

NMAT PYQ Practice Test: 30 Previous Year Questions

Online test file | 3 sections, 33 minutes in all, at NMAT pace

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Test set-up for the online engine

Section	Questions	Time	Time per question
Language Skills	10	8 minutes	About 48 seconds
Quantitative Skills	10	14 minutes	About 84 seconds
Logical Reasoning	10	11 minutes	About 66 seconds
Total	30	33 minutes	

Five options (A–E) per question, one correct answer, no negative marking. Each section is timed separately, and questions are numbered 1–10 within each section. Logical Reasoning Questions 7–10 share one set of directions, which must be shown with each of those questions. LR Question 4 needs the figure shown with it, and LR Question 5 needs the table. Show the explanations after the test is submitted. These are the same 30 questions as the three section PDFs.

Box name at the end of the page: "NMAT PYQ Practice Test: 30 Previous Year Questions", under "Previous Year Paper".

Section 1: Language Skills (10 questions, 8 minutes)

Directions for Questions 1–3: Choose the part of the sentence that contains an error. If the sentence has no error, choose (E).

1. One of the ancient traditions in India commit the guru as well as his disciples to celibacy.
(A) One of the (B) commit the guru (C) as well as (D) to celibacy (E) No error
2. We've already paid for our journey; so we need only take some pocket money with us.
(A) paid for (B) we need (C) only take (D) with us (E) No error
3. He has become too old now, so it is necessary that someone looked after him.
(A) has become (B) too old (C) it is (D) looked after (E) No error

Directions for Questions 4–6: The four sentences below are jumbled. Choose the option that arranges them in the most logical order.

4. (a) Mass outreach to people in the North-East (very often the worried parents) and in Bangalore using SMS and social media, debunking the very specific allegations and rumours that were floating around, would have been welcome.

(b) Even a Canadian interning in our organisation received a reassuring SMS from the Canadian government.

(c) The best antidote to the rumours that spread far and wide and caused a mass movement of people would have been clear debunking of those rumours.

(d) However, almost no government officials actually used social media platforms to reach out to people to debunk false information and reassure them.

(A) abcd (B) cbda (C) cabd (D) acbd (E) abdc

5. (a) Getting involved in a hobby is a better way to beat stress as it provides relaxation, sharpens the mind, increases creativity, and also helps in making friends and acquiring valuable skills.

(b) Regrettably, we now regularly spend our free time watching TV or surfing the internet.

(c) Ironically, modern life has become more stressful when there is more of this free time, and yet the best we do is lie down on the couch.

(d) Just a few years back, free time or leisure time was used as an outlet for doing something different, pursuing one's passion by taking up hobbies.

(A) acdb (B) dbca (C) bcda (D) cdba (E) badc

6. (a) In other words, our desire to stand out leads us to do silly things and we, not satisfied with being unique, try to be very unique.

(b) We sometimes go to ridiculous extents to appear unique.

(c) This, of course, is a defect in character which, in adults, stems out of some sort of insecurity that desperately needs to be compensated for.

(d) It leads to such contexts that could perhaps permit the use of expressions like 'very unique'.

(A) badc (B) bdac (C) bdca (D) abcd (E) bcda

Directions for Questions 7–10: Choose the set of prepositions whose meaning and sequence best fit the three given sentences.

7. 1. A problem exists when we become aware of the difference _____ the reality and our desires.

2. Individuals differ _____ one another in their ability to understand complex ideas.

3. IQ tests were mainly designed _____ identifying mentally challenged children.

(a) for (b) from (c) besides (d) through (e) towards (f) between

(A) ceb (B) afd (C) fba (D) dac (E) fac

8. 1. Good management comprises an array _____ practices and experience.

2. You must focus _____ your objectives.

3. This is a serious matter and should not be pushed _____ the carpet.

(a) at (b) of (c) in (d) on (e) under (f) although

(A) adb (B) abd (C) bde (D) cde (E) acb

9. 1. It was a tough victory to pull _____ but they did it with aplomb.

2. It was disheartening to watch as they proceeded to quarrel and fall _____ with one another.

3. It is doubtful that after such a setback they will ever manage to put _____ their differences and play together on the stage again.

(a) out (b) about (c) up (d) off (e) aside (f) since

(A) cae (B) caf (C) db e (D) dae (E) baf

10. 1. He is in a hurry as he is leaving _____ Japan on the evening flight.

2. The road to perdition is paved _____ good intentions.

3. I have been working on this novel _____ many years now.

(a) through (b) for (c) to (d) with (e) by (f) since

(A) bbc (B) bdb (C) bad (D) bbe (E) bbf

Section 2: Quantitative Skills (10 questions, 14 minutes)

1. Giri divided his property between his children Suma and Dev. Suma invested her share at 10% per annum simple interest and Dev invested his share compounded at 8% per annum. At the end of 2 years, the interest received by Suma is Rs. 13,360 more than the interest received by Dev. What was Suma's share if the total amount divided was Rs. 2,50,000?

- (A) Rs. 50,000 (B) Rs. 63,360 (C) Rs. 1,13,360 (D) Rs. 1,50,000 (E) Rs. 1,63,360

2. Satish works on 15% commission on the total cost of the book sets he sells. He sold 10 book sets at Rs. 850 each, 5 at Rs. 750 each, and 10 at Rs. 700 each. How much more commission would he have made had he sold all the book sets at Rs. 850 each?

- (A) Rs. 100 (B) Rs. 150 (C) Rs. 300 (D) Rs. 350 (E) Rs. 400

3. The ratio of the cost price to the selling price of an item is 4 : 5. The item is sold at a profit of Rs. 500. What is the selling price of the item?

- (A) Rs. 1,000 (B) Rs. 1,500 (C) Rs. 2,000 (D) Rs. 2,500 (E) Rs. 4,500

4. The average age of three people living in a house – man, woman and child, is 24 years. If the man leaves and his mother stays in his place, then the average age in the house becomes 34 years. How much older is the mother than her son?

- (A) 20 (B) 25 (C) 30 (D) 32 (E) 36

5. A tank can be filled by a pipe in 10 minutes and can be emptied by another pipe in 8 minutes. If both pipes are opened when the tank is full, then how long will it take for the tank to be empty?

- (A) 1 hour (B) 1.5 hours (C) 30 minutes (D) 40 minutes (E) 45 minutes

6. At a nature trail camp, one-fifth of the total members went rock climbing; twice the square root of the total members went hiking up a mountain trail. The remaining 10 were exploring in caves. How many members went hiking?

- (A) 5 (B) 10 (C) 15 (D) 20 (E) 25

7. The number of female employees in a bank is 7 times the number of male employees in the bank. Which of the following cannot be the total number of employees in the bank?

- (A) 40 (B) 48 (C) 54 (D) 64 (E) 128

8. There are 12 holes made in the ground. At least 3 are to be filled with a red ball and the other holes can be filled with any colour ball. In how many different ways can all the holes be filled from a box of 5 red balls and 10 mixed colour balls?

- (A) 345 (B) 425 (C) 445 (D) 465 (E) 485

Directions for Questions 9–10: A question is followed by two statements, numbered (1) and (2). Using the information provided and general knowledge, decide whether the information given is sufficient to solve the problem.

9. What is the selling price of the mixture if the ratio of the two qualities of tea mixed is 3:4?

(1) Cost price of the first quality of tea is Rs. 180 per kg.

(2) Cost price of the second quality of tea is Rs. 225 per kg.

(A) Statement (1) ALONE is sufficient, but statement (2) ALONE is not sufficient.

(B) Statement (2) ALONE is sufficient, but statement (1) ALONE is not sufficient.

(C) BOTH statements TOGETHER are sufficient, but NEITHER statement ALONE is sufficient.

(D) EACH statement ALONE is sufficient.

(E) Statements (1) and (2) TOGETHER are NOT sufficient.

10. What is the probability of drawing a Rs. 5 coin from a bag containing 23 coins?

- (1) Rs. 2 coins are 12 in number.
- (2) Rs. 5 coins are 8 in number.
- (A)** Statement (1) ALONE is sufficient, but statement (2) ALONE is not sufficient.
- (B)** Statement (2) ALONE is sufficient, but statement (1) ALONE is not sufficient.
- (C)** BOTH statements TOGETHER are sufficient, but NEITHER statement ALONE is sufficient.
- (D)** EACH statement ALONE is sufficient.
- (E)** Statements (1) and (2) TOGETHER are NOT sufficient.

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Section 3: Logical Reasoning (10 questions, 11 minutes)

1. The Black Spider Monkey of Brazil has become endangered because of human activities such as deforestation and logging, which causes destruction of the monkey's natural habitat.

Which of the following, if true, would weaken the above argument?

- (A) Costa Rican government is constantly trying to preserve the natural habitat of the squirrel monkeys in order to save them from extinction.
- (B) A certain allele (alternate gene) discovered in a black spider monkey pointed to micro-evolutionary extinction setting in.
- (C) Habitat loss in the Congo basin has seen no remarkable change in the count of Dryas monkeys in this region.
- (D) Habitat loss in the Congo basin has seen a decrease in the count of Dryas monkeys in this region.
- (E) WWF-funded protected areas have seen a slight revival in the number of the black spider monkey.

2. There should be special tax rebates for small scale enterprises as these enterprises create numerous jobs for thousands of people. It is also suggested that company laws should be flexible up to a certain limit for the small scale industries.

Which of the following, if true, most severely weakens the argument?

- (A) Company laws can be easily changed for the sectors that create jobs.
- (B) Tax rebates and flexibility of laws will encourage people to engage in only small scale enterprises.
- (C) All the small scale enterprises together generate huge revenues and so tax rebates should be there for them.
- (D) Most small scale industries, over time, become big enterprises even without any form of rebates or government support.
- (E) Some small scale industries are usually subsidiaries of giant ventures so tax rebate and flexible laws are not a viable option.

Directions for Question 3: The statement below is followed by three arguments numbered I, II and III. Decide which of the arguments are strong.

3. Statement: Smoking is injurious to health.

- I. Many smokers are known to have died of heart and lung diseases.
- II. More smokers die of cancer than non-smokers.
- III. Smoking causes lung cancer.

- (A) Only Argument I is strong.
- (B) Only Argument II is strong.
- (C) Only Argument III is strong.
- (D) Only Arguments II and III are strong.
- (E) All of the arguments are strong.

4. Each circled number is the sum of the adjacent row, column or diagonal of the numbers in the square display.

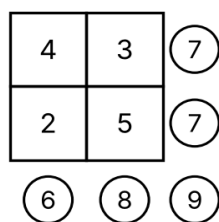


Figure 1

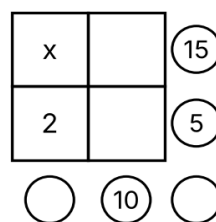


Figure 2

What is the value of x in the above diagram?

- (A) 7 (B) 8 (C) 9 (D) 10 (E) 11

5. In the figure below, what is the value of 'X + Y'?

12	8	23	3	4
9	6	7	18	10
7	11	22	3	X
14	15	8	12	1
12	13	9	Y	7
8	7	12	14	9

- (A) 12 (B) 14 (C) 16 (D) 18 (E) 28

6. Many small-scale sector units in India become unviable and close down resulting in huge loss to both the entrepreneur and the government.

What decision should the government take in this situation?

- (A) The banks should be asked to provide cheaper loans to the small-scale sector units.
 (B) The government should appoint a technical committee to find out the reasons for the units' closure.
 (C) The entrepreneurs should be encouraged to restart their ventures as one should not give up after a failure.
 (D) The government should give contracts only to multinationals to develop the small-scale sector units in India.
 (E) The government should discourage the small-scale sector units in India as it eventually results in losses and failed entrepreneurship.

Directions for Questions 7–10: There are seven trees named A, B, C, D, E, F and G in a garden. It is known that these trees have their heights in an increasing order, which may not be the same as the order of their names. It is also known that their heights in feet are seven consecutive integral values, between 1 and 10 (both inclusive). Tree A is 3 feet taller than tree D. Tree B stands in the middle of the row of seven. The difference in the heights of tree F and tree B, tree F being shorter, is same as the difference between the heights of tree C and tree D, tree C being taller. Tree F is shorter than tree G.

7. The difference in the heights of tree E and tree B is the same as the difference between the heights of tree D and which tree?

- (A) A (B) B (C) C (D) E (E) None of these

8. The difference in the heights of tree G and tree D, in inches, is: (Note: 12 inches = 1 foot)

- (A) 12 (B) 24 (C) 48 (D) Cannot be determined (E) None of these

9. The sum of heights of tree F and tree G, in feet, is:

- (A) 4 (B) 6 (C) 48 (D) Cannot be determined (E) None of these

10. The maximum possible height of tree A is greater than the least possible height of tree F by how many feet?

- (A) 5 (B) 6 (C) 7 (D) 8 (E) None of these

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Answer Key and Explanations

Language Skills

Q	Answer	Q	Answer
1	B	6	B
2	E	7	C
3	D	8	C
4	C	9	D
5	B	10	B

1. Answer: (B) The subject is "One" (of the ancient traditions), which is singular, so the verb must be "commits", not "commit".

Guide reference: Error Identification, Q20

2. Answer: (E) Every part of the sentence is correct. "Need only take" is an accepted construction, in which "need" works like a modal verb, so there is no error.

Guide reference: Error Identification, Q23

3. Answer: (D) The sentence is in the present tense, so the past tense "looked after" does not fit. It should be "look after" (or "should look after").

Guide reference: Error Identification, Q26

4. Answer: (C) (c) makes the general point that clear debunking was the best antidote, and (a) gives the specific form it could have taken. (b) is an example of such outreach (a foreign government reassuring its citizen), and (d) contrasts it with "However, almost no government officials...". The order is cabd.

Guide reference: Para Forming, Q25

5. Answer: (B) (d) and (b) contrast what we did a few years back with what we do now. (c) refers to "this free time" mentioned in (b), and (a) closes with the suggestion to take up a hobby. The order is dbca.

Guide reference: Para Forming, Q27

6. Answer: (B) (b) opens the idea, and "It" in (d) refers to going to ridiculous extents in (b). (a) restates this "in other words", and (c) concludes with "This, of course, is a defect in character". The order is bdac.

Guide reference: Para Forming, Q28

7. Answer: (C) The fixed phrases are "difference between" (f), "differ from" (b) and "designed for" (a), which gives fba.

Guide reference: Prepositions, Q19

8. Answer: (C) "An array of" (b), "focus on" (d) and "pushed under the carpet" (e), meaning hidden or ignored, give bde.

Guide reference: Prepositions, Q20

9. Answer: (D) The phrasal verbs are "pull off" (d), meaning to achieve, "fall out" (a), meaning to quarrel, and "put aside" (e), meaning to set aside differences. The sequence is dae.

Guide reference: Prepositions, Q24

10. Answer: (B) "Leaving for" (b) a destination, "paved with" (d) and "for many years" (b), used with a period of time, give bdb.

Guide reference: Prepositions, Q25

Quantitative Skills

Q	Answer	Q	Answer
1	D	6	B
2	C	7	C
3	D	8	C
4	C	9	E
5	D	10	B

1. Answer: (D) Let Suma's share be S , so Dev's share is $2,50,000 - S$. Suma's interest = $0.2S$. Dev's interest = $(1.08^2 - 1)(2,50,000 - S) = 0.1664(2,50,000 - S)$. So $0.2S - 0.1664(2,50,000 - S) = 13,360$, which gives $0.3664S = 54,960$ and $S = \text{Rs. } 1,50,000$.

Guide reference: Arithmetic, Q20

2. Answer: (C) Selling at Rs. 850 would add Rs. 100 on each of 5 sets and Rs. 150 on each of 10 sets, a total of Rs. 2,000 in extra sales. The extra commission is 15% of Rs. 2,000 = Rs. 300.

Guide reference: Arithmetic, Q31

3. Answer: (D) Let the cost price be $4x$ and the selling price $5x$. The profit is $5x - 4x = x = \text{Rs. } 500$, so the selling price is $5 \times 500 = \text{Rs. } 2,500$.

Guide reference: Arithmetic, Q32

4. Answer: (C) The total age rises from $3 \times 24 = 72$ to $3 \times 34 = 102$ years when the mother replaces her son. So the mother is $102 - 72 = 30$ years older than her son.

Guide reference: Arithmetic, Q50

5. Answer: (D) In one minute the tank loses $1/8$ and gains $1/10$, a net loss of $1/8 - 1/10 = 1/40$ of the tank. A full tank therefore empties in 40 minutes.

Guide reference: Arithmetic, Q66

6. Answer: (B) Let the total be x^2 . Then $x^2/5 + 2x + 10 = x^2$, which simplifies to $2x^2 - 5x - 25 = 0$, so $x = 5$ (x cannot be negative). The total is 25 members, and $2 \times 5 = 10$ went hiking. (Check: 5 rock climbing + 10 hiking + 10 in caves = 25.)

Guide reference: Number Properties, Q23

7. Answer: (C) If there are m male employees, there are $7m$ female employees, so the total is $8m$, a multiple of 8. Of the options, only 54 is not a multiple of 8.

Guide reference: Number Properties, Q29

8. Answer: (C) Count the selections with 3, 4 or 5 red balls: $5C3 \times 10C9 = 100$, $5C4 \times 10C8 = 225$ and $5C5 \times 10C7 = 120$. The total is $100 + 225 + 120 = 445$.

Guide reference: Algebra and Probability, Q55

9. Answer: (E) Together the statements give the cost price of the mixture, but nothing about the profit or mark-up. The selling price cannot be found even with both statements, so the answer is (E).

Guide reference: Data Sufficiency, Q14

10. Answer: (B) Statement (1) says nothing about Rs. 5 coins, so it is not sufficient. Statement (2) gives 8 Rs. 5 coins out of 23, so the probability is $8/23$. Statement (2) alone is sufficient: (B).

Guide reference: Data Sufficiency, Q29

Logical Reasoning

Q	Answer	Q	Answer
1	B	6	B
2	D	7	A
3	E	8	C
4	B	9	D
5	C	10	C

1. Answer: (B) The argument blames human activity for the monkey's decline. Option (B) offers another cause, a genetic one, which weakens that link. Options (A), (C) and (D) are about other monkeys, and (E) does not challenge the cause.

Guide reference: Critical Reasoning, Q22

2. Answer: (D) If most small scale industries grow into big enterprises without any support, special rebates are not needed, which most severely weakens the argument. Option (E) weakens it only for "some" industries, (C) strengthens it, and (A) and (B) do not address the need for rebates.

Guide reference: Critical Reasoning, Q45

3. Answer: (E) Each argument links smoking directly to serious disease or death: deaths from heart and lung diseases (I), higher cancer deaths among smokers (II) and lung cancer (III). All three support the statement, so all are strong.

Guide reference: Deductions, Q45

4. Answer: (B) In Figure 2, let the top-right cell be y and the bottom-right cell be z . The second row gives $2 + z = 5$, so $z = 3$. The second column gives $y + z = 10$, so $y = 7$. The first row gives $x + y = 15$, so $x = 8$.

Guide reference: Other Reasoning, Q4

5. Answer: (C) Every row adds up to 50 (for example, $12 + 8 + 23 + 3 + 4 = 50$). So $7 + 11 + 22 + 3 + X = 50$ gives $X = 7$, and $12 + 13 + 9 + Y + 7 = 50$ gives $Y = 9$. $X + Y = 16$.

Guide reference: Other Reasoning, Q6

6. Answer: (B) The sensible first step is to find out why the units fail before acting, which is what (B) proposes. (A) acts without knowing the cause, (C) is idealistic, (D) creates new problems, and (E) is defeatist.

Guide reference: Other Reasoning, Q24

7. Answer: (A) Working through the conditions gives one order from shortest to tallest: E, F, D, B, C, A, G. (A must be 3 places above D, B is 4th, and $C - D = B - F$ leaves only $D = 3$ rd, $A = 6$ th, $F = 2$ nd, $C = 5$ th; F shorter than G puts G at 7th and E at 1st.) E and B are 3 feet apart, and A is 3 feet taller than D.

Guide reference: Analytical Puzzles, Q36

8. Answer: (C) From the order E, F, D, B, C, A, G, tree G is 4 places above D, so it is 4 feet, or $4 \times 12 = 48$ inches, taller.

Guide reference: Analytical Puzzles, Q37

9. Answer: (D) The order fixes only the differences between the trees, not their actual heights (the shortest tree can be anywhere from 1 to 4 feet). So the sum cannot be determined.

Guide reference: Analytical Puzzles, Q38

10. Answer: (C) The tallest tree, G, can be at most 10 feet, so A (one below G) can be at most 9 feet. The shortest tree, E, can be as low as 1 foot, so F can be as low as 2 feet. The difference is $9 - 2 = 7$ feet.

Guide reference: Analytical Puzzles, Q39