CAT 2012 VARC Slot 2 Question Paper with Solutions

Time Allowed :3 Hours	**Maximum Marks :**300	**Total questions :**100

General Instructions

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them:

1. **Duration of Section:** 40 Minutes

2. **Total Number of Questions:** 22 Questions (as per latest pattern, may vary slightly)

3. **Section Covered:** Quantitative Aptitude (QA)

4. **Type of Questions:**

   - Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs)

   - Type In The Answer (TITA) Questions – No options given, answer to be typed in

5. **Marking Scheme:**

   - +3 marks for each correct answer

   - -1 mark for each incorrect MCQ

   - No negative marking for TITA questions

6. **Syllabus Coverage:** Arithmetic, Algebra, Geometry, Number System, Modern Math, and Mensuration

7. **Skills Tested:** Numerical ability, analytical thinking, and problem-solving

1. Which word is most nearly the same in meaning as "ephemeral"?

(1) Permanent

(2) Transient

(3) Eternal

(4) Enduring

Correct Answer: (2) Transient

Solution:

- **Step 1:** Understand the meaning of "ephemeral": something short-lived or lasting for a brief time.

- **Step 2:** Evaluate options: (1) Permanent means lasting forever, opposite of ephemeral. (2) Transient means short-lived, matching ephemeral. (3) Eternal means infinite duration, opposite. (4) Enduring means long-lasting, opposite.

- **Step 3:** Transient is the closest synonym.

- **Step 4:** Option (2) is correct.

> Quick Tip
>
> For synonym questions, eliminate antonyms and focus on words with similar meanings.

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2. Choose the grammatically correct sentence:

(1) She don't like to read novels.

(2) She doesn't likes to read novels.

(3) She doesn't like to read novels.

(4) She don't likes to read novels.

Correct Answer: (3) She doesn't like to read novels.

Solution:

- **Step 1:** Analyze subject-verb agreement. Subject "She" is third-person singular, requiring "doesn't" for negation and base verb form.

- **Step 2:** Option (1): "don't" is incorrect (used for plural/I/you). Option (2): "doesn't likes" is incorrect (verb should be "like"). Option (3): "doesn't like" is correct. Option (4): "don't likes" is incorrect (wrong auxiliary and verb form).
- **Step 3:** Option (3) is grammatically correct.

> **Quick Tip**
>
> Ensure subject-verb agreement and correct auxiliary usage in negative sentences.

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3. The sentence "His decision was based on principle" is best replaced by:

(1) His decision was grounded in principle.

(2) His decision was depend on principle.

(3) His decision was based at principle.

(4) His decision was founded by principle.

Correct Answer: (1) His decision was grounded in principle.

Solution:

- **Step 1:** Identify the preposition and phrasing. "Based on" is correct but can be improved for style.
- **Step 2:** Option (1): "Grounded in" is a stronger, formal synonym. Option (2): "Depend on" is incorrect (missing "ed"). Option (3): "Based at" is incorrect preposition. Option (4): "Founded by" is incorrect (implies agency).
- **Step 3:** Option (1) is the best replacement.

> **Quick Tip**
>
> For sentence improvement, check prepositions and verb forms for accuracy and style.

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4. Arrange the sentences to form a coherent paragraph:

A. It also fosters innovation.

B. Education empowers individuals.

C. It enables critical thinking.

D. Society benefits from educated citizens.

(1) B, C, A, D

(2) D, B, C, A

(3) B, A, C, D

(4) C, B, A, D

Correct Answer: (1) B, C, A, D

Solution:

- **Step 1:** Identify the topic sentence. B introduces education's role, suitable as the opening.

- **Step 2:** C and A explain how education empowers (critical thinking, innovation), forming a logical flow.

- **Step 3:** D concludes with the broader impact on society.

- **Step 4:** Sequence B, C, A, D creates coherence: Education empowers (B), through critical thinking (C) and innovation (A), benefiting society (D).

- **Step 5:** Option (1) is correct.

> **Quick Tip**
>
> In para-jumbles, start with the topic sentence and ensure logical flow.

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5. What is the antonym of "ameliorate"?

(1) Improve

(2) Worsen

(3) Maintain

(4) Enhance

Correct Answer: (2) Worsen

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Ameliorate" means to improve or make better.

- **Step 2:** Evaluate options: (1) Improve is a synonym. (2) Worsen is the opposite. (3) Maintain means no change. (4) Enhance is a synonym.

- **Step 3:** Option (2) is correct.

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6. Fill in the blank: The speaker's......... tone captivated the audience.

(1) Monotonous

(2) Eloquent

(3) Harsh

(4) Timid

Correct Answer: (2) Eloquent

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Captivated" implies a positive, engaging effect.
- **Step 2:** Option (1): Monotonous means dull, not captivating. Option (2): Eloquent means expressive and persuasive, fitting the context. Option (3): Harsh is negative. Option (4): Timid suggests lack of confidence.
- **Step 3:** Option (2) is correct.

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7. Which sentence is grammatically incorrect?

(1) Neither of the boys are coming.

(2) Each student has their own book.

(3) The team is playing well.

(4) She and I are friends.

Correct Answer: (1) Neither of the boys are coming.

Solution:

- **Step 1:** Check subject-verb agreement.

- **Step 2:** Option (1): "Neither" is singular, so "are" is incorrect; should be "is." Option (2): "Each" is singular, but "their" is acceptable in modern usage. Option (3): "Team" is singular, "is" is correct. Option (4): "She and I" is correct.

- **Step 3:** Option (1) is incorrect.

> **Quick Tip**
>
> For "neither" or "either," use singular verbs in formal English.

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8. The word "ubiquitous" means:

(1) Rare

(2) Everywhere

(3) Hidden

(4) Temporary

Correct Answer: (2) Everywhere

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Ubiquitous" means present everywhere.

- **Step 2:** Option (1): Rare is the opposite. Option (2): Everywhere matches. Option (3): Hidden is unrelated. Option (4): Temporary is unrelated.

- **Step 3:** Option (2) is correct.

> **Quick Tip**
>
> Learn common vocabulary words and their meanings for quick recall.

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9. Identify the error in the sentence: "The data was interpreted incorrect."

(1) "data was"

(2) "interpreted incorrect"

(3) No error

(4) Both (1) and (2)

Correct Answer: (4) Both (1) and (2)

Solution:

- **Step 1:** Analyze "data was": "Data" is plural, so it should be "were."

- **Step 2:** Analyze "interpreted incorrect": "Incorrect" is an adjective; should be "incorrectly" (adverb).

- **Step 3:** Both errors exist. Option (4) is correct.

> **Quick Tip**
>
> Check for subject-verb agreement and correct part of speech in sentence correction.

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10. What does "mitigate" mean in the sentence: "Steps were taken to mitigate the crisis"?

(1) Worsen

(2) Resolve

(3) Lessen

(4) Ignore

Correct Answer: (3) Lessen

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Mitigate" means to reduce severity.

- **Step 2:** Option (1): Worsen is opposite. Option (2): Resolve implies complete solution, too strong. Option (3): Lessen matches. Option (4): Ignore is unrelated.

- **Step 3:** Option (3) is correct.

> **Quick Tip**
>
> Contextual meaning is key for vocabulary questions; choose the closest fit.

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11. Arrange the sentences:

A. It reduces stress.

B. Exercise improves health.

C. It boosts mental clarity.

D. Regular workouts enhance mood.

(1) B, A, C, D

(2) B, D, A, C

(3) A, B, C, D

(4) C, B, A, D

Correct Answer: (2) B, D, A, C

Solution:

- **Step 1:** B introduces the topic of exercise and health.

- **Step 2:** D, A, C elaborate benefits (mood, stress, clarity), with logical progression from mood to mental benefits.

- **Step 3:** Sequence B, D, A, C flows naturally.

- **Step 4:** Option (2) is correct.

> Quick Tip
>
> Group related ideas in para-jumbles for smooth transitions.

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12. Choose the correct word: The policy had a......... effect on growth.

(1) Detrimental

(2) Beneficial

(3) Neutral

(4) Temporary

Correct Answer: (2) Beneficial

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Growth" suggests a positive context.

- **Step 2:** Option (1): Detrimental means harmful. Option (2): Beneficial means advantageous. Option (3): Neutral means no effect. Option (4): Temporary is unrelated.

- **Step 3:** Option (2) fits best.

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13. Which sentence is grammatically correct?

(1) Me and him went to the store.

(2) He and I went to the store.

(3) Him and I went to the store.

(4) He and me went to the store.

Correct Answer: (2) He and I went to the store.

Solution:

- **Step 1:** Subject pronouns use nominative case ("I," "he").

- **Step 2:** Option (1): "Me" is incorrect. Option (2): "He and I" is correct. Option (3): "Him" is incorrect. Option (4): "Me" is incorrect.

- **Step 3:** Option (2) is correct.

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14. What is the meaning of "pragmatic"?

(1) Idealistic

(2) Practical

(3) Emotional

(4) Theoretical

Correct Answer: (2) Practical

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Pragmatic" means dealing with things realistically and practically.

- **Step 2:** Option (1): Idealistic is opposite. Option (2): Practical matches. Option (3): Emotional is unrelated. Option (4): Theoretical is opposite.

- **Step 3:** Option (2) is correct.

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15. Identify the error: "The team are planning a meeting."

(1) "team are"

(2) "planning a"

(3) No error

(4) "a meeting"

Correct Answer: (1) "team are"

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Team" is a collective noun, singular in this context, requiring "is."
- **Step 2:** Option (1): "team are" is incorrect. Option (2): "planning a" is correct. Option (3): Incorrect due to verb error. Option (4): "a meeting" is correct.
- **Step 3:** Option (1) is correct.

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16. The politician's speech was described as..........

(1) Eloquent

(2) Tedious

(3) Abrupt

(4) Vague

Correct Answer: (1) Eloquent

Solution:

- **Step 1:** A politician's speech is likely positive if highlighted.

- **Step 2:** Option (1): Eloquent means well-spoken, positive. Option (2): Tedious means boring. Option (3): Abrupt means sudden. Option (4): Vague means unclear.

- **Step 3:** Option (1) is correct.

> **Quick Tip**
>
> Choose adjectives that match the implied context of the sentence.

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17. What is the synonym of "obfuscate"?

(1) Clarify

(2) Confuse

(3) Simplify

(4) Explain

Correct Answer: (2) Confuse

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Obfuscate" means to make unclear or confusing.

- **Step 2:** Option (1): Clarify is opposite. Option (2): Confuse matches. Option (3): Simplify is opposite. Option (4): Explain is opposite.

- **Step 3:** Option (2) is correct.

> **Quick Tip**
>
> For synonyms, eliminate opposites and match exact meanings.

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18. Choose the correct sentence:

(1) The book, which I read it, was fascinating.

(2) The book, which I read, was fascinating.

(3) The book which I read it was fascinating.

(4) The book, that I read, was fascinating.

Correct Answer: (2) The book, which I read, was fascinating.

Solution:

- **Step 1:** Non-restrictive clauses use "which" with commas, without "it."

- **Step 2:** Option (1): "it" is redundant. Option (2): Correct structure. Option (3): Missing commas and "it" is redundant. Option (4): "That" is incorrect for non-restrictive clauses.

- **Step 3:** Option (2) is correct.

> **Quick Tip**
>
> Use "which" with commas for non-restrictive clauses; avoid redundant pronouns.

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19. What is the meaning of "cognizant"?

(1) Ignorant

(2) Aware

(3) Confused

(4) Forgetful

Correct Answer: (2) Aware

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Cognizant" means being aware or knowledgeable.

- **Step 2:** Option (1): Ignorant is opposite. Option (2): Aware matches. Option (3): Confused is unrelated. Option (4): Forgetful is opposite.

- **Step 3:** Option (2) is correct.

> **Quick Tip**
>
> Memorize meanings of commonly tested words like "cognizant."

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20. Arrange the sentences:

A. Technology drives progress.

B. It creates new opportunities.

C. Challenges arise from misuse.

D. Responsible use is essential.

(1) A, B, C, D

(2) A, C, B, D

(3) C, A, B, D

(4) B, A, C, D

Correct Answer: (1) A, B, C, D

Solution:

- **Step 1:** A introduces technology's role.

- **Step 2:** B elaborates on benefits, C discusses challenges, D concludes with a solution.

- **Step 3:** Sequence A, B, C, D is logical.

- **Step 4:** Option (1) is correct.

> **Quick Tip**
>
> In para-jumbles, follow a problem-solution or cause-effect structure.

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21. The company's......... approach led to success.

(1) Conservative

(2) Innovative

(3) Reckless

(4) Indifferent

Correct Answer: (2) Innovative

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Success" suggests a positive approach.

- **Step 2:** Option (1): Conservative may not lead to success. Option (2): Innovative implies creativity, fitting success. Option (3): Reckless is negative. Option (4): Indifferent is neutral.

- **Step 3:** Option (2) is correct.

> **Quick Tip**
>
> Match adjectives to the outcome described in the sentence.

22. What is the antonym of "tenuous"?

(1) Weak

(2) Strong

(3) Fragile

(4) Uncertain

Correct Answer: (2) Strong

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Tenuous" means weak or thin.

- **Step 2:** Option (1): Weak is a synonym. Option (2): Strong is opposite. Option (3): Fragile is similar. Option (4): Uncertain is unrelated.

- **Step 3:** Option (2) is correct.

Quick Tip

For antonyms, focus on the primary meaning of the word.

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23. Identify the error: "Every employee have completed their task."

(1) "employee have"

(2) "their task"

(3) No error

(4) "completed their"

Correct Answer: (1) "employee have"

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Every employee" is singular, requiring "has."

- **Step 2:** Option (1): "employee have" is incorrect. Option (2): "their task" is acceptable. Option (3): Incorrect due to verb error. Option (4): "completed their" is correct.

- **Step 3:** Option (1) is correct.

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24. What does "ameliorate" mean in: "The new policy will ameliorate conditions"?

(1) Worsen

(2) Improve

(3) Maintain

(4) Ignore

Correct Answer: (2) Improve

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Ameliorate" means to make better.

- **Step 2:** Option (1): Worsen is opposite. Option (2): Improve matches. Option (3): Maintain is neutral. Option (4): Ignore is unrelated.

- **Step 3:** Option (2) is correct.

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25. Choose the correct sentence:

(1) The data is available online.

(2) The data are available online.

(3) The data was available online.

(4) The data were available online.

Correct Answer: (2) The data are available online.

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Data" is plural, requiring "are."

- **Step 2:** Option (1): "is" is incorrect. Option (2): "are" is correct. Option (3): "was" is incorrect. Option (4): "were" is correct but past tense, not implied.

- **Step 3:** Option (2) is correct.

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26. What is the synonym of "disparate"?

(1) Similar

(2) Different

(3) Equal

(4) Alike

Correct Answer: (2) Different

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Disparate" means distinctly different.
- **Step 2:** Option (1): Similar is opposite. Option (2): Different matches. Option (3): Equal is unrelated. Option (4): Alike is opposite.
- **Step 3:** Option (2) is correct.

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27. The decision was......... by the committee.

(1) Unanimous

(2) Divided

(3) Delayed

(4) Rejected

Correct Answer: (1) Unanimous

Solution:

- **Step 1:** Context implies a positive or definitive decision.

- **Step 2:** Option (1): Unanimous means agreed by all, fitting. Option (2): Divided suggests disagreement. Option (3): Delayed is unrelated. Option (4): Rejected is negative.

- **Step 3:** Option (1) is correct.

> **Quick Tip**
>
> Choose words that align with the sentence's implied outcome.

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28. What is the antonym of "prolific"?

(1) Productive

(2) Scarce

(3) Abundant

(4) Fertile

Correct Answer: (2) Scarce

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Prolific" means producing much or abundantly.

- **Step 2:** Option (1): Productive is similar. Option (2): Scarce means limited, opposite. Option (3): Abundant is similar. Option (4): Fertile is similar.

- **Step 3:** Option (2) is correct.

> **Quick Tip**
>
> For antonyms, focus on words that indicate scarcity versus abundance.

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29. Identify the error: "She has less books than me."

(1) "has less"

(2) "books than"

(3) "than me"

(4) No error

Correct Answer: (3) "than me"

Solution:

- **Step 1:** In comparisons, use "I" after "than" for subject.

- **Step 2:** Option (1): "has less" is correct with "books." Option (2): "books than" is correct. Option (3): "than me" should be "than I." Option (4): Incorrect due to pronoun error.

- **Step 3:** Option (3) is correct.

> **Quick Tip**
>
> Use "I" after "than" in comparisons when it acts as the subject.

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30. What does "exacerbate" mean?

(1) Alleviate

(2) Worsen

(3) Resolve

(4) Ignore

Correct Answer: (2) Worsen

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Exacerbate" means to make worse.

- **Step 2:** Option (1): Alleviate is opposite. Option (2): Worsen matches. Option (3): Resolve is unrelated. Option (4): Ignore is unrelated.

- **Step 3:** Option (2) is correct.

> **Quick Tip**
>
> Learn words with opposite meanings (e.g., exacerbate vs. alleviate) together.

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31. Choose the correct sentence:

(1) Who did you give the book to?

(2) Whom did you give the book to?

(3) Who you gave the book to?

(4) Whom you gave the book?

Correct Answer: (2) Whom did you give the book to?

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Whom" is used for objects, "who" for subjects.

- **Step 2:** Option (1): "Who" is incorrect. Option (2): "Whom" is correct. Option (3): Missing auxiliary "did." Option (4): Incomplete sentence.

- **Step 3:** Option (2) is correct.

> **Quick Tip**
>
> Use "whom" for the object of a verb or preposition.

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32. What is the synonym of "resilient"?

(1) Fragile

(2) Adaptable

(3) Rigid

(4) Weak

Correct Answer: (2) Adaptable

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Resilient" means able to recover or adapt.

- **Step 2:** Option (1): Fragile is opposite. Option (2): Adaptable matches. Option (3): Rigid is opposite. Option (4): Weak is opposite.

- **Step 3:** Option (2) is correct.

> **Quick Tip**
>
> For synonyms, focus on words that imply flexibility or strength.

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33. The manager's decision was..........

(1) Arbitrary

(2) Justified

(3) Delayed

(4) Vague

Correct Answer: (2) Justified

Solution:

- **Step 1:** Context implies a positive or reasoned decision.

- **Step 2:** Option (1): Arbitrary means random. Option (2): Justified means reasoned, fitting.

Option (3): Delayed is unrelated. Option (4): Vague is negative.

- **Step 3:** Option (2) is correct.

> **Quick Tip**
>
> Choose words that align with the sentence's implied reasoning.

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34. Identify the error: "The committee have decided to proceed."

(1) "committee have"

(2) "decided to"

(3) No error

(4) "to proceed"

Correct Answer: (1) "committee have"

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Committee" is singular, requiring "has."

- **Step 2:** Option (1): "committee have" is incorrect. Option (2): "decided to" is correct.

Option (3): Incorrect due to verb error. Option (4): "to proceed" is correct.

- **Step 3:** Option (1) is correct.

> **Quick Tip**
>
> Use singular verbs for collective nouns like "committee."