

17.1 Question:-

A test is conducted which is consisting of 20 MCQs (Multiple Choice Questions) with every MCQ having four options out of which only one is correct. Determine the probability that a person undertaking that test has answered exactly 5 questions wrong.

Solution:- This is a problem of binomial distribution.

For each Multiple Choice Question:-

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Probability of wrong answer} = p &= \frac{\text{No. of wrong choice}}{\text{Total No. of Choices}} \\ &= \frac{3}{4} = 0.75\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Probability of right answer} = q &= \frac{\text{No. of Right choice}}{\text{Total No. of Choice}} \\ &= \frac{1}{4} = 0.25\end{aligned}$$

Probability that a person undertaking that test has answered exactly 5 questions wrong, using formula for binomial distribution

$$P = {}^n C_r (p)^r (q)^{n-r}$$

Here $n = 20$, $r = 5$, $p = 0.75$, $q = 0.25$

Hence Probability of exactly 5 questions wrong

$$\begin{aligned}&= {}^{20} C_5 (0.75)^5 (0.25)^{20-5} \\ &= \frac{1 \cdot 20}{15 \cdot 120 \cdot 5} \times (0.75)^5 (0.25)^{15} = 3.42649 \times 10^{-6} \\ &= 0.00000342649\end{aligned}$$