

ASHANK DESAI CENTRE FOR POLICY STUDIES, IIT BOMBAY

MPP Entrance Test Paper 2023

Part – 1: Analytical Skills and Logic

Q1. Hari got 273 marks in his graduation exam and got 5% more than the pass percentage. If Sufi got 312 marks then by what percentage above the pass marks, did she pass the exam?

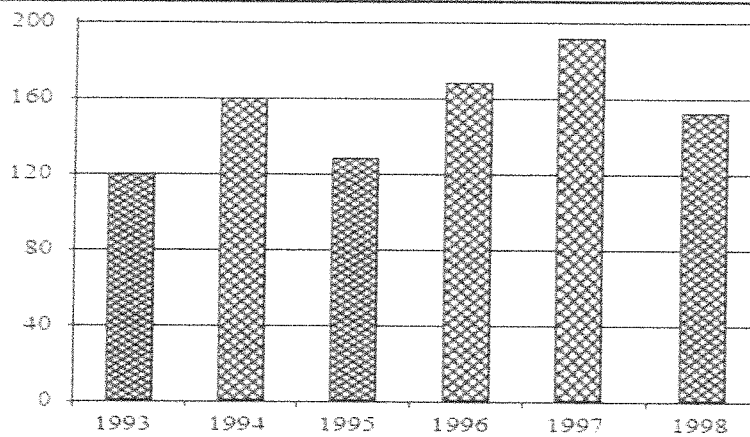
- A. 20%
- B. 25%
- C. 30%
- D. 35%

Q2. The average amount of sales per day in Café 92 for 5 days starting from Monday is Rs 1,800. The average amount of sales per day for 5 days from Tuesday is Rs 1,890. By how much does the sale on Saturday exceed that on Monday?

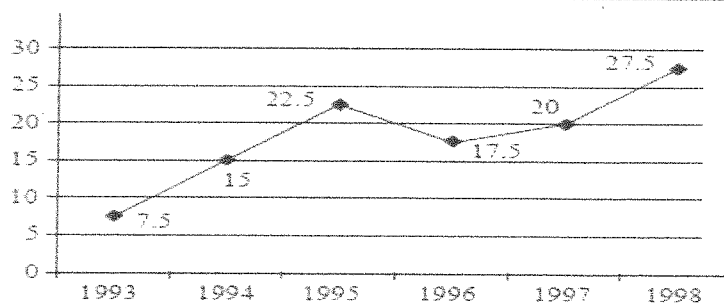
- A. Rs.90
- B. Rs.450
- C. Rs. 300
- D. Not enough data

Q. Refer to the figure below and answer the related questions 3 to 5.

INCOME OF A COMPANY (IN ₹ LAKHS)



PERCENTAGE PROFIT OVER THE YEARS



Q3. Approximately what was the average expenditure of the given years?

- A. 110 Lakh
- B. 130 Lakh
- C. 120 Lakh
- D. 140 Lakh
- E. Data inadequate

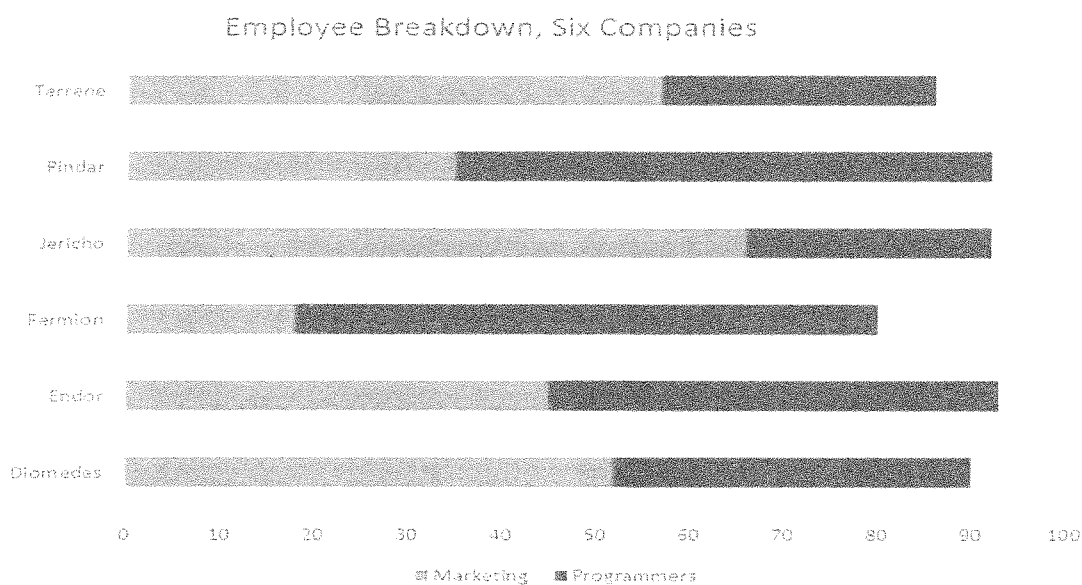
Q4. In which of the following years was the increase/ decrease in percent profit from the previous year the minimum?

- A. 1994
- B. 1996
- C. 1997
- D. 1995
- E. None of these

Q5. Approximately what was the expenditure in 1994?

- A. 120 Lakh
- B. 160 Lakh
- C. 140 Lakh
- D. 180 Lakh
- E. Data inadequate

Q. Please refer to the note and figure below and answer questions 6 to 8 below. The following chart shows the employee breakdown, number of marketer vs. number of programmers, at six similarly sized companies in a particular internet market. All six have similar sized management teams that are not displayed: all the non-management employees are displayed.



Q6. At Pindar, there are approximately how many more programmers than marketers?

- A. 6
- B. 22
- C. 35
- D. 57

Q7. At Jericho, approximately what percent of the non-management employees are marketers?

- A. 28%
- B. 42%
- C. 51%
- D. 72%

Q8. If were to take the average number of marketers at five of the companies, excluding Fermion, then this average would be approximately how many employees larger than if Fermion were included in the average?

- A. 6
- B. 13
- C. 20
- D. 26

Q9. For admission in a graduation program of Mumbai University, 90% of the candidates who appeared for the written test were males and the rest were females, 60% of the males and 80% of the females passed in the written test. What is the total number of students who appeared for the written test, if the total number of passed candidates was 1240?

- A. 1700
- B. 1850
- C. 1800
- D. 2000

For Questions 10, 11 & 12 – read the paragraph and respond to the question:

Q10. There are no effective boundaries when it comes to pollutants. Studies have shown that toxic insecticides that have been banned in many countries are riding the wind from countries where they remain legal. Compounds such as DDT and Toxaphene have been found in remote places like the Yukon and other Arctic regions.

This paragraph best supports the statement that:

- A. toxic insecticides such as DDT have not been banned throughout the world.
- B. more pollutants find their way into polar climates than they do into warmer areas
- C. studies have proven that many countries have ignored their own antipollution laws.
- D. DDT and toxaphene are the two most toxic insecticides in the world.
- E. even a worldwide ban on toxic insecticides would not stop the spread of DDT pollution.

Q11. Mathematics allows us to expand our consciousness. Mathematics tells us about economic trends, patterns of disease, and the growth of populations. Math is good at exposing the truth, but it can also perpetuate misunderstandings and untruths. Figures have the power to mislead people.

This paragraph best supports the statement that:

- A. the study of mathematics is dangerous.
- B. words are more truthful than figures.
- C. the study of mathematics is more important than other disciplines.
- D. the power of numbers is that they cannot lie.
- E. figures are sometimes used to deceive people.

Q12. It is well known that the world urgently needs adequate distribution of food, so that everyone gets enough. Adequate distribution of medicine is just as urgent. Medical expertise and medical supplies need to be redistributed throughout the world so that people in emerging nations will have proper medical care.

This paragraph best supports the statement that:

- A. the majority of the people in the world have never been seen by a doctor.
- B. food production in emerging nations has slowed during the past several years.
- C. most of the world's doctors are selfish about giving time and money to the poor.
- D. the medical-supply industry should step up production of its products.
- E. many people who live in emerging nations are not receiving proper medical care

MPP Essay Question:

*After reading Patrick Heller's *Making Slums Livable*, write an essay (no more than 1000 words – provide a word count) describing the role of city administration in improving and upgrading slums.*

[The response must be written in the answer script provided].

Making Slums Livable

Patrick Heller
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A more practical approach for policy makers is to focus on so-called *in-situ* upgrading of slums, that is, instead of removing slums, making them more livable by improving the housing quality, basic infrastructure, and delivery of basic services like water and sanitation.

There is growing concern with the problem of slums in the cities of the global south. Slums not only mark zones of exclusion but also compound the problems of inequality by concentrating the effects of deprivation. A vast amount of research has conclusively shown that when housing and services are of poor quality, levels of health, education and economic opportunity all decline. For decades, official policy has been to remove or prevent slums, but slums have continued to grow and in many cities of the global south are home to a majority of the city's population. An emerging consensus is that a more practical approach for policy makers is to focus on so-called *in-situ* upgrading of slums, that is, instead of removing slums, making them more livable by improving the housing quality, basic infrastructure, and delivery of basic services like water and sanitation.

Based on the record of slum rehabilitation in South Africa, Brazil and India, four big lessons can be drawn.¹ First, in our research we have found that the most immediate challenge slum dwellers face is not so much the lack of infrastructure or services but rather that they have to continuously battle to get access to anything. In New Delhi for example, services are not so much provided or withheld, as much as constantly and unpredictably negotiated for. This not only makes the urban poor highly dependent on powerful actors (political patrons, brokers) who can mediate with local service agencies but also comes with perverse opportunity costs. For example, in most of the slums of Delhi, women (and most often girls who are being kept out of school) must wait long hours for tanker trucks to come deliver water at random hours. An obvious solution here is building a piped water system, but if political or fiscal conditions don't permit this, some simple organizational solutions can make a huge difference. In this instance, a basic coordination of delivery schedules would make a huge difference to people's lives.

Second, if coordination is the key to improving service delivery in slums, then having officials permanently present in the slum can make a big difference. Delivery of various services is almost universally driven by vertically organized "line" departments. These departments are usually highly centralized with offices far from the communities they serve and limited information about conditions on the ground, including the "capture" of the services they deliver. In Delhi, slum residents can go months without seeing a government official, and tanker trucks and other services are often under the control of local brokers more interested in collecting rents than delivering public goods. In contrast, in Durban South Africa one of the most studied cases of successful slum redevelopment was based on a model known as "area-based management" which

¹For Brazil and South Africa see Patrick Heller, "Democracy, Participatory Politics and Development: Some Comparative Lessons from Brazil, India and South Africa," *Polity*, 44, 643-665. For India see "Cities of Delhi" at <http://citiesofdelhi.cprindia.org/>

called for having a local office co-ordinate line-department services in the community. Not only was the local office much better at making sure that, for example, when a local school (the education department) was built it actually had a water connection (the water department), it also made it much easier for officials to work with the community in solving co-ordination problems.

Third, intervening in densely packed slums requires working closely with communities. Of course, community participation has now become the basic mantra of the development community and is baked into government policy documents. But more often than not (Brazil being an important exception), officials treat participation as an inconvenience and reduce it to little more than a once-off meeting with the community. Time and again we have heard officials refer to participation as "noise" or as something that is "beyond our bandwidth." But if communities don't have a part in designing projects, especially in-situ upgrades, they rarely succeed. In Delhi, community toilets installed by various government agencies invariably fall into disrepair because communities or local state actors are never authorized or resourced to maintain the facilities. Service delivery projects in South African townships have been wracked by often violent conflict largely because communities resent the heavy handed manner in which politicians and officials have imposed projects from above. When projects are not painstakingly negotiated with communities, the implementation almost always triggers resistance. To ensure that policy commitments to involving the community actually work it is critical to get the right personnel. In Delhi, in situ upgrades are managed by engineers. But engineers, by their own admission, do not have the basic skills to work with communities. Here, the key to success is front-line workers who have the right skill set (such as a background in the social sciences or social work) and are actually committed to working closely with communities. This in turn requires having sufficient on-the-ground authority to co-produce solutions with communities.

And this leads to a final lesson: there are no blueprints. The city of Delhi has launched repeated drives to upgrade slums, has conducted countless surveys of eligible households, budgeted enormous sums and produced reams of reports and evaluations, but virtually all slum upgrade projects have failed because they never invest in the processes that are required to get the job done. Yes, it's important to have basic goals—in this case a certain technically feasible level of upgrading in a crowded slum—but how that goal is achieved will have to be precisely tailored to local conditions. The solution, in other words will have to be to a large degree bootstrapped, worked out through iterated cycles of learning and feedback. And if slum upgradation is by definition complex and requires working closely and continuously with communities, then the measure of success in the short and medium term should be processes, not "hard" outputs.

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*Opinions expressed are those of the author(s); not
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