

Management Aptitude Test February 01, 2009

The scene outside the MAT examination centers on 2nd February, 2009 was in marked contrast to a similar situation on the first Sunday of December 2008. Yes, that was the day of the December MAT and hopes were yet alive, all other tests were yet to be conducted. This Sunday last, the picture had altered considerably for many MAT aspirants. Where earlier in December, they had been considering the MAT as another option, this time around they were possibly more serious in their approach, having tasted failure in the preceding examinations, or what were even worse, near-misses. These near-misses are always, the more bitter to swallow.

For most MAT aspirants, the test conducted on 2nd February was, therefore, a make or break situation, if they wanted to gain admission to a moderate to average B-school from the approximate 200 colleges taking part in the examination.

The pattern of MAT was as usual total 200 jumbled questions with 40 questions from each test area; **Reading Comprehension and English Usage** (RC and EU), **Quantitative Aptitude** (QA), **Logical Reasoning** (LR), **Data Interpretation and Data Sufficiency** (DI and DS) and **General Knowledge** (GK). The time allowed to solve the paper was 150 minutes. Four alternatives were provided for each question.

It was declared in the instruction provided in the paper at the last page that each correct answer will carry one mark, while there was a negative marking of 0.25 marks for each incorrect answer. Total thirteen different sets of test booklets were available there.

Overall level of difficulty of the paper was moderate to easy. Although the difficulty level of GK questions were higher than last (Dec. 2008 MAT). The overall sectional breakup of the test is as follows –

Test Area	Nature of Questions	Ideal Attempts for 90+ percentile	Difficulty level compared to previous MAT	Ideal Time Allocation
General Knowledge	Current Business News, Days, Awards, Sports(Specially Cricket), Companies-Brands, Economics etc.	12 to 15	Slightly Difficult	10 min.
Quantitative Aptitude	Numbers, Linear Equations, Time, Speed and Distance (including Trains and Boats and Stream questions), Time and Work, Percentages, Profit and Loss, Partnerships, Averages, Ratio and Proportion, Mixtures and Alligation, Mensuration, Trigonometry, Permutation and Combination, Probability	23 +	Same	35 min.
Data Interpretation and Sufficiency	Table, Bar Graph, Pie Chart, 4 option DS, Data Comparison	23 +	Same	35 min.
Logical and Analytical Reasoning	Coding and Decoding, Data Arrangement, Relations, Cubes, Strong and Weak Argument, Syllogism, Odd Man Out, Dictionary Order etc.	23 +	same	35 min.
Reading Comprehension and English Usage	Four RC passages, FIBs, Analogies, Sentence Correction, Para Jumble	21 +	Same	35 min.
		90 + excluding GK		

Bird's Eye View

Total Number of Questions – 200

Total Time – 150 minutes

The Marking Scheme – One mark for each correct answer. – 0.25 marks for each incorrect answer.

Total Marks – 200

Number of Options – 4

Number of sets Available – 13 (A-M)

Sections/Sectional Time Limit – There were no sections and the paper was jumbled.

Medium of marking – Pencil

Break-up– 40 questions each from QA, LR, DI and DS, RC and EU and GK

Expected Cut-Offs – An score of 100+ (out of 160 i.e. excluding GK) should be good to getting AMITY, Christ, Alliance and some other top B- Schools.

The ideal strategy to solve the paper should be –

1. In first 10-15 minutes scan all the GK questions and attempt 12 to 15 questions on which you are absolutely sure.
2. After that start picking easy solvable questions from start of the paper.

The questions from Coding-Decoding, Numbers, Fractions, Arithmetic, Para Jumbles, FIBs, Analogies, Data Arrangement, Syllogism, Data Comparison and the DI sets containing the Pie Charts etc. can be included in this round. 15-17 questions from LR, 10-12 questions from GK, 13-15 questions from QA, 13-15 questions from DI & DS and 6-8 questions from EU could have been attempted first.

3. After the first round of attempts, the student should have attempted the tougher questions. Questions based on DI sets containing tables and Bar graph, questions from Mensuration, Height and Distance, some questions of mixtures, work and time, the strong and weak argument questions, questions on cubes, reading of RC passages, sentence correction question etc. could have been attempted in this round.

Ideally a student, who was good at question selection , could have attempted 50 to 55 questions in the first hour itself.

The questions from the areas like **Numbers, Fractions, SI and CI, Time Speed and Distance (including Trains), Races, Averages, Percentages, Work and Time** (including Pipes and Cisterns), **Profit and Loss, Mixtures, Profit and Loss, Calendar, Ratio and Proportion, Mensuration, Height and Distances, Probability, Permutation and Combination**, were the representative of QA area. The questions were of moderate level of difficulty. For a well prepared student on an average not more than 1-1.5 minutes would be required to solve one question of this area.

To check the students' logical and analytical abilities there were questions on **Direction Sense, Calendar, Relations, Linear and Matrix arrangements, Strong and Weak Argument, Coding-Decoding and Cubes**. Excluding some questions based on Direction Sense and Data Arrangement all other questions were of easy level. One could attempt 23+ questions in a time span of 35 minutes from this area.

There were total four RC passages and 20 questions were asked based on these passages. The themes of the RC passages were: **Terrorism, Problems in grooming of SMEs, Henry Ford's inane passion for automobiles, Exchange of gases and diffusion of water in eggs**. The length of the passages was of approx. **1100, 800, 1200** and **450** words respectively and **5 questions** were asked from each passage. The questions asked were moderate level of difficulty.

Source of RC Passages –

Terrorism - <http://www.centralchronicle.com/20090110/1001301.htm>

Henry Ford – www.campus-connect.com/students/download.php?path=samplepapers/Aptitude_Sample_Paper.pdf&file=Aptitude_Sample_Paper

Exchange of gases and diffusion of water in eggs - K Tona, E Decuyper, W Coucke - British Poultry Science, 2001

From EU area there were questions on **FIBs - two blanks (3), Identify the Best way of Writings (4), Analogies (4), Para Jumble (4) and Sentence Correction (5)**. The questions were of moderate level of difficulty.

Topic	No. of Que.
Numbers	4
Linear Equations	1
Ratio and Proportion, Mixture and Alligation	4
Percentage, Profit and Loss, Partnership	10
Work and Time	5
Time Speed and Distance (including Boats and Stream and Trains)	6
Mensuration	3
Height and Distance	2
Permutation and Combination	3
Probability	2

Topic	No. of Que.
Relations	2
Direction Sense	3
Cubes	3
Data Arrangement	15
Strong and Weak Argument	4
Dictionary Arrangement, Odd One Out and Other questions	5
Alphabet Test	2
Clocks	2
Syllogisms	4



The **GK** questions were a mixture of easy and moderately difficult questions. The questions were on dynamic as well as traditional GK. There were questions on **Economics, Current Affairs, Awards and Prizes, Days**. Since this area was only to pass and marks of this will not be include in merit, an attempt of **12-15** questions will be sufficient to achieve the cut-off for this area.

We have recalled some of the questions which are as follows –

1. The automobile brand "Hayabusa" is from which company? –
2. World Consumer Day observed on –
3. Kalpakkam is situated in which state? –
4. Which of the following companies are the statutory auditor for Satyam? –
5. Sachin Tendulkar achieved 10,000 runs record in test cricket by breaking which of the following batsman's record?
6. Which of the following batsman recently become the sixth batsman to achieve the 10,000 runs in test cricket?
7. Who is the Booker prize (literature) winner 2008? –
8. Who is the recipient of Bharat Ratna 2008?
9. Which of the following award is given by UNESCO in the achievement of science in daily life?

Directions: Read the following passages and answer the questions that follow.

Passage I

Source – <http://www.centralchronicle.com/20090110/1001301.htm>

8. The author's main aim is to
 - I. inform people about the recent terrorist attack in Mumbai
 - II. identify the root causes of terrorism
 - III. suggest ways to tackle the threat of terrorism

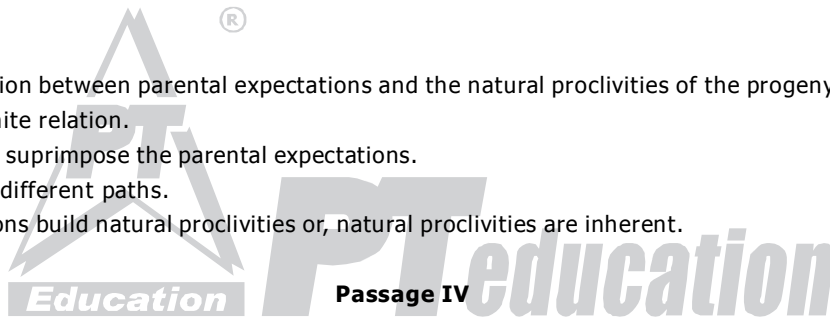
(1) I, II and III (2) II and III only (3) I only (4) II only
9. As per the passage, which of the following is not true?
 - (1) Persons with disrupted identity are soft targets for recruitment by terrorist organizations.
 - (2) High quality intelligence, political support and co-operation of neighbouring countries are all needed to tackle the threat posed by terrorism.
 - (3) Existing laws are adequate to deal with terrorism and organized crime, provided full political support is assured.
 - (4) Terrorism in India originates both internally and externally.
10. Which of the following captions would most aptly sum-up the contents of the passage?
 - (1) India's Brave response to the Threat of Terrorism.
 - (2) Is Terrorism a Global Threat?
 - (3) Terrorism is a Psychological Phenomenon.
 - (4) Root Cause of Terror; Ways to Deal with the Menace.
11. Which of the following is not implied in the passage?
 - (1) The November 2008 terror attack in Mumbai evoked strong support to India from across the globe.
 - (2) Rudi Giuliani the Mayor of New York, displayed exemplary leadership at the time of 9/11.
 - (3) The people of India should play the role of watchdog in monitoring the government's response to the threat posed by terrorism.
 - (4) Security forces alone can tackle all problems if given full freedom.
12. As per the passage which of the following statements is true?
 - I. Over a long period of time terrorism gradually fades out.
 - II. The NIA, when set up, could independently tackle all terrorism-related issues.
 - III. Terrorism has strong links with other forms of organized crime.

(1) III only (2) I and II only (3) I only (4) I, II and III

Passage III

Source – www.campus-connect.com/students/download.php?path=samplepapers/Aptitude_Sample_Paper.pdf&file=Aptitude_Sample_Paper

18. "Every clock in the village shudders when it sees Henry coming." Why did Henry's neighbour make this joke?
- (1) Henry had no interest in farming, as every other villager did.
 - (2) The whole world of the protagonist lay around machines.
 - (3) Mechanical contraptions fascinated Henry.
 - (4) None of these
19. The example of the engine driver is given by the author to show which of the following character traits of Henry Ford?
- (1) Challenging
 - (2) Contemplative
 - (3) Inquisitive
 - (4) Perseverant
20. The role of Clara in the success of Henry Ford can best be described in the following words:
- (1) she should be given equal accolades for Ford's success.
 - (2) she was not exactly a part of his success.
 - (3) she was with him as a great support and a great friend.
 - (4) cannot be derived from the passage.
21. "Horse-less Carriage" – this was the dream of Henry Ford. He got a major cue from Dr. Nicolaus Otto. This cue was in the form of
- (1) the confidence, which he got from Dr. Otto's discovery.
 - (2) the idea, which he got from Dr. Otto's discovery.
 - (3) material help which Dr. Otto gave him.
 - (4) All these
22. What is the normal relation between parental expectations and the natural proclivities of the progeny, as per the passage?
- (1) They have no definite relation.
 - (2) Natural proclivities superimpose the parental expectations.
 - (3) They are often on different paths.
 - (4) Parental expectations build natural proclivities or, natural proclivities are inherent.



Source – K Tona, E Decuypere, W Coucke - British Poultry Science, 2001

23. The passage is primarily concerned with
- (1) explaining the processes of gas and water diffusion in eggs.
 - (2) explaining difficulties involved in cultivating domestic fowl.
 - (3) explaining the origin of passive diffusion as a method of respiration.
 - (4) distinguishing between passive diffusion and active respiration.
24. A necessary ingredient in the eggshell's suitability for gas exchange is its
- (1) permeability
 - (2) opacity
 - (3) fragility
 - (4) adhesiveness
25. The passage contains information that would answer which of the following questions about fowl-breeding?
- I. What function does turning the fertilized egg serve in the hatching process?
 - II. Why must the egg shed water during the hatching process?
 - III. What occurs when the amount of water loss during hatching exceeds 15 percent of the egg's initial mass?
- (1) I and II only
 - (2) II only
 - (3) I only
 - (4) II and III only
26. The passage would be most likely to appear in
- (1) a Congressional report urging the appropriation of funds for research into needed improvements in egg-hatching
 - (2) a pamphlet designed to introduce novice breeders of domestic fowl to the advantages of current techniques.
 - (3) an agricultural research report focused on the history of fowl-breeding practices in the current techniques.
 - (4) a scientific journal article highlighting biochemical aspects of the extent of water loss by common phenomena

Directions: Select the pair of words, which exhibits the same relationship between each other as the given capitalized pair of words.

27. CACOPHONOUS : HARMONIOUS ::

- (1) tempestuous : stormy (2) beauty : peace (3) bellicose : pacific (4) considerate : sympathetic

28. mitigate : punishment ::

- (1) monotonous : change (2) place : placement (3) change : order (4) alleviate : pain

29. praise : extol ::

- (1) insure : rely (2) stuff : cram (3) hurry : run (4) dislike : loathe

30. inspid : piquant ::

- (1) sweet : dessert (2) relish : spice (3) tasty : bland (4) flat : spicy

Directions: Choose the option to fill the blank.

31. the general had been told by the field staff that continuing warfare would be to his soldiers, he insisted on deploying more battle tanks.

- (1) Although ... formidable (2) Because ... instrumental
(3) Although ... detrimental (4) Because ... immediate

32. Most journalistic writing could do with of paragraphs to make the prose more

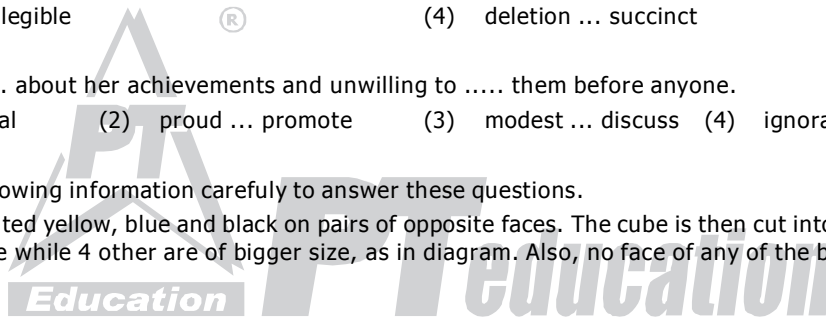
- (1) simplification ... abstruse (2) removal ... argumentative
(3) suppression ... legible (4) deletion ... succinct

33. Mother Teresa was ... about her achievements and unwilling to them before anyone.

- (1) unsure ... reveal (2) proud ... promote (3) modest ... discuss (4) ignorant ... eulogise

Directions: Read the following information carefully to answer these questions.

A solid cube has been painted yellow, blue and black on pairs of opposite faces. The cube is then cut into 36 smaller cubes such that 32 cubes are of the same size while 4 other are of bigger size, as in diagram. Also, no face of any of the bigger cubes is painted blue.



34. How many cubes have at least one face painted blue?

- (1) 16 (2) 8 (3) 0 (4) 32

35. How many cubes have only two faces painted?

- (1) 16 (2) 20 (3) 24 (4) 8

36. How many cubes have two or more faces painted?

- (1) 28 (2) 34 (3) 36 (4) 24

Directions: Answer these questions based on the information given.

Five boys Amit, Suresh, Vishnu, Ujwal and Rakesh are sitting in a row facing South. Five girls Alka, Jyoti, Veena, Prabha and Nayan are sitting in front of them in a row, each one facing one of them. All these are not necessarily in the same serial order. Vishnu is facing Veena. Suresh and Rakesh are not facing Prabha. Amit is at one of the ends. Nayan is fourth to the right of Alka and is facing Rakesh. Jyoti is between Alka and Veena.

37. Which pair occupies the middle position of the rows?
(1) Veena, Vishnu (2) Rakesh, Nayan (3) Suresh, Prabha (4) Ujwal, Jyoti
38. Who is facing Jyoti?
(1) Amit or Ujwal (2) Ujwal (3) Amit (4) Suresh
39. Which of the following pairs are sitting diagonally opposite?
(1) Nayan, Rakesh (2) Rakesh, Alka (3) Amit, Alka (4) Suresh, Nayan
40. Which of the following is Prabha's position?
(1) Facing Suresh (2) Between Jyoti and Nayan
(3) Immediate left of Nayan (4) Second to the right of Alka

Directions: Complete the series by replacing the missing term indicated by '?'

41. KM5, IP8, GS11, EV14, ?
(1) CY17 (2) BY17 (3) BX17 (4) CY18
42. 2A11, 4D13, 12G17, ?
(1) 48J21 (2) 36J21 (3) 36I19 (4) 48J23
43. 2, 8, 16, 128, ?
(1) 2048 (2) 2046 (3) 2042 (4) 2056
44. ABD, DGK, HMS, MTB, SBL, ?
(1) ZKU (2) ZAB (3) XKW (4) ZKW
45. A jar full of milk contains 40% water. A part of this milk is replaced by another containing 19% water and now the percentage of water is found to be 26%. The quantity of milk replaced is
(1) $\frac{3}{7}$ (2) $\frac{2}{3}$ (3) $\frac{1}{3}$ (4) $\frac{4}{7}$
46. A man went to shop and was shown some shirts costing Rs. 100 each and some trousers costing Rs. 150 each. If he had Rs. 1,200 with him, what was the maximum number of trousers that he could have purchased, if he had also wanted to purchase some shirts?
(1) 6 (2) 2 (3) 5 (4) 8
47. By selling 12 notebooks, the seller earns a profit equal to the selling price of two notebooks. What is his percentage profit?
(1) $16\frac{2}{3}\%$ (2) 25% (3) 20% (4) Data inadequate
48. A man can row with the stream at 4 km an hour. Find the man's rowing speed in still water and the speed of the current.
(1) 4 km/hr., 1 km/hr (2) 5 km/hr, 1 km/hr (3) 4 km/hr, 2 km/hr (4) 5 km/hr, 2 km/hr
49. Find the time between 3 and 4 o'clock when the angle between the hands of a watch is one-third of a right angle.
(1) 11, 9/11 min past 3 (2) 10, 9/11 min past 3
(3) 10, 10/11 min past 3 (4) None of these

50. Three different containers contain different quantities of a mixtures of milk and water, whose measurements are 403 kg, 434 kg and 465 kg. What biggest measure must be there to measure all the different quantities exactly?
 (1) 31 kg (2) 7 kg (3) 1 kg (4) 41 kg
51. A shopkeeper marks the prices of his goods at 25% higher than the original price. After that, he allows a discount of 12%. What profit or loss did he get?
 (1) 10% loss (2) 15% profit (3) 10% profit (4) 15% loss
52. Sita and Gita enter into a partnership. Sita contributes Rs. 5,000 while Gita contributes Rs. 4,000. After 1 month, Gita withdraws $\frac{1}{4}$ part of her contribution and after 3 months from the starting Sita puts Rs. 2,000 more. When Gita withdraws her money Rita also joins them with Rs. 7,000. If at the end of 1 year there is a profit of Rs. 1,218, what will be the share of Rita in the profit?
 (1) Rs. 588.47 (2) Rs. 844.37 (3) Rs. 488.47 (4) None of these
53. Ramesh purchased a bicycle for Rs. 5,200 and spent Rs. 800 on its repairs. He had to sell it for Rs. 5,500. Find his profit or loss per cent.
 (1) 9% loss (2) $7\frac{1}{2}\%$ gain (3) $8\frac{1}{3}\%$ loss (4) None of these
54. The number of ways in which a committee of 3 ladies and 4 gentlemen can be appointed out of 8 ladies and 7 gentlemen, if Mrs. X refuses to serve in a committee of which Mr. Y is a member, is
 (1) 3,240 (2) 1,540 (3) 1,960 (4) None of these
55. A manufacturer of a certain item can sell all he can produce at the selling price of Rs. 60 each. It costs him Rs. 40 in materials and labour to produce each item and he has overhead expenses of Rs. 3,000 per week in order to operate that plant. The number of units he should produce and sell in order to make a profit of at least Rs. 1,000 per week is
 (1) 250 (2) 300 (3) 400 (4) 200
56. 8 children and 12 men complete a certain piece of work in 9 days. If each child takes twice the time taken by a man to finish the work, 12 men finish the same work in
 (1) 14 days (2) 12 days (3) 15 days (4) 8 days

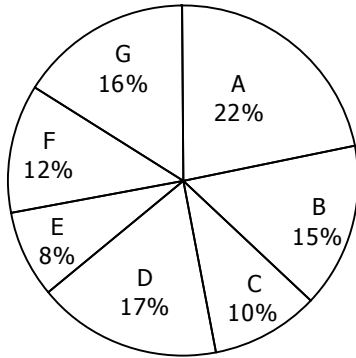
Directions: Study the following table to answer these questions.

Average Hourly Wage (in Rs.) by Age Group				
Years	18 - 20 years		21 - 23 years	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
2003	15.1	15.1	29.7	25.1
2004	12.4	13.4	21.0	19.1
2005	10.0	13.8	14.7	16.9
2006	11.0	13.4	18.0	20.5
2007	21.2	16.3	29.1	32.7
2008	15.0	21.0	32.1	33.9

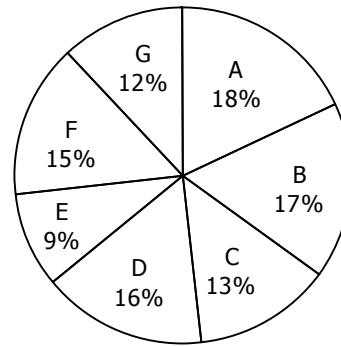
57. In 2007, for the 21 - 23 years age group, the wages for the females was approximately what percent of that of the males?
 (1) 85 (2) 220 (3) 30 (4) 110
58. What was the difference between the average wages of males and of females for the 21 - 23 years age group?
 (1) 0-40 (2) 0-80 (3) 0-60 (4) 0-20
59. In how many years was the wage for the females higher than that of males in both the age groups?
 (1) Two (2) Three (3) Four (4) One
60. In the age group of 18-20 years, in which year was the wage-disparity maximum?
 (1) 2005 (2) 2006 (3) 2007 (4) 2008
61. In the age group of 21 - 23 years, in which year was the wage-disparity minimum?
 (1) 2005 (2) 2004 (3) 2008 (4) 2003

Directions: Study the following pie-charts to answer these questions.

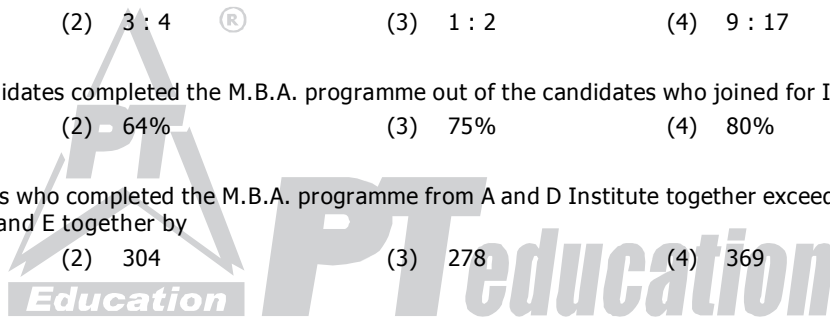
Candidates who joined M.B.A. = 8550



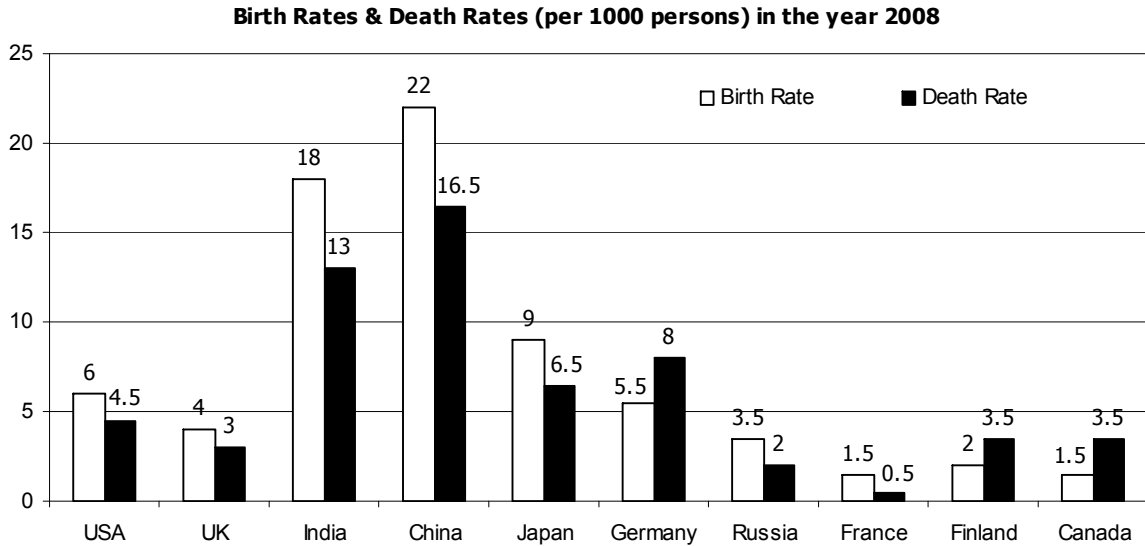
Candidates who completed M.B.A. = 5700



62. Which institute has the highest percentage of candidates who completed the M.B.A. programme out of the candidates that joined?
 (1) F (2) C (3) B (4) E
63. What percentage of candidates completed the M.B.A. programme from Institute E out of the total number of candidates that joined the same institute?
 (1) 75% (2) 62.5% (3) 60% (4) 50%
64. What is the ratio of candidate who successfully completed the M.B.A. programme to the candidates who joined from Institute G?
 (1) 6 : 11 (2) 3 : 4 (3) 1 : 2 (4) 9 : 17
65. What percentage of candidates completed the M.B.A. programme out of the candidates who joined for Institutes B and C together?
 (1) 90% (2) 64% (3) 75% (4) 80%
66. The number of candidates who completed the M.B.A. programme from A and D Institute together exceeds the number of candidates who joined Institutes C and E together by
 (1) 399 (2) 304 (3) 278 (4) 369



Directions: Study the following bar graph to answer these questions.



67. If the rate of growth of population is expressed in percentage terms instead of number per 1000 persons, then among the countries with a positive growth rate, the rate of growth for the country whose population is growing by the fastest rate is how many percentage points more than that of the country whose population is growing by the slowest rate?
- (1) 0.045 (2) 0.45 (3) 4.5 (4) None of these
68. If the total population of USA in the year 2008 was 250 million and that of Russia 150 million, then by what percent is the total births in USA more than the total deaths in Russia?
- (1) 300% (2) 200% (3) 80% (4) 400%

Overall an score of 100+ (out of 160 i.e. excluding GK) should be good to getting AMITY University Noida, Christ University Bangalore, Alliance Business Academy Bangalore and some other top B- Schools.

At the end, as Zig Ziglar said "It is your attitude, not your aptitude, that determines your altitude." So keep your attitude right and well prepared for the tests ahead.

Best wishes!