



KPMG Verbal Aptitude Test 5

Solution Booklet

Instructions

This verbal reasoning test comprises 20 questions, and you will have 20 minutes in which to correctly answer as many as you can.

The test comprises of four sections:

1. Synonyms Section (5 Questions)
2. Antonyms Section (5 Questions)
3. Analogy Section (5 Questions)
4. Sentence Correction Section (5 Questions)

You will have to work quickly and accurately to perform well in this test. If you don't know the answer to a question, leave it and come back to it if you have time.

You may click Back and Next during the test to review or skip questions.

You can submit your test at any time. If the time limit is up before you click submit the test will automatically be submitted with the answers you have selected. It is recommended to keep working until the time limit is up.

Try to find a time and place where you will not be interrupted during the test.

When you are ready, begin the test.



From the words lettered A to E, choose the word that is most appropriate in meaning to the emboldened word

1. INGENUOUS

- A. Sophisticated
- B. Clever
- C. Cunning
- D. Naive
- E. Artificial

EXPLANATION

Ingenuous: free from reserve, restraint, or dissimulation; candid; sincere

A) Sophisticated: having or showing a lot of experience of the world and social situation; knowing about fashion, culture, new ideas, etc

B) Clever: mentally bright; having a sharp or quick intelligence; able

C) Cunning: clever at deceiving people

D) Naive: having or showing unaffected simplicity of nature or absence artificiality

E) Made or produced as a copy of something natural; not real

THE CORRECT ANSWER IS (D)

2. FEALTY

- A. Sense of touch
- B. Loyalty
- C. Anger
- D. Anxiety
- E. Personality

EXPLANATION

Fealty: fidelity or faithfulness to a Lord

A) Sense of touch: to perceive things by putting your hand or finger in contact with it or to feel it

B) Loyalty: the state or quality of being loyal; faithfulness to commitments or obligations



- C) Anger: a strong feeling of annoyance and hostility
- D) Anxiety: distress or uneasiness of mind caused by fear or danger or misfortune
- E) Personality: the characteristics and qualities of a person seen as a whole

THE CORRECT ANSWER IS (B)

3. CRYPTIC

- A. Obscure
- B. Written
- C. Copied
- D. Dead
- E. Puzzling

EXPLANATION

Cryptic: with a meaning that is hidden or not easily understood; mysterious

- A) Obscure: not easily or clearly seen or understood
- B) Written: an expression in writing rather than in speech
- C) Copied: a thing that is made to look like something else e.g. a picture, a document
- D) Dead: no longer alive
- E) Puzzling: something difficult to understand

THE CORRECT ANSWER IS (A)

4. HOMILY

- A. Cereal
- B. Household
- C. Sermon
- D. Pension
- E. Suburb

EXPLANATION

Homily: a talk, often a long and boring one, from somebody giving advice on the correct way to behave, etc



SOLUTIONS

- A) Cereal: any of various type of grass producing edible grains, e.g. wheat, rye, barley
- B) Household: all the people living together in a house
- C) Sermon: a talk on a moral or religious subject, usually given by a priest during a religious service
- D) Pension: a sum of money paid regularly by a government to people above a certain age and to widows or disables people or by former employers or financial institution to retired people
- E) Suburb: a district away from the center of a town or city, especially one where people live

THE CORRECT ANSWER IS (C)

5. ASPERITY

- A. Roughness
- B. Dream
- C. Ambition
- D. Smoothness
- E. Sarcastic remark

EXPLANATION

Asperity: the quality of being harsh and severe, especially in manner or tone

- A) Roughness: the quality or state of being rough
- B) Dream: a sequence of scenes and feeling occurring in the mind during sleep
- C) Ambition: a strong desire to achieve something
- D) Smoothness: the quality of having an even surface without point
- E) Sarcastic remark: expressing sarcasm observation of something

THE CORRECT ANSWER IS (A)



From the words lettered A to E, Choose the word that is opposite in meaning to the emboldened word

6. SPURIOUS

- A. bogus
- B. hackneyed
- C. affable
- D. authentic
- E. peremptory

EXPLANATION

Spurious: not genuine; false or fake

A) Bogus: not genuine; false

B) Hackneyed: a phrase or saying, used so often that it has lost its impact and become dull

C) Affable: pleasant and friendly; easy to talk to

D) Authentic: known to be true or genuine

E) of somebody manner or behavior, insisting on immediate attention or obedience

THE CORRECT ANSWER IS (D)

7. RATIOCINATION

- A. schism
- B. fallacy
- C. arithmetic
- D. paradigm
- E. redress

EXPLANATION

Ratiocination: the process of logical and methodical reasoning

A) Schism: strong disagreement with an organization, especially a religious one, causing its member to divide into separate groups hostile to each other

B) Fallacy :a false or mistaken belief/ illogical reasoning



SOLUTIONS

C) Arithmetic: the branch of mathematics that deals with the adding, multiplying, etc of numbers in sums

D) Paradigm: a type of something; a pattern; a model

E) Redress: to put right a wrong; to compensate for something

THE CORRECT ANSWER IS (B)

8. MAVERICK

A. regain

B. nomenclature

C. conformist

D. heroic

E. tattoo

EXPLANATION

Maverick: a person with independent or unusual views

A) Regain: to get something back again after losing it; to recover something

B) Nomenclature: a system of naming things, especially in a particular branch of science

C) Conformist: a person who conform to accept behavior, the established religion, etc

D) Heroic: having the characteristic of a hero; very brave

E) Tattoo: a picture or pattern on a person's skin made by making small holes in it and filling them with color dye

THE CORRECT ANSWER IS (C)

9. NASCENT

A. full develop

B. extremely valuable

C. well-regarded

D. informative

E. measurable

EXPLANATION

Nascent: beginning to exist; not fully developed



- A) Full develop: to grow completely
- B) Extremely valuable: something of a very high degree that worth a lot of money
- C) Well-Regarded: a good or satisfactory attention to somebody or something
- D) Informative: giving useful and interesting information
- E) Measurable: something that can be measured

THE CORRECT ANSWER IS (A)

10. IRASCIBLE

- A. even-tempered
- B. well-informed
- C. repetitious
- D. motionless
- E. synchronous

EXPLANATION

Irascible: of a person, easily made angry

- A) Even-tempered: showing a specific kind of temper unexpectedly or surprisingly in what one says or write
- B) Well-informed: having or showing knowledge or information about many subjects or about one particular subject
- C) Repetitious: containing too many repetition, and therefore boring
- D) Motionless: not moving; still or calm
- E) Synchronous: occurring or existing at the same time

THE CORRECT ANSWER IS (D)



In each questions, the capitalized word have certain relationship to each other. Select the letter or the part of word that are related in the same way as the two capitalized

11. LUMEN: BRIGHTNESS

- A. CANDLE: LIGHT
- B. DENSITY : DARKNESS
- C. NICKEL : METAL
- D. INCHES : LENGTH
- E. COLOR : HUE

Lumens measure brightness and inches measure length. Candles do not measure light (A) but emit it. Density does not measure darkness (B) but may create it. Nickel does not measure metal (C) but is a type of metal. Color does not measure hue (E); these are synonyms.

Answer: D

12. MACERATION: LIQUID

- A. SUBLIMATION: GAS
- B. EVAPORATION: HUMIDITY
- C. TRAIL: PATH
- D. EROSION: WEATHER
- E. DECISION: DISTRACTION

Liquid Cause's maceration as weather causes erosion: both break things down. Gas does not cause sublimation (A) but is subject to it, as humidity is subject to evaporation (B). Trail and path (C) are synonyms. Distraction interferes with a decision (E), rather than causing it.

Answer: D



13. CLUMSY: BOTCH

- A. WICKED: INSINUATE
- B. STRICT: PAMPER
- C. WILLFUL: HEED
- D. CLEVER: ERADICATE
- E. LAZY: SHIRK

One who is clumsy may botch a job; one who is lazy may shirk work. One who is wicked may or may not necessarily insinuate (A); a better adjective for insinuating something might be sly or subtle. One who is strict does not pamper (B), but the opposite. One who is willful does not heed (C) warnings/ directions. Clever, i.e. ingenious or smart, is unrelated to eradicate (D), to eliminate.

Answer: E

14. FUGITIVE: FLEE

- A. PARASITE: FOSTER
- B. BRAGGART: BOAST
- C. SAGE: STIFLE
- D. BYSTANDER: PROCURE
- E. FIREBRAND: QUIBBLE

A fugitive flees; a braggart boasts/brags. A parasite does not foster (A) or promote anything, but lives off another. A sage is one who is wise, not one who stifles (C), i.e. suppresses, anything. A bystander does not procure (D) or obtain anything, but stands by and may observe an event. A firebrand incites others to action but does not quibble (E), i.e. dispute, anything.

Answer: B



SOLUTIONS

15. CHRONOLOGICAL : TIME

- A. VIRTUAL : TRUTH
- B. ABNORMAL : VALUE
- C. MARGINAL : KNOWLEDGE
- D. ORDINAL : PLACE
- E. COINCIDENTAL : HEALTH

Chronological means in order of time, as ordinal means in order in place. Virtual means essential, implicit, practical, or almost; not in order of truth (A). Abnormal means not normal and not in order of value (B). Marginal means minimal or peripheral, not in order of knowledge (C). Coincidental means by chance/occurring together, not in order of health (E).

Answer: D



Some or all parts of the sentence is underlined, the first option simply repeat the underlined part. The other four option alternate to rephrase the underlined part. Choose the answer that produce clear and exact sentence

16. City officials have called on parents and guardians of students with asthma to provide schools with plans for emergency care should their children be stricken during school hours.

- A. Care should their children be stricken during school hours
- B. Care in the event that their child might be stricken during school hours
- C. Care because their children should be stricken during school hours
- D. Care although their children might be stricken during school hours
- E. Care could their children be struck during school hours

The Sentence is correct.

Answer: A

17. By the time we arrive in Italy, we have traveled through four countries.

- A. We have traveled through four countries
- B. We had traveled through four countries
- C. We will have traveled through four countries
- D. Four countries will have been traveled through
- E. We through four countries shall have traveled

Error in sequence to tense. This sentence illustrates the use of the future perfect tense. The present perfect tense, as used in Choice A, and the past perfect tense, as used in Choice B, are incorrect. Choice C correctly indicates that an anticipated event will be completed before a definite time in the future. Choice D is weak because of the used of passive voice and the consequent vagueness as who is performing the action. Choice E is awkward because of the needless separation of subject (we) from verb (shall have traveled).

Answer: C



18. When one debates the merits of the proposed reduction in our tax base, you should take into consideration the effect it will have on the school and the other public services.

- A. You should take into consideration the effect
- B. You should consider the effect
- C. One should take the affect
- D. One should take into consideration the affect
- E. One should take into consideration the effect

Shift of personal pronoun. In Choices A and B there is an unwarranted shift from the third person pronoun one to the second person pronoun you. Choice C and D improperly use affect instead of effect.

Answer: E

19. Originally referring to an excess of patriotic fervor, the term “chauvinism” has come to signify devotion to the theory masculine superiority.

- A. Originally referring to an excess of patriotic fervor,
- B. In its original reference to an excess of patriotic fervor,
- C. Originally it referred to an excess of patriotic fervor,
- D. Originally it was referring to an excessive patriotic fervor,
- E. An excessive of patriotic fervor being originally referred to

Choice C and D create run-on sentences. Choice B changes the meaning of the sentence. Choice E makes an unwarranted shift to the passive voice, resulting in a vague and awkward sentence.

Answer: A



20. Exercise offers both physical and emotional benefits: a sense of control over one's body, a feeling of accomplishment and it is a release of pent-up frustrations.

- A. And it is a release of pent-up frustrations
- B. And it release pent-up frustrations
- C. By releasing pent-up frustrations
- D. And a release of pent-up frustrations
- E. And a release from pent-up frustrations

Error in parallelism. Choice A and B violate parallel structure. Choice C and E change the meaning of the original sentence

Answer: D