

## Puzzles

**A puzzle is a problem or enigma that tests the ingenuity of the solver. In a basic puzzle, one is intended to put together pieces in a logical way in order to come up with the desired solution.**

Rules Of the Game

**There are few rules of this game, which help in solving analytical problems systematically.**

**inspect the conditions**

**Identify the most important condition, if any**

**Picturise the information Organize the information in some ways like grids/tables and symbols/notations**

**Elimination of the answer choices**

**Be careful of language used since certain words and phrases form important clues in framing the solution.**

Common types of the Puzzles

**Linear Order: It is one common situation involves six to nine individuals arranged one behind the other . Example: Seven people standing in a single file ticket line, or as seven people sitting in a row of chairs in a theater etc.**

Distributed order

**Another common situation is one in which there is an order, but more than one individual can be assigned to a particular position.**

**Example: seven corporations have offices in a four-storey building: three on one floor, two on another floor, and one on each of the remaining floors.**

Programs

**A third common problem type is what we refer to as programs. In a program, a series of possible events is described.**

**Example : A student planning her curriculum for first four semester. She can choose only from the following. some situations are given type.**

Individual characteristics

**This situation provides the information about characteristics that may or may not have.**

**Example: Five diplomats P,Q,R,S and T are attending conference .**

**P speaks only English and German. similarly some other situation followed by the question like: The language most spoken by the diplomats is? etc .**

Selection situation

**A common situation is selecting the individuals to be placed into groups.**

**Example: Consider a group of people followed the some conditions and question like acceptable new committee ?**

The world This week

**Game deals with scheduling program over a time period, say a week or a year.**

**Example: It consist of of a few conditions, from which the order of the telecast has to be identified.**

**Other variants of this game include**

**Identifying people staying in an apartment complex,**

**Ordering of books in a shelf etc.**

Round table

**In this game, there are a few people sitting around a table. The basic theme here is to identify, from the conditions, the exact placement of a person around the table.**

Different Strokes

**This game is a variant of the above, with more number of elements. There many number of variants of the game, like people standing in a bus stop/ railway station etc.**

Condition Galore

**This is similar to the scheduling/ ordering problems, but because of the "if- then" relationship prevalent, it requires more organized solution process.**

**Example: If A is in team, then B also has to be in the team, type situation followed by question.**

Liar Lair!

**These are game, which contain statements by a few people, which are either true or false. From these statements, you have to answer a few questions depending on the kind of condition given in the problem.**

Alpha-Numeric

**Here, numbers are coded as words or vice-versa and from the rules of this game, exact codes has to be identified.**

**Variants of this game are**

**The usage of the word only as codes**

**Substituting symbols for relations etc.**

Absolute Relatives

**In this game from the data given, relationship (blood relation) has to be identified.**

Map Games

**These types of games describe connection between the elements specified in the game.**

Card Games

**Thought card and dice games appear more in quantitative ability in the form of probability questions, they are known to appear in reasoning questions also.**

Number Game

**The problem generally in the form of a grid, wherein based on the conditions given, the grid has to be filled with appropriate number**

Bulls Eyes

**This game basically involved scoring a certain number of points on the dashboard.**

Who's the winner?

**This game is a variant of the number game. Generally consist of a table, wherein some numbers are missing or are substituted by letters.**

I. Directions (1to 5) : Read the following information carefully and answer the questions that follow.

I. P, Q, R, S, T and U are six students procuring their Master's degree in six different subjects- English, History, Philosophy, Physics, Statistics and Mathematics.

II. Two of them stay in hostel; two stay as paying guest (PG) and the remaining two stay at their home.

III. R does not stay as PG and studies Philosophy.

IV. The students studying Statistics and History do not stay as PG.

V. T studies Mathematics and S studies Physics.

VI. U and S stay in hostel. T stays as PG and Q stays at home.

1. Who studies English?

a. R

b. S

c. T

d. U

e. None of these

2. Which of the following combinations of subjects and place of stay is not correct?

- a.English- Hostel
- b.Mathematics- PG
- c.Philosophy- Home
- d.Physics- Hostel
- e.None of these

3. Which of the following pairs of students stay one each at hostel and at home?

- a.QR
- b.SR
- c.US
- d.Data inadequate
- e.None of these

4. Which subject does Q study?

- a.History
- b.Statistics
- c.History or Statistics
- d.Data inadequate
- e.None of these

5. Which of the following pairs of students stay at home?

- a.PQ
- b.QR
- c.RS
- d.ST
- e.None of these

II. Five plays A, B, C, D and E are to be staged from Monday to Friday of a week. On each day, only one play will be staged. D or E should not be either the first or last to be staged. E should be immediately followed by C. B should be staged immediately after D. One play is staged between A and B.

6.Which is the first play to be staged?

- a.A
- b.B
- c.C
- d.Cannot be determined
- e.None of these

7.Which of the following is the correct sequence of staging all the plays?

- a.A D B C E
- b.A E C D B
- c.B D A E C
- d.D B E C A
- e.None of these

8. Which play was staged on Wednesday?

- a. A
- b. B
- c. Either B or C
- d. Cannot be determined
- e. None of these

III. There are five friends. They are standing in a row facing South. Jayesh is to the immediate right of Alok. Pramod is between Bhagat and Subodh. Subodh is between Jayesh and Pramod.

9. Who is at the extreme left end?

- a. Alok
- b. Bhagat
- c. Subodh
- d. Data inadequate
- e. None of these

10. Who is in the middle?

- a. Bhagat
- b. Jayesh
- c. Pramod
- d. Subodh
- e. Alok

### Answer & Explanations

I. 1. Ans: e. P studies English.

2. Ans: a. Clearly the incorrect combination is English- Hostel

3. Ans: b. S stays in hostel and R stays at home.

4. Ans: c. Q studies History or Statistics.

5. Ans: b. Q and R stay at home.

II. E should be immediately followed by C ie, the order EC should be followed. D should be immediately followed by B ie, the order DB should be followed. One play is staged between A and B and D or E should not be the first or last play. So, the order is

Monday     A

Tuesday    D

Wednesday B

Thursday   E

Friday C

6. Ans:a. A is the first play to be staged

7. Ans:e. The correct order is A D B E C

8. Ans:b. B was staged on Wednesday

III. 9. Ans: a. Alok is at the extreme left end.

10. Ans: d. Subodh is in the middle.