

Data Interpretation

Data Interpretation (DI) tests our ability to understand and apply data. Usually DI won't challenge us with complicated stuffs. Given enough time we can solve most of the Data Interpretation questions with good accuracy. But Data Interpretation lures us into its web by giving seemingly harmless questions with hidden traps such as unwanted data and unnecessary calculations. If we do not approach DI smartly, we will waste our time.

1) Read the question carefully

Before rushing over the Data Interpretation Question, stay calm and read the question carefully. In data interpretation, it is important to understand the question in order to solve the question. Read all the data that comes with graphs, the scale value etc to quickly solve the questions.

2) Analyze the Data Carefully

Just wait and have a thorough look at the data given. Analyze the data. You will waste a lot of time if you jump on the questions to find answers directly. Look carefully at the labels, understand the graph, scrutinize the data very carefully and then solve the question.

3) Don't worry about too much data

At times Data Interpretation Question contains lot of unnecessary data which is not required. When you look at the question you might probably get scared due to too much information present in front of you. It is advisable to read Data Interpretation Question and not skip it before giving it a close glance.

4) Skip Questions if they are time-consuming Some questions ask for too much. They require lots of calculation to find answers. These questions are known as speed-breakers. If you try to solve these kinds of questions, they make you lose your speed and precious time. The better decision is to leave the question alone and instead solve a much simpler question. Attempt these categories of questions at the end when the time is left.

5) Avoid Unnecessary Calculations

6) Pay close attention to the units used

In Data Interpretation Question at times the different unit is used for the question and another unit in the data. For example, a question may talk about two roads. The time of the first road is in hours and the second road is in minutes. Always convert the units into

the ones which is required. So, if the question asks how many minutes it will take, convert the data from hours to minutes.

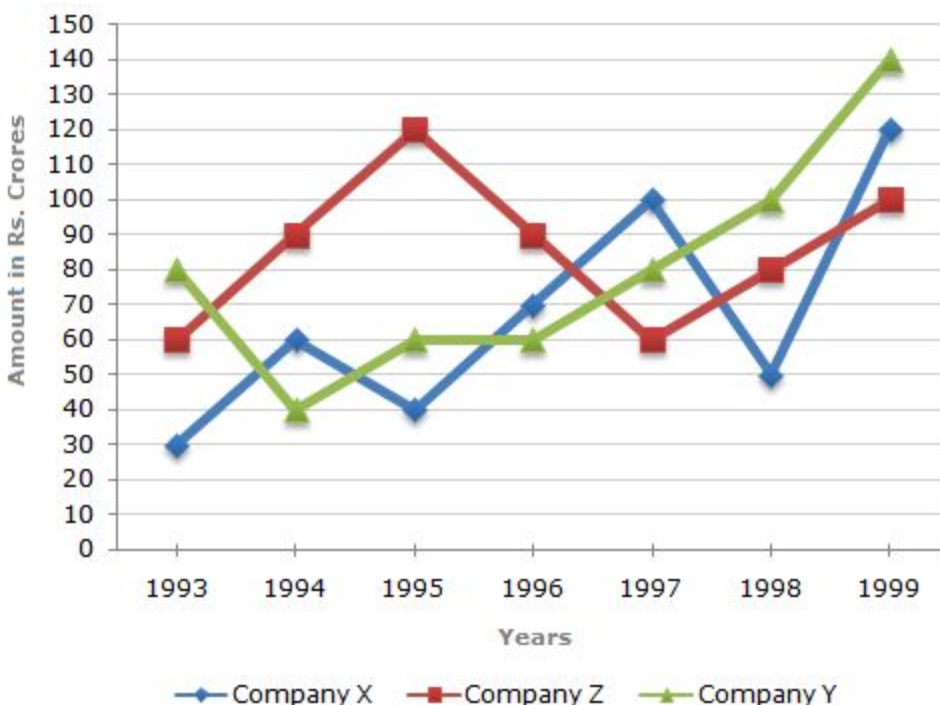
7) Learn to Approximate the values

You need not find the exact answer always. Many times, the options that are given are far enough from each other which gives you enough room for approximation. So, for example, if you are asked to divide $542678/181234$, you can easily approximate that the answer will be somewhere around 3 by looking at the first 2 numbers only. $54/18$ is 3. So, instead of dividing it and finding the accurate answer, try to find an approximate answer. This will give you the correct answer. However, if the options are close, you will still be able to eliminate 1 or 2 options easily.

8) Don't assume anything

There are few questions which ask to find out some data which is not available. Always be alert enough to see whether the data given is enough to answer the question or not and do not answer the question based on assumptions.

Demonstration



For which of the following pairs of years the total exports from the three Companies together are equal?

- A. 1995 and 1998
- B. 1996 and 1998
- C. 1997 and 1998
- D. 1995 and 1996

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

Total exports of the three Companies X, Y and Z together, during various years are:

In 1993 = Rs. (30 + 80 + 60) crores = Rs. 170 crores.

In 1994 = Rs. (60 + 40 + 90) crores = Rs. 190 crores.

In 1995 = Rs. (40 + 60 + 120) crores = Rs. 220 crores.

In 1996 = Rs. (70 + 60 + 90) crores = Rs. 220 crores.

In 1997 = Rs. (100 + 80 + 60) crores = Rs. 240 crores.

In 1998 = Rs. (50 + 100 + 80) crores = Rs. 230 crores.

In 1999 = Rs. (120 + 140 + 100) crores = Rs. 360 crores.

Clearly, the total exports of the three Companies X, Y and Z together are same during the years 1995 and 1996.

2. Average annual exports during the given period for Company Y is approximately what percent of the average annual exports for Company Z?

- A. 87.12%
- B. 89.64%
- C. 91.21%
- D. 93.33%

Explanation:

Analysis of the graph: From the graph it is clear that

1. The amount of exports of Company X (in crore Rs.) in the years 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998 and 1999 are 30, 60, 40, 70, 100, 50 and 120 respectively.
2. The amount of exports of Company Y (in crore Rs.) in the years 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998 and 1999 are 80, 40, 60, 60, 80, 100 and 140 respectively.

3. The amount of exports of Company Z (in crore Rs.) in the years 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998 and 1999 are 60, 90,, 120, 90, 60, 80 and 100 respectively.

Average annual exports (in Rs. crore) of Company Y during the given period

$$= \frac{1}{7} \times (80 + 40 + 60 + 60 + 80 + 100 + 140) = \frac{560}{7} = 80.$$

Average annual exports (in Rs. crore) of Company Z during the given period

$$= \frac{1}{7} \times (60 + 90 + 120 + 90 + 60 + 80 + 100) = \left(\frac{600}{7} \right).$$

$$\therefore \text{Required percentage} = \frac{80}{\left(\frac{600}{7} \right)} \times 100 \% \approx 93.33\%.$$

Study the following table and answer the questions based on it.

Expenditures of a Company (in Lakh Rupees) per Annum Over the given Years.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Item of Expenditure</u>				
	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Fuel and Transport</u>	<u>Bonus</u>	<u>Interest on Loans</u>	<u>Taxes</u>
<u>1998</u>	<u>288</u>	<u>98</u>	<u>3.00</u>	<u>23.4</u>	<u>83</u>
<u>1999</u>	<u>342</u>	<u>112</u>	<u>2.52</u>	<u>32.5</u>	<u>108</u>
<u>2000</u>	<u>324</u>	<u>101</u>	<u>3.84</u>	<u>41.6</u>	<u>74</u>
<u>2001</u>	<u>336</u>	<u>133</u>	<u>3.68</u>	<u>36.4</u>	<u>88</u>
<u>2002</u>	<u>420</u>	<u>142</u>	<u>3.96</u>	<u>49.4</u>	<u>98</u>

1. What is the average amount of interest per year which the company had to pay during this period? Answer - D

- A. Rs. 32.43 lakhs
- B. Rs. 33.72 lakhs
- C. Rs. 34.18 lakhs
- D. Rs. 36.66 lakhs

2. The total amount of bonus paid by the company during the given period is approximately what percent of the total amount of salary paid during this period? Answer - C

- A. 0.1%
- B. 0.5%
- C. 1%
- D. 1.25%

3. Total expenditure on all these items in 1998 was approximately what percent of the total expenditure in 2002? Answer - C

- A. 62%
- B. 66%
- C. 69%
- D. 71%

Refer to this website to learn about how data interpretation questions are to be solved:-

<https://www.mbatious.com/topic/339/basics-of-data-interpretation>

Videos for learning about data interpretation:-

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gVr2CgTes0g>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_WADL0-GAKg

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rlcnHqvjCMQ>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mUNgsrqF-_0

250 Data interpretation question and answers:-

<http://www.bankexamstoday.com/p/data-interpretation-questions-sets.html>

