

ELENCHUS TEST

This is an aptitude test with a mixture of vocabulary, numerical and problem solving questions. There are 30 questions to complete in 10 minutes – there is a clear emphasis on an ability to work accurately at pace.

Most of the questions are multiple choice.

No specific preparation is required – MENSA IQ or SHL general ability tests online might be helpful to practice if you wish (e.g. the general ability tests on <https://www.shldirect.com/en/practice-tests> or the SHL Sample Questions on different types of reasoning on <https://www.jobtestprep.co.uk/shl-practice-tests>). However, the actual Elenchus test is quite different.

Useful notes:

- Use the practice links that you have been sent as they can get you used to the quick pace of the test.
- There are a range of maths, English and reasoning questions. It's basic level so you don't need to revise. For example, there are questions focused on sequences, grammar and synonyms. Working through them at pace is key.
- You have 10mins to complete 30 questions. All questions are on one page. My advice is to either scroll down and at first tackle what you are most confident with (for example the spelling & synonym questions or all of the maths questions) OR start from the top and if a question is likely to take you more than 20seconds then move on to the next question, with a view to coming back to it at the end (some candidates gobble up time problem solving questions early on in the test). You can come back to questions at any point. Some people score 15/15 in section 1 but they fail the test as they then score 0/15 in section 2 having run out of time.
- You are allowed a calculator and scrap paper, so please make sure that you use this – there are simple calculation questions and candidates often forget to use a calculator to save time.
- Most questions are multiple choice and you don't lose any marks for a wrong answer, so if you have some seconds spare at the end then it's better to quickly guess what you have remaining rather than leave it! The test is submitted automatically on 10mins, so you can use every second up. The timer is always at the bottom of the screen.
- A candidate told us, *"The aptitude test was different to expected as it was short so I didn't actually finish it (think I only answered 20 / 30 questions) so the key here is just to not stay on questions too long and try come back to them if there is time at the end. It included English language questions like identifying the odd word out or picking the correct word to include in a sentence. The questions weren't particularly hard it's just about working through them quickly. The type of maths was more spotting sequences."*
- The type of questions you can expect to find are:
 - Find odd one out: this is usually 5 or 6 words and candidate has to mark the odd one out (e.g. hand, finger, palm, etc. with touch);
 - Number pattern: this is a series of numbers and candidate has to find the next number (e.g. 1,2,3,5,8,?) answer is 13;
 - Grammar Questions: this is filling a blank type question which is testing the candidates grammar (e.g. I can\cannot eat no more).

**A candidate that took Elenchus this week and passed gave me the following tips to consider:*

- The test as you know is your typical SHL type aptitude test with a combination of mathematical, logical reasoning and verbal questions. The layout of the test is different however and should dictate your style of attempting the questions. 30 questions in 10 minutes, therefore 20s per question.
- The test allows you to see all questions on one page - this is a huge benefit, your strategy should be to spend 15s or so to scroll through all questions to identify the style, and tackle the ones you are comfortable with first. This buys you time for the more difficult questions.
- Pen and paper is a must - a lot of the questions contain more information than you can probably store as you calculate, the drawing of diagrams and noting of key pieces of info is extremely helpful and will save you time from having to re-read the question. You can use a calculator - be sure to use it for calcs, even for basic ones where you might 1. save time 2. ensure accuracy.
- Find the next number in the series: 2, 3, 5, 9, 17
- Find the next number in the series: 729, 243, 81, 27, 9
- If Bob lives 1 mile south of tom, and Jon 1 mile west of bob, what direction do I travel to go from Jon to tom
- My great aunt has 2 daughters, 1 has 2 sons the other 2 girls. One daughter has 3 kids, the other had no kids. 1 of the sons have 2 daughters, the other none. How many grand kids does the aunt have? (this isn't the exact question, but a similar style. Strategy here should be to draw a family tree.)
- Grammar questions: filling in the missing word, or picking the correct word. Practice these on google. Who/Whom did you get that from?
- Odd word out: Palm, finger, nail, touch (practice these in google)

Another candidate said that these questions have come up:

- What is the next number in a sequence:
1,5, 25, 125, 625,.....
6,16,24,30,34,30,.....
- Pick word that doesn't belong: happy, sad, contented, sorrowful, crying
- My great aunt has a daughter Joan and a son Arthur. Arthur has 2 sons and a daughter. Joan has 1 daughter. Each of arthurs sons has 2 children, the 1st has one son, the other has 2 daughters. Arthur's daughter has 1 daughter. Joans daughter has 4 children of which 1 is a son. How many great grandsons does my great aunt have