



Answers & Explanations

to Saville's Analysis Aptitude Preparation Guide*

In this document you will find detailed explanations to the Verbal, Numerical and Diagrammatic example questions as shown on Saville Consulting's website and PDF preparation guides.

The explanations are in order of appearance.

JobTestPrep Team

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Table of Content

- Verbal Analysis 3
- Passage 1 3
- Passage 2 4
- Numerical Analysis 6
- Set 1 6
- Set 2 7
- Diagrammatic Analysis 8
- Set 1 8
- Set 2 8



Verbal Analysis

Passage 1

Q1

True. When answering a true/false/cannot say question, we must search for the statement in question in the passage. If the statement is found explicitly in the passage then we can deem the statement "true". If the passage states the opposite, then we will deem the statement "false", and when the statement cannot be found in the text, the correct answer will be "cannot say" (as we lack sufficient information).

The passage specifically maintains that: "The value and number of on-the-run eating occasions [...] is increasing significantly." Therefore the statement is correct.

Q2

C. In order to answer this question correctly we must initially clarify what the "merging consumer demands described in the passage" are. We know from the passage that (a) consumers are developing more complex and paradoxical eating patterns, and consequently (b) they are demanding products that are more convenient and healthier. So, we are looking for an answer that relates to a product that is convenient and healthy. Thus, the correct answer is C.

Q3

A. When summarising a passage, it is recommended that we answer the question: "What is the main subject of the passage/ what idea repeats itself throughout the passage?" While all answer options touch upon an idea conveyed in the passage, answer A is the only one that reflects the main subject, the idea which keeps repeating itself throughout the passage in sentences such as: "Sticking to traditional eating times [...] is no longer the norm," "Breakfast is now more commonly skipped," "Consumers are developing more complex and paradoxical eating patterns" etc.

Q4

D. When answering a vocabulary question, the first step is to locate the word in the passage in order to utilise the context to understand its meaning. The word appears in the following sentence: "The three meals a day **maxim** no longer holds true because more consumers are eating outside of the home and at times to suit their lifestyles." The passage conveys the idea that previously, people stuck to the idea of 3 meals a day, however today they tend to be more flexible. The "3 meals a day" in this



context is not a limit or a pattern of eating and it is also not a schedule (as schedule is related to meal times rather than to the number of daily meals). The correct answer is D, as the "3 meals a day" is a concept more than anything else.

Passage 2

Q1

B. Lesley Kim's passage deals entirely with the characteristics of a good leader. The question asks us to locate the action in the answer options that corresponds with one of those characteristics. Theoretically, in order to answer this question we must try and locate the corresponding characteristic mentioned by Kim to each of the answer options. However, a possible way to save some time is to read all the answer options first and try to eliminate answers that seem unreasonable. Such is the case with options C and D (and to some extent also A). After eliminating 50% (or more) of the options, we can start looking for the remaining options in the passage. Answer B is located fairly quickly as the text mentions that: "Good leaders pass all the glory down so that the team feels great about winning".

Q2

C. When answering a vocabulary question, the first step is to locate the word in the passage in order to utilise the context to understand its meaning. The word appears in the following sentence: " They tend to dwell on concepts that divide and separate people rather than on concepts that reflect their interconnectedness and **commonality**." Notice that this sentence has two sections connected with the word "rather" to express two contradicting options. This information will help us understand the meaning of the word as we can simply say that its meaning is probably opposite to something that is divided or separated. The only answer option that has a similar meaning is: C.

Q3

C. When looking for common ground, one should keep in mind that we are looking for a piece of information that appears or is inferred in both passages. Since we have already (probably) scanned the 2 passages, we have some understanding of their content: the right hand passage deals with critique regarding leaders or authority while Kim's passage is somewhat of a list of leadership characteristics. Using this information we can conclude that D is probably not a statement that would appear in Kim's



passage, as it is written in an objective manner. B is probably not a statement that would appear in the right hand passage, as it seems more of a characteristic trait than a critical evaluation. We are left with A and C, both of which are likely to appear in both passages. Now we should return to the passage, scan them and locate one of the two remaining options in both passages. The correct answer is C, as both Kim ("To be a good leader you need to [...] understand how to unite people") and the right hand passage ("They tend to dwell on concepts that divide and separate people rather than on concepts that reflect their interconnectedness and commonality") agree with this statement.

Q4

B. As asserted in the previous explanation, the right hand passage deals with critique regarding leaders or authority while Kim's passage is somewhat of a subjective list of leadership characteristics. Therefore the correct answer is B.

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Numerical Analysis

Set 1

Q1

B. We are asked to locate in the table the volume of sales data for three out of the four channels and add them up. The sum of these three pieces of data adds up to answer option B: $2232+1512+972= 4716$.

Q2

D. We first need to locate the volume of sales data for Online sales, which was already located in the first question (2232). Next, we need to calculate an increase of 14%. This can be accomplished in two ways:

(a) Calculate 14 % out of 2232 ($2232 * 0.14$), and then add this number to 2232. OR

(b) Do this calculation in one step: $2232*1.14 =2544.48$.

Since we are asked for an approximate answer, the closest answer is D.

Q3

A. Proportion is a part considered in relation to a whole. Since percentages are already a calculation of a part (number of transactions by repeat customers) out of the whole (total number of transactions), there is no need for any further information or calculation. The lowest percent indeed belongs to On-Line sales, as the statement suggests.

Q4

C. At first glance it may seem that something is missing: how can we know how many transactions were made if none of the table columns addresses transactions? But, further analysis of the tables allows us to realise that by manipulating two pieces of data – 'volume of sales' and 'average units per transaction' – we can arrive at the correct answer. Mail Order has a volume of sale of 1512 (million) while its average sales per transaction is: 2,100. All that is left is to divide the volume of sales by the average number of unit sales per transaction to arrive at the annual number of transactions: $1512 \text{ million}/2,100 = 720,000$. Note that you can either multiple 1512 by a million (using your calculator) and then divide by 2100, or divide 1512 by 2100 and then multiple by a million. In both instances you will arrive at the same answer.



Set 2

Q1

D. First we need to locate the graph representing domestic demand. The domestic demand is found in the line graph (purple line) and is equal to 15 million tons of steel in year 4. Next we need to calculate 15% out of 15 million to arrive at the answer to our question: $15 \text{ million} * 0.15 = 2,250,000$ which are 2.25 million.

Q2

A. First, let's understand the meaning of a ratio: a ratio is a relationship between two quantities. So, we need to locate those 2 quantities in the graphs and then calculate the relationship between them. The first quantity can be found in the line graph (red line) and it is: 10 million. The second quantity can be found in the column graph and is 5 million. The relationship between them is: $10 \text{ million} / 5 \text{ million} = 5/10 = 2/1$ or 2:1. To put this in words: on every 2 tons of domestic steel production there is 1 ton of steel imported.

Q3

C. When asked a percentage question, one first needs to locate the "whole" (domestic demand in year 2) and the "part" (imported steel in year 2), which is considered in relation to the whole, in order to arrive at a percentage. The "whole" is located in the line graph (purple line) and is equal to: 16 million. The "part" is located in the column graph and is equal to: 3 million. The percentage of 3 million out of 16 million is calculated in the following way: $3 \text{ million} / 16 \text{ million} = 3/16 = 0.1875 * 100 = 18.75\%$. Since we are asked for an approximate answer, we look for the closest one to our result, which is C.

Q4

C. Total imports in year 1: 2 million. Total imports in year 5: 6 million. The difference between the years is: 4 million. Now, as we know, in order to calculate a percentage, one first needs to locate the "whole" and the "part" which is considered in relation to the whole in order to arrive at a percentage. The "part" is the difference (4 million), but what is our "whole"? Is it 2 million (year 1)? Or is it 6 million (year 5)? The answer is: we calculate a total increase between years in regards to the earlier rather than the later year. Therefore our "whole" is 2 million. So, this is our calculation: $4 \text{ million} / 2 \text{ million} = 4/2 = 2 * 100 = 200\%$.



Diagrammatic Analysis

Set 1

Q1

D. Operator T changes the shadings of ALL figures (but not their shape or size). Thus, we should expect all figures to be the same shape and size, but in a different colour. Since the final frame shows that all figures are dark green, we should expect the first frame to include the same figures in light green. This is the case in option D.

Q2

B. The only change observed between the first and last frame is a change in the SHAPE of the first figure. Thus, we need to locate an operator that does exactly that. From examining the panel we can see that this is the function of operator V.

Q3

A. We are presented with a frame that consists of a small, light circle, a dark triangle and a big, light circle. The first operator, U, Swaps the 1st and 3rd figures, so the small circle is now the third figure and the big circle is now the first figure. Next, the T operator changes the shading of all figures, so what we get is (left to right): A big dark circle, a light triangle and, finally, a small dark circle. This frame corresponds with answer option A.

Q4

B. In this type of questions it is recommended first to identify the evident changes between the first and last frame, and only then to assess the functionality of the operators. The only visible change between the frames is that the first figure has changed from a circle shape to a triangle shape. The operator that is responsible for this specific change is operator V. No other changes have occurred and therefore no other operators were involved. Thus the answer is B, as T was not activated.

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Set 2

Q1

A. Since we know from the panel that the "plus" operator changes the size of circles, all we need to do is locate the circles on the last frame and change their size to reflect the initial frame, prior to operating the "plus". Thus the correct answer is A.

Q2

C. Two changes are observed between the first and last frame: (a) the circles have changed their size and (b) the triangle has changed its colour. The corresponding operators responsible for these changes are the "plus" operator (changes size of circles) and the "lightning" operator (changes shading of triangles). Since the order of operation is not relevant in this case (as these two operators are responsible for different shapes), the correct answer is C.

Q3

D. We are told the "arrow" operator "changes light figures", however we are not told in what way. From examining the 2 relevant examples (third and fourth) we can infer that the change is evident in the SIZE of the shapes. There is only one light figure in the frame (the small left circle) and only one answer option which turns that circle into a big circle without changing any of the remaining figures of the frame. This is answer option D.

Q4

A. In this type of questions it is recommended first to identify the evident changes between the first and last frame, and only then to assess the functionality of the operators. There are two visible changes between the frames: the two light triangles have changed their shape and their colour. The light circle does not appear to have changed. Let's try and activate the operators one by one. First, the "arrow" operator" changes the size of the light figures, so ALL figures should have changed their size. While the triangles in the final frame are indeed smaller, the circle's size hasn't changed. The reason for this is the next operator- the "plus"- as its function is to change the size of circles. This explains why the circle in the last frame is identical to the circle in the first frame. The last operator-the "lightning"- indeed changes the color of the triangles. Thus, all operators have worked, and the correct answer is A.

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