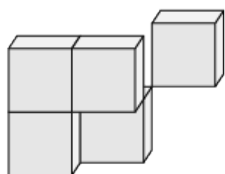
“I am for the proposal.” / “I am contrary to the proposal.”

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| 25. (like, <u>compliment</u> , attack) | (address, <u>defame</u> , hit) |
|--|--------------------------------|

Which of the 3D figures in the box has been rotated to make the new figure?



26.



a ☐

b ☐

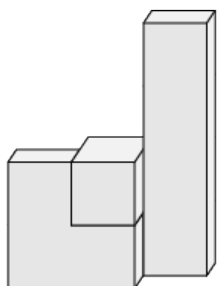
c ☐

d ☐

e ☐

f ☒

27.



a ☒

b ☐

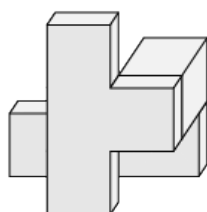
c ☐

d ☐

e ☐

f ☐

28.



a ☐

b ☐

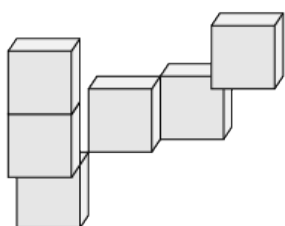
c ☐

d ☒

e ☐

f ☐

29.



a ☐

b ☒

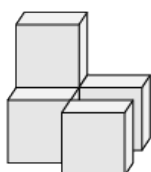
c ☐

d ☐

e ☐

f ☐

30.



a ☐

b ☐

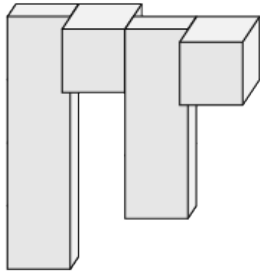
c ☒

d ☐

e ☐

f ☐

31.



a ☐ b ☐ c ☐ d ☐ e ☒ f ☐

26: Look from the left-hand side, and rotate right through 90°.

27: You need to look at a from the right, rotating it through 90°.

28: This is very similar to 27 in the perspective that you must imagine.

29, 30 and 31 can be identified from the broad shape of the 3D figure, without looking too hard at the rotation.

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.

32. Fast birds snack on slow ants all day. want

33. She passed the bun, groaning with cheese and pickle, to his friend.
bung

Remember that names – here, “Sean” – don’t count!

34. With the season’s first victory, the club ushered in a bright new epoch.

bush

35. Cassandra smiled with ill-disguised contempt.

hill

Look at each gap from left to right, moving an imaginary four-letter underlay across each one. For instance, you would check the left-hand gap in 35 by trying DRAS, RASM and ASMI, none of which work; and then you’d move on to the next gap.

With time, this process will become very rapid.

Use all the given words to complete the crossword. Words run from left to right or from top to bottom.

36.

PRIMAL
ARTFUL
FLATLY
SLUSHY
OFFLET
AMBLES

	A		A		F
P	R	I	M	A	L
	T		B		A
O	F	F	L	E	T
	U		E		L
S	L	U	S	H	Y

Across the bottom, it isn't initially clear whether FLATLY or SLUSHY belongs.

The same applies with PRIMAL and ARTFUL in the left-hand column, both of which have L as a last letter.

The fact that ARTFUL, if used here, creates a space for a word with second letter F (accommodating OFFLET) makes this a likely option.

FLATLY fits vertically across OFFLET, meaning that SLUSHY runs across the bottom.

The rest of the words now fall easily into place.

In order for each of these sentences to make sense, two words need to be swapped round. Underline them.

37. Silent the birds have fallen even!

38. Now it's cold to jump into a deep, time lake.

39. Even walking from the heat to the kitchen feels like an effort in this office!

Usually, you can read until the first word that doesn't make sense, then look for a later word that can be swapped with it.

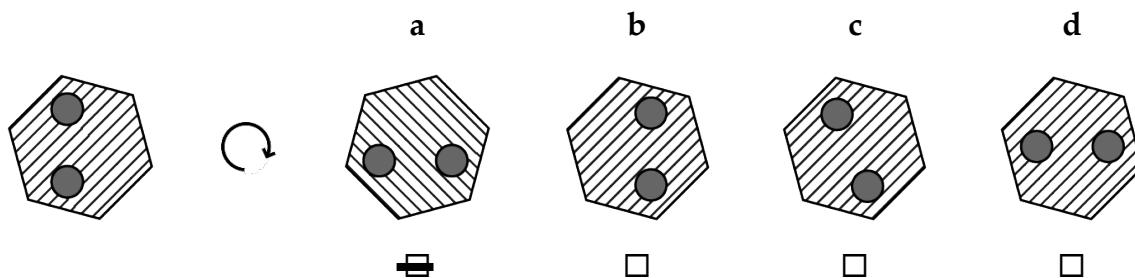
40. Always think about the words, and not just the context themselves.

This is a little different: "words" seems to make sense. It's only at "themselves" that you notice something wrong; and in fact, it is "context", not "themselves", that needs to be moved.

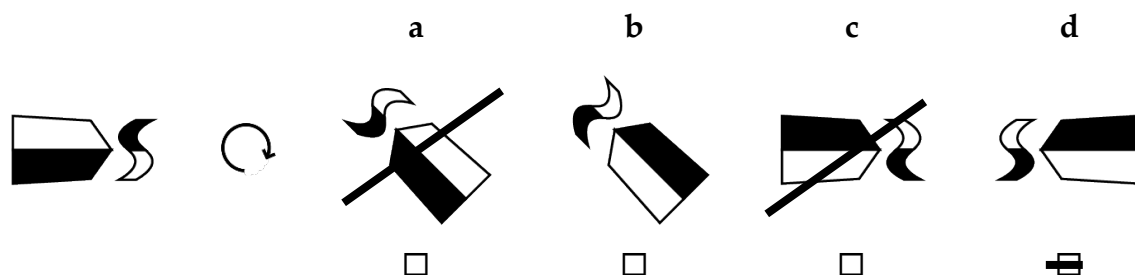
41. Stop doing so much fun and have some revision!

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

42.

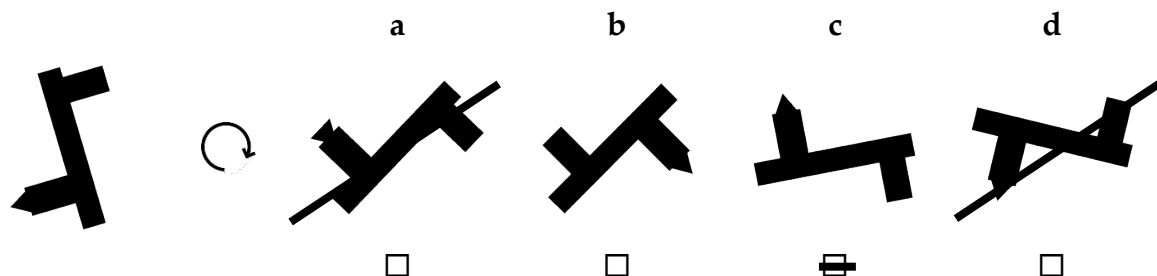


43.

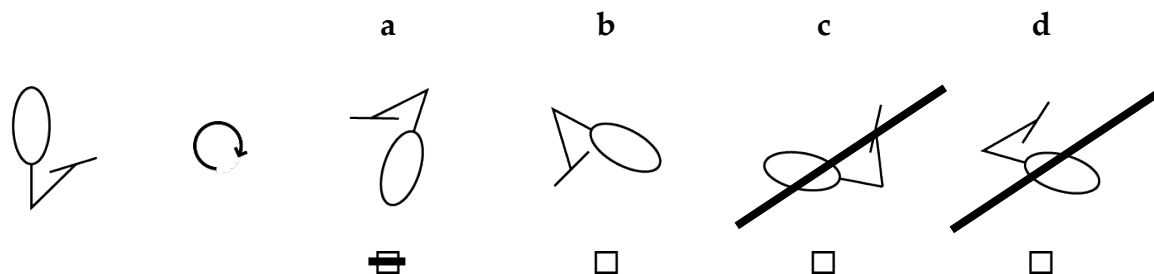


You can make life easy by eliminating those figures where the black and white areas are not the correct way round.

44.



45.



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.

46. The prisoner was SLED to the bench.

HACK

SHACKLED

47. Mandy SLED out of the room, looking at her toes.

HUFF

SHUFFLED

48. The fairy lights FER in the dark hall.

LICK

FLICKER

49. Seeing the gun, Eric PAED.

NICK

PANICKED

50. Her eyes always TLE with merriment.

WINK

TWINKLE

END
