

NDA GENERAL ABILITY TEST - SHORT PRACTICE PAPER

50 questions | Maximum Marks: 200 | Suggested Time: 50 minutes

Name: _____ Batch: _____ Date: _____

Choose ONE correct option. All questions are compulsory. No calculators. Use a separate answer sheet.

Correct: +4 marks; wrong: -4/3 marks; unattempted: 0. English-medium NDA-style practice; not an official UPSC paper.

PART A - ENGLISH (17 QUESTIONS)

- Choose the synonym of VALIANT.
(A) Silent (B) Timid (C) Careless (D) Brave
- Choose the antonym of SCARCE.
(A) Abundant (B) Limited (C) Insufficient (D) Rare
- Choose the correct spelling.
(A) Accommodation (B) Accommodation (C) Accomodation (D) Accommodation
- Fill in: He is ___ honest officer.
(A) no article (B) the (C) an (D) a
- Fill in: She has lived here ___ 2020.
(A) for (B) by (C) from (D) since
- Choose the correct sentence.
(A) Neither of the two answers are correct. (B) Neither of the two answer is correct. (C) Neither of the two answers were correct. (D) Neither of the two answers is correct.
- Choose the passive form of: The cadets completed the task.
(A) The task was completed by the cadets. (B) The task is completed by the cadets. (C) The task was completing by the cadets. (D) The task has completed the cadets.
- Choose the indirect form of: Ravi said, "I am ready."
(A) Ravi said that he was ready. (B) Ravi said that I am ready. (C) Ravi said that he is being ready. (D) Ravi says that he was ready.
- The idiom "keep a level head" means:
(A) Remain calm and sensible (B) Stand perfectly still (C) Hide one's opinion (D) Avoid all decisions
- Choose the word for a person who studies earthquakes.
(A) Meteorologist (B) Ornithologist (C) Seismologist (D) Archaeologist
- Identify the erroneous part: "Each of the soldiers / have received / a new uniform / No error."
(A) a new uniform (B) Each of the soldiers (C) No error (D) have received
- Fill in: If I had known the route, I ___ the wrong turn.
(A) will not take (B) do not take (C) would not have taken (D) would not take
- Arrange the sentences logically: P: Finally, they reached the summit. Q: They began their climb before sunrise. R: After several hours, they rested near a ridge. S: Refreshed, they resumed the ascent.
(A) R-Q-P-S (B) Q-R-S-P (C) S-R-Q-P (D) Q-S-P-R

- Choose the best replacement for the underlined idea: "He is senior than me."
(A) He is senior from me. (B) He is more senior than to me. (C) He is senior to me. (D) No change

Read the passage for Questions 15-17:

A patrol lost its radio link during a mountain exercise. Rather than rush forward, the leader halted the team, checked the map and sent two scouts to inspect the safer route. The delay was brief, but it prevented the team from entering unstable ground. The exercise showed that sound judgement can be more valuable than speed.

- According to the passage, why did the leader halt the patrol?
(A) To wait for nightfall (B) To reassess the route safely (C) To punish the scouts (D) To abandon the exercise
- The passage chiefly emphasises:
(A) Dependence on radios alone (B) Sound judgement over haste (C) Speed over planning (D) Avoiding all mountain exercises
- In the passage, "unstable" most nearly means:
(A) Perfectly level (B) Unsafe or liable to give way (C) Well maintained (D) Crowded

PART B - GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: PHYSICS

- The SI unit of force is:
(A) watt (B) newton (C) pascal (D) joule
- A vehicle's velocity increases from 10 to 20 m/s in 5 s. Its uniform acceleration is:
(A) 4 m/s² (B) 1 m/s² (C) 2 m/s² (D) 5 m/s²
- A convex lens forms a real, inverted image of an object beyond 2F. The image lies:
(A) On the object's side (B) Between F and 2F (C) Beyond 2F (D) At infinity
- Two resistors of 6 Ω and 3 Ω are connected in parallel. Their equivalent resistance is:
(A) 2 Ω (B) 9 Ω (C) 3 Ω (D) 4.5 Ω
- A 60 W device operates for 2 hours. Energy used is:
(A) 1.2 kWh (B) 0.03 kWh (C) 0.12 kWh (D) 120 kWh
- Sound cannot propagate through:
(A) Air (B) Steel (C) Water (D) A vacuum
- If the speed of a body doubles, its kinetic energy becomes:
(A) Twice (B) Half (C) Eight times (D) Four times
- At the highest point of a vertically thrown ball, neglecting air resistance:
(A) Velocity is zero but acceleration is downward (B) Both velocity and acceleration are zero (C) Velocity is downward and non-zero (D) Acceleration is upward

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CHEMISTRY

26. An aqueous solution with pH 3 is:
(A) Acidic (B) Always a salt solution (C) Neutral (D) Basic
27. The atomic number of an element equals the number of:
(A) Protons (B) Electron shells (C) Neutrons (D) Nucleons
28. The chemical formula of washing soda is:
(A) NaCl (B) NaHCO₃ (C) CaCO₃ (D) Na₂CO₃·10H₂O
29. Rusting of iron requires, under ordinary conditions:
(A) Carbon dioxide only (B) Oxygen and moisture (C) Nitrogen only (D) Dry oxygen only
30. Which pair contains isotopes of the same element?
(A) ¹⁶O and ¹⁹F (B) ¹²C and ¹⁴C (C) ²³Na and ²⁴Mg (D) ¹⁴C and ¹⁴N

GENERAL SCIENCE

31. The organelle chiefly responsible for aerobic ATP production in eukaryotic cells is the:
(A) Ribosome (B) Golgi apparatus (C) Nucleus (D) Mitochondrion
32. Deficiency of vitamin C causes:
(A) Beriberi (B) Night blindness (C) Rickets (D) Scurvy
33. In humans, oxygenated blood returns from the lungs to the heart through the:
(A) Aorta (B) Pulmonary veins (C) Venae cavae (D) Pulmonary artery

HISTORY AND POLITY

34. The Battle of Plassey was fought in:
(A) 1857 (B) 1764 (C) 1757 (D) 1748
35. The Indian National Congress was founded in:
(A) 1919 (B) 1857 (C) 1885 (D) 1905
36. The Non-Cooperation Movement was launched under Gandhi's leadership in:
(A) 1942 (B) 1930 (C) 1920 (D) 1915
37. The Dandi March was directed against the colonial:
(A) Railway policy (B) Education policy (C) Salt law (D) Forest law

38. Fundamental Duties are listed in the Indian Constitution under:
(A) Article 32 (B) Article 14 (C) Article 51A (D) Article 21

39. The Directive Principles of State Policy drew substantial inspiration from the Constitution of:
(A) Japan (B) Canada (C) Ireland (D) Australia

GEOGRAPHY

40. The Tropic of Cancer lies approximately at:
(A) 23½° S (B) 0° (C) 66½° N (D) 23½° N
41. India's standard meridian is:
(A) 90° E (B) 82½° E (C) 75° E (D) 82½° W
42. Black soil is particularly associated with the cultivation of:
(A) Rubber (B) Cotton (C) Jute (D) Tea
43. The Himalayas are an example of:
(A) Block mountains only (B) Residual hills (C) Volcanic plateaus (D) Young fold mountains
44. The river that forms an estuary rather than a large delta is the:
(A) Narmada (B) Mahanadi (C) Godavari (D) Ganga
45. The Coriolis effect deflects moving air in the Northern Hemisphere towards its:
(A) Left (B) Origin (C) Zenith (D) Right
46. On a map with scale 1:50,000, a distance of 4 cm represents:
(A) 2 km (B) 200 km (C) 0.2 km (D) 20 km

RECENT EVENTS AND INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

47. ISRO's SpaDeX mission achieved its first satellite docking in January 2025. Its principal technology demonstration was:
(A) Human lunar landing (B) In-space docking (C) Solar power transmission to Earth (D) Mars sample return
48. Which country held the G20 presidency during most of 2025?
(A) India (B) Indonesia (C) Brazil (D) South Africa
49. The 2025 Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to:
(A) Maria Corina Machado (B) Malala Yousafzai (C) Barack Obama (D) Narges Mohammadi
50. The headquarters of the International Court of Justice is in:
(A) Geneva (B) New York (C) The Hague (D) Vienna