

XAT General Knowledge

Sample Paper – 9

Duration: 10 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 25

Instructions

- This paper contains **25** Multiple Choice Questions (Single Correct Answer), modelled on the General Knowledge section of XAT (Xavier Aptitude Test), conducted by XLRI.
- Each correct answer carries **+1 mark**. There is **no negative marking** in the General Knowledge section of XAT.
- The section covers **static General Knowledge and current affairs**, spanning history, polity, economy, business, geography, science, sports, awards and world affairs.
- General Knowledge is **not counted in the XAT percentile**, but your score is considered later at the interview and final selection stage, so attempt every question.
- Attempt this practice paper in one timed sitting of about **10 minutes**. Use of mobile phones and electronic gadgets is prohibited.

General Knowledge

Directions (Q1–Q25): Each question is followed by four options. Choose the one correct answer.

Q1. The Khilafat Movement in India was led by which of the following?

- (A) Bal Gangadhar Tilak and Bipin Chandra Pal
- (B) The Ali Brothers, Shaukat Ali and Muhammad Ali
- (C) Lala Lajpat Rai and Madan Mohan Malaviya
- (D) Motilal Nehru and C. R. Das

Q2. The Speaker of the Lok Sabha is elected by:

- (A) the President of India



- (B) the members of the Lok Sabha
- (C) the Prime Minister
- (D) the members of both Houses of Parliament

Q3. NABARD primarily supports which of the following?

- (A) Regulation of the stock market
- (B) Insurance of bank deposits
- (C) Foreign exchange management
- (D) Agriculture and rural development

Q4. Which is the largest continent in the world by area?

- (A) Asia
- (B) Africa
- (C) North America
- (D) Antarctica

Q5. How many chambers does the human heart have?

- (A) Four
- (B) Two
- (C) Three
- (D) Six

Q6. In which sport is the term “love” used to mean a score of zero?

- (A) Cricket
- (B) Golf
- (C) Tennis
- (D) Hockey

Q7. The first Asian to win the Nobel Prize in Literature (1913) was:



- (A) Rabindranath Tagore
- (B) Mother Teresa
- (C) C. V. Raman
- (D) Amartya Sen

Q8. “Abhijnanashakuntalam” and “Meghaduta” were written by:

- (A) Banabhatta
- (B) Kalidasa
- (C) Vishnu Sharma
- (D) Kautilya

Q9. The headquarters of SAARC is located in:

- (A) Dhaka, Bangladesh
- (B) Kathmandu, Nepal
- (C) Colombo, Sri Lanka
- (D) New Delhi, India

Q10. The Third Battle of Panipat (1761) was fought between the Marathas and:

- (A) Nadir Shah
- (B) Babur
- (C) Ahmad Shah Abdali (Durrani)
- (D) Muhammad Ghor

Q11. “Melts in your mouth, not in your hands” is the slogan of which brand?

- (A) Cadbury Dairy Milk
- (B) Kit Kat
- (C) Ferrero Rocher
- (D) M&M's



- Q12.** The Vice-President of India is elected by:
- (A) the members of the Lok Sabha only
 - (B) the members of the Rajya Sabha only
 - (C) the members of both Houses of Parliament
 - (D) the members of the state legislatures
- Q13.** The Loktak Lake is located in which Indian state?
- (A) Assam
 - (B) Meghalaya
 - (C) Tripura
 - (D) Manipur
- Q14.** In economics, “disinvestment” means:
- (A) the government raising fresh loans from the public
 - (B) a rise in foreign investment into the country
 - (C) the merger of two public sector companies
 - (D) the sale of the government’s stake in public sector undertakings
- Q15.** Which is the largest bone in the human body?
- (A) The tibia
 - (B) The humerus
 - (C) The femur
 - (D) The sternum
- Q16.** Terms such as “Grand Prix” and “pole position” belong to which sport?
- (A) Horse racing
 - (B) Cycling
 - (C) Sailing
 - (D) Motor racing (Formula One)



Q17. The “Golden Globe” awards are associated with which field?

- (A) Music
- (B) Journalism
- (C) Sports
- (D) Film and television

Q18. The “Arthashastra” was written by:

- (A) Kautilya (Chanakya)
- (B) Kalidasa
- (C) Megasthenes
- (D) Vishnu Sharma

Q19. The Eiffel Tower is located in which city?

- (A) London
- (B) Rome
- (C) Paris
- (D) Berlin

Q20. Who is known as the “Flying Sikh” of India?

- (A) Dhyan Chand
- (B) Milkha Singh
- (C) P. T. Usha
- (D) Kapil Dev

Q21. In which city did the Jallianwala Bagh massacre take place?

- (A) Amritsar
- (B) Lahore
- (C) Jalandhar
- (D) Ludhiana



Q22. The Governor of a state in India is appointed by:

- (A) the Chief Minister of the state
- (B) the Prime Minister
- (C) the President
- (D) the state legislature

Q23. The term “per capita income” means:

- (A) the national income divided by the total population
- (B) the total income earned by the government in a year
- (C) the income of the richest section of society
- (D) the total value of a country’s exports

Q24. The Chilika Lake, India’s largest coastal lagoon, is located in which state?

- (A) Andhra Pradesh
- (B) Odisha
- (C) West Bengal
- (D) Tamil Nadu

Q25. What is the chemical symbol for oxygen?

- (A) O
- (B) Ox
- (C) Og
- (D) Oy



Detailed Solutions**Q1.****Solution**

What is asked: the leaders of the Khilafat Movement.

Reasoning: The Khilafat Movement (1919–1924) was led in India by the Ali Brothers, Shaukat Ali and Muhammad Ali. It protested against the harsh treatment of the Ottoman Caliph after the First World War. Gandhi supported it and linked it with the Non-Cooperation Movement.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: Tilak and Bipin Chandra Pal were leaders of the earlier Swadeshi phase.
- Option C: Lala Lajpat Rai and Malaviya were not the leaders of this movement.
- Option D: Motilal Nehru and C. R. Das later founded the Swaraj Party.

Final Answer: The Ali Brothers ⇒ **B**

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q1](#)

Q2.**Solution**

What is asked: who elects the Speaker of the Lok Sabha.

Reasoning: The Speaker of the Lok Sabha is elected by the members of the Lok Sabha from among themselves. The election takes place soon after a new House is constituted. The Speaker presides over the House and maintains order.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: The President does not elect the Speaker.
- Option C: The Prime Minister has no such power.
- Option D: Only Lok Sabha members, not both Houses, vote for the Speaker.

Final Answer: The members of the Lok Sabha ⇒ **B**

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q2](#)



Q3.

Solution

What is asked: the main focus of NABARD.

Reasoning: NABARD, the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development, is the apex body for agriculture and rural finance. It was set up in 1982 to support rural credit and development. It refinances rural banks and funds rural infrastructure.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: Regulation of the stock market is done by SEBI.
- Option B: Deposit insurance is handled by the DICGC.
- Option C: Foreign exchange management is a role of the RBI.

Final Answer: Agriculture and rural development ⇒

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q3](#)

Q4.

Solution

What is asked: the largest continent by area.

Reasoning: Asia is the largest continent in the world, covering about 44.5 million square kilometres. It holds the largest share of the world's population as well. It is far larger than any other continent.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option B: Africa is the second-largest continent.
- Option C: North America is smaller than both Asia and Africa.
- Option D: Antarctica is large but smaller than Asia and mostly ice-covered.

Final Answer: Asia ⇒

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q4](#)



Q5.

Solution

What is asked: the number of chambers in the human heart.

Reasoning: The human heart has four chambers: two atria at the top and two ventricles below. The right side pumps blood to the lungs and the left side pumps it to the body. This four-chambered design keeps oxygen-rich and oxygen-poor blood separate.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option B: Two chambers describe the heart of a fish, not a human.
- Option C: Three chambers describe amphibian hearts.
- Option D: Six is not correct for the human heart.

Final Answer: Four $\Rightarrow$

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q5](#)

Q6.

Solution

What is asked: the sport where “love” means zero.

Reasoning: In tennis, the score of zero is called “love”. So a game starting at 0–0 is announced as “love all”. The term is a long-standing part of tennis scoring.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: Cricket uses runs and does not use “love”.
- Option B: Golf counts strokes and uses terms like par and birdie.
- Option D: Hockey counts goals, not “love”.

Final Answer: Tennis $\Rightarrow$

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q6](#)



Q7.

Solution

What is asked: the first Asian Nobel Laureate in Literature (1913).

Reasoning: Rabindranath Tagore won the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1913, mainly for “Gitanjali”. He was the first Asian and the first non-European to receive the prize. He also composed India’s national anthem.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option B: Mother Teresa won the Nobel Peace Prize, not Literature.
- Option C: C. V. Raman won the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1930.
- Option D: Amartya Sen won the Nobel in Economic Sciences in 1998.

Final Answer: Rabindranath Tagore ⇒

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q7](#)

Q8.

Solution

What is asked: the author of “Abhijnanashakuntalam” and “Meghaduta”.

Reasoning: Both works were written by Kalidasa, the great classical Sanskrit poet and dramatist. “Abhijnanashakuntalam” is his famous play, and “Meghaduta” is a lyric poem. He is often placed in the Gupta period.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: Banabhatta wrote “Harshacharita” and “Kadambari”.
- Option C: Vishnu Sharma is credited with the “Panchatantra”.
- Option D: Kautilya wrote the “Arthashastra”.

Final Answer: Kalidasa ⇒

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q8](#)



Q9.

Solution

What is asked: the location of the SAARC headquarters.

Reasoning: The Secretariat of SAARC, the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, is in Kathmandu, Nepal. It was set up there in 1987. SAARC was formed in 1985 to promote regional cooperation in South Asia.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: Dhaka is where SAARC was founded, but not its headquarters.
- Option C: Colombo is not the SAARC headquarters.
- Option D: New Delhi does not host the SAARC Secretariat.

Final Answer: Kathmandu, Nepal ⇒ **B**

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q9](#)

Q10.

Solution

What is asked: the Maratha opponent at the Third Battle of Panipat (1761).

Reasoning: The Third Battle of Panipat was fought in 1761 between the Marathas and Ahmad Shah Abdali, also called Durrani. The Afghan ruler defeated the Maratha forces. The battle checked Maratha expansion in the north for a time.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: Nadir Shah invaded India in 1739, much earlier.
- Option B: Babur fought the First Battle of Panipat in 1526.
- Option D: Muhammad Ghori fought Prithviraj Chauhan at Tarain.

Final Answer: Ahmad Shah Abdali ⇒ **C**

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q10](#)



Q11.

Solution

What is asked: the brand behind “Melts in your mouth, not in your hands”.

Reasoning: The slogan “Melts in your mouth, not in your hands” belongs to M&M’s, the chocolate button candy. It highlights the hard candy shell that resists melting on the fingers. It is one of the best-known advertising taglines.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: Cadbury Dairy Milk uses other campaign lines.
- Option B: Kit Kat is known for “Have a break, have a Kit Kat”.
- Option C: Ferrero Rocher did not use this slogan.

Final Answer: M&M’s ⇒

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q11](#)

Q12.

Solution

What is asked: who elects the Vice-President of India.

Reasoning: The Vice-President is elected by an electoral college of the members of both Houses of Parliament. This includes both elected and nominated members. The election uses a system of proportional representation by single transferable vote.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: Not the Lok Sabha alone.
- Option B: Not the Rajya Sabha alone.
- Option D: State legislatures do not vote in the Vice-Presidential election.

Final Answer: Members of both Houses of Parliament ⇒

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q12](#)



Q13.

Solution

What is asked: the state of the Loktak Lake.

Reasoning: Loktak Lake is the largest freshwater lake in Northeast India and lies in Manipur. It is famous for its floating masses of vegetation called phumdis. Keibul Lamjao, the only floating national park, is on this lake.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: Assam has other wetlands but not Loktak.
- Option B: Meghalaya is not the location of Loktak.
- Option C: Tripura does not host this lake.

Final Answer: Manipur ⇒

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q13](#)

Q14.

Solution

What is asked: the meaning of “disinvestment”.

Reasoning: Disinvestment means the sale of the government’s stake in public sector undertakings. The government sells shares to raise money and reduce its holding. It is a common part of economic reform policy.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: Raising loans from the public is government borrowing, not disinvestment.
- Option B: A rise in foreign investment is a different idea.
- Option C: A merger of two public sector firms is not disinvestment.

Final Answer: Sale of the government’s stake in PSUs ⇒

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q14](#)



Q15.

Solution

What is asked: the largest bone in the human body.

Reasoning: The femur, or thigh bone, is the largest and strongest bone in the human body. It runs from the hip to the knee. It carries much of the body's weight while standing and walking.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: The tibia is the shin bone, shorter than the femur.
- Option B: The humerus is the upper arm bone.
- Option D: The sternum is the breastbone, much smaller.

Final Answer: The femur ⇒

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q15](#)

Q16.

Solution

What is asked: the sport of “Grand Prix” and “pole position”.

Reasoning: Terms like “Grand Prix” and “pole position” belong to motor racing, especially Formula One. A Grand Prix is a single race in the championship. Pole position is the front starting spot earned by the fastest qualifier.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: Horse racing uses different terms.
- Option B: Cycling has its own vocabulary, such as the peloton.
- Option C: Sailing does not use “pole position”.

Final Answer: Motor racing (Formula One) ⇒

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q16](#)



Q17.

Solution

What is asked: the field of the “Golden Globe” awards.

Reasoning: The Golden Globe Awards honour excellence in film and television. They are presented by the Hollywood Foreign Press Association. They are seen as a lead-up to the Academy Awards each year.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: Music awards include the Grammys.
- Option B: Journalism is honoured by the Pulitzer Prize.
- Option C: The Golden Globes are not sports awards.

Final Answer: Film and television $\Rightarrow$

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q17](#)

Q18.

Solution

What is asked: the author of the “Arthashastra”.

Reasoning: The “Arthashastra” was written by Kautilya, also known as Chanakya. He was the minister and adviser of Chandragupta Maurya. The text deals with statecraft, economics and military strategy.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option B: Kalidasa was a poet and dramatist, not the author of this work.
- Option C: Megasthenes wrote “Indica” as a Greek envoy.
- Option D: Vishnu Sharma wrote the “Panchatantra”.

Final Answer: Kautilya (Chanakya) $\Rightarrow$

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q18](#)



Q19.

Solution

What is asked: the city of the Eiffel Tower.

Reasoning: The Eiffel Tower stands in Paris, the capital of France. It was completed in 1889 for the World's Fair. It is one of the most recognised landmarks in the world.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: London is home to Big Ben, not the Eiffel Tower.
- Option B: Rome has the Colosseum.
- Option D: Berlin has the Brandenburg Gate.

Final Answer: Paris ⇒

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q19](#)

Q20.

Solution

What is asked: the athlete known as the “Flying Sikh”.

Reasoning: Milkha Singh, the great Indian sprinter, was known as the “Flying Sikh”. He won gold at the Asian Games and the Commonwealth Games. He narrowly missed a medal in the 400 metres at the 1960 Rome Olympics.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: Dhyan Chand was the hockey legend called the “Wizard”.
- Option C: P. T. Usha is the “Payyoli Express”.
- Option D: Kapil Dev is a cricketer, not the “Flying Sikh”.

Final Answer: Milkha Singh ⇒

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q20](#)



Q21.

Solution

What is asked: the city of the Jallianwala Bagh massacre.

Reasoning: The Jallianwala Bagh massacre took place in Amritsar in Punjab on 13 April 1919. General Dyer ordered troops to fire on an unarmed gathering. It became a turning point in the freedom struggle.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option B: Lahore was not the site of this massacre.
- Option C: Jalandhar is a different city in Punjab.
- Option D: Ludhiana was not the location.

Final Answer: Amritsar ⇒

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q21](#)

Q22.

Solution

What is asked: who appoints the Governor of a state.

Reasoning: The Governor of a state is appointed by the President of India. The Governor holds office during the pleasure of the President. The Governor is the constitutional head of the state.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: The Chief Minister does not appoint the Governor.
- Option B: The Prime Minister does not make this appointment directly.
- Option D: The state legislature does not appoint the Governor.

Final Answer: The President ⇒

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q22](#)



Q23.

Solution

What is asked: the meaning of “per capita income”.

Reasoning: Per capita income is the national income divided by the total population. It gives the average income per person in a country. It is often used to compare living standards across countries.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option B: The government’s yearly income is not per capita income.
- Option C: The income of the richest section is not an average.
- Option D: The value of exports is a separate measure.

Final Answer: National income divided by population $\Rightarrow$ **A**

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q23](#)

Q24.

Solution

What is asked: the state of the Chilika Lake.

Reasoning: Chilika Lake, India’s largest coastal lagoon, lies in Odisha. It is a brackish water lagoon along the Bay of Bengal coast. It is a major site for migratory birds in winter.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: Andhra Pradesh has other lagoons, such as Pulicat in part.
- Option C: West Bengal is not the location of Chilika.
- Option D: Tamil Nadu does not host Chilika Lake.

Final Answer: Odisha $\Rightarrow$ **B**

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q24](#)



Q25.

Solution

What is asked: the chemical symbol for oxygen.

Reasoning: The chemical symbol for oxygen is O. It is taken from the first letter of the element's name. Oxygen usually exists as the molecule O_2 in the air.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option B: "Ox" is not a valid chemical symbol.
- Option C: "Og" is the symbol for oganesson, not oxygen.
- Option D: "Oy" is not a chemical symbol.

Final Answer: $O \Rightarrow$ A

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q25](#)



Answer Key

Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans
1	B	2	B	3	D	4	A	5	A
6	C	7	A	8	B	9	B	10	C
11	D	12	C	13	D	14	D	15	C
16	D	17	D	18	A	19	C	20	B
21	A	22	C	23	A	24	B	25	A

