



Answers & Explanations

To Talent Q's Elements Example Test*

Welcome to our answers and explanations guide to Talent Q's Elements Example Test. In this document you will find detailed explanations for the Elements Verbal and Numerical sample questions as shown on Talent Q's website. These answers should help you understand the logic of the tests and make the most of your practice.

The explanations are in the same order in which the questions appear in the example tests.

Good luck!

JobTestPrep team

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Elements Verbal

Passage 1

Q1

The answer is: B ('Their price has reduced recently').

Only two out of the six answer options (B and E) actually focus on attributes regarding the subject of the question - e-readers. Since option E is not mentioned in the passage (it only mentions 'improved display', not what improvements were made), we are left with option B as the correct answer. Also, it is mentioned that the new generation of e-reader is cheaper – indicating the price used to be higher and was then reduced.

Option C may seem correct, however it is not stated in the text that they are overtaking the market – only that there is significant growth.

Q2

The answer is: C ('They charge fees').

Scanning the paragraph dealing with the subject of self-publishing we can create a quick comparison table between self and traditional publishing:

	Self-publishing	Traditional publishing
Creative control	Total control	?
% of Profit	High	Low
Fees	High	?
Full publishing service	Not always	Yes
Sales	Millions of copies	?

The only answer option complying with the information in the table is C.

Q3

The answer is: A ('Publishers fulfil a quality assurance role as well as bringing a book to the market').

Jane Collins argues two main things: (a) publishers still have an important role to play, and (b) this includes bringing a book to market (editing, marketing, designing and promoting) and quality control. The only answer corresponding with these arguments is A.



Passage 2

Q1

The answer is: F ('Online collective buying').

Both the headline and the opening sentence of the passage can serve as important clues to the main focus of the text. Both target a new phenomenon called 'collective buying' or 'group buying'. The second paragraph focuses specifically on online collective buying. While group buying is mentioned in the passage we haven't enough information to deduce that it is, in fact, a global phenomenon. Thus, option E can be eliminated. We can, however, deduce that the trend described in the passage is that of online collective buying. Thus, the correct answer is option F.

Q2

The answer is: B ('Inaccurate product description').

The latter half of the second paragraph deals with the disadvantages of collective buying; It is easily identified by the words: 'potential pitfall' and 'criticised'. One of the criticisms is misleading product description.

Q3

The answer is: D ('Safeguarding users' rights').

The Ombudsman's commentary appears at the end of the second paragraph. His words end with a statement that group buying websites should do more to protect the consumers' rights.

Passage 3

Q1

The answer is: B ('Fuel economy').

The stated purpose of the scheme is 'to discourage overseas air travel and thereby reduce greenhouse gas emissions'. One factor involved in reducing greenhouse gas emissions is fuel economy. By not taking the fuel economy into consideration, the scheme misses a key element of its purpose.



Q2

The answer is: F ('high tax revenue').

The economic implications of the APD tax are scattered throughout the text. However one of them receives special attention. In the first paragraph APD is linked to 'the UK having the highest air passenger taxes of anywhere in the world'. Additionally, in the last paragraph the author of the text comments that: 'APD appears to be a government revenue-raising scheme...'. Note that two distractors discuss investment in environmental projects; however, the text specifically rules them out, saying that there is 'little evidence' the money is going to environmental projects.

Q3

The answer is: E ('Air travellers can afford to pay more to fly').

The spokesman claims the following: 'Well-off travellers should compensate for environmental damages caused by their flights'. The hidden assumption here is that these travellers can actually afford to pay. If they weren't able to pay, this claim would not have made any sense.

Passage 4

Q1

The answer is: D ('Optional agreements promoting equitable prices').

The Government's stand on the milk industry issue is given in at the end of the second paragraph. It is said the ministers are promoting the 'adoption of voluntary pricing code between farmers and processors'.

Q2

The answer is: A and F ('Milk importations' and 'Future reduction in milk prices').

Gareth Evans, a representative from Dairy association, says, 'Further cuts will drive one in ten hard-working dairy farmers out of business and result in shortages necessitating milk importations'. Thus, he is protesting against further cuts and milk importation.



Q3

The answer is: F ('Lower profit margins for supermarkets').

Throughout the passage many different reasons are mentioned as a possible cause of the milk industry crisis. In the first paragraph dairy farmers claim that the problem is that milk prices are lower than production prices. In the second paragraph, milk processors blame falling commodity prices while farming unions attribute low milk prices to the processors' fight for market share. The third paragraph deals with the issues of farming subsidiaries and state protection. By elimination we are left with option F. Note the passage mentions that the profit margins of supermarket actually increased.

Passage 5

Q1

The answer is: B and C ('Multi-asset funds are popular in times of economic uncertainty' and 'The return from multi-asset funds is variable').

One way of dealing with this type of question is to read each statement and try to find a sentence that refutes it in the text. This means that if we work correctly, by way of elimination we will arrive at the two correct conclusions. Options D, E and F are all refuted in the second paragraph. Option A is simply absent from the text. Thus we are left with options B and C as the correct conclusions from the text.

Q2

The answer is: F ('Investors who prefer to diversify their investment').

Multi asset funds can be summed up in a few bullet points:

- Popular in times of economic instability
- Low risk/ Stable
- Diversified
- For investors who are not interested on a hands-on approach.

These characteristics contradict all answer options except F, so by process of elimination we are left with that answer.

Q3

The answer is: A and E ('A cautious investor may find them attractive' and 'A high-risk investor would be deterred from buying them').



Multi asset funds are presented in the passage as low-risk investments, which offer investors a way to spread their investment risk across several asset classes. Thus, we can conclude that the passage suggests the idea that 'a cautious investor may find them attractive'. In addition, the passage states that the lower risk comes at a price – that the performance of multi-asset funds lags behind higher risk funds when they rally. This suggests that high-risk investors may be deterred from buying them as their aim is high profit, not merely preserve their wealth. Note that although the first sentence of the passage establishes a correlation between low interest rates and the increase in multi-asset funds' popularity, it doesn't suggest a causal relationship between the two. Thus, we cannot determine that a reduction of interest rates will lead to an increase in popularity of multi-asset funds.

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Elements Numerical

Set 1

Q1

- Identify the 'Diamond' column in the table (fourth column).
- Add up the sales totals across all regions: 37,700.
- Divide the above sum by 7 regions to arrive at the average monthly sales value of the package: $37,700/7 = 5,395.71$.
- Find the correct or nearest answer: there are two answer options closest to our result: 5,395 and 5,396. Since our result is closer to **5,396**, this is the correct answer.

Q2

- Identify the 'Platinum', 'Executive' and 'Premium' columns (first three columns).



b) Consider estimating the three or four best-selling regions before attempting to calculate the totals for **all 7** regions. One way to do this is to locate the best-selling regions for each column:

Platinum	Executive	Premium
8965 (N-E)	8600 (N-E)	6100 (North)
8700 (S-E)	8760 (South)	6760 (S-E)
8,600 (West)	8965 (west)	6125 (West)

- c) Five regions appear in our table, however, a quick look at both South and North regions is enough to eliminate them as a possible answer, as their sales numbers for the remaining packs are significantly low. We are now left with three regions: N-E: 21,330; S-E: 21,580; West: 23,690
- d) The correct answer is the **South-East** region.

Q3

- a) Locate the price and duration of a 'Diamond' contract: £40, 6 months.
- b) Locate the price and duration of a 'Platinum' contract: £45, 24 months.
- c) Calculate the new Platinum cost after a 20% discount: $£45 * 0.8 = £36$.
- d) Calculate the total cost over the two contract durations: $£40 * 6 + £36 * 24 = £1104$.
- e) Find the correct or nearest correct answer: only one correct answer choice is available and it is identical to our result: **1104**.

Set 2

Q4

- a) Identify the location of Today's price of Safron shares (sixth row; forth column): £13.8.
- b) Calculate the cost per 450 shares: $450 * 13.8 = £6,210$.
- c) Calculate the number of Troika shares you are asked to buy: $450/2 = 225$.
- d) Locate today's price of Troika shares (seventh row; forth column): £12.75.
- e) Calculate the cost per 225 shares: $225 * 12.75 = £2,868.75$.
- f) Sum up the cost of 450 Safron shares *and* 225 Troika shares: $6,210 + 2868.75 = £9,078.75$.
- g) Select the nearest correct answer (to the nearest £100): we have two option, £9000 and £9100. Since 9,078.75 is closer to 9100 than to 9000, **£9100** is our answer.



Q5

- a) Remember **Yearly Dividends are in pennies!!** This means we need to divide each dividend by 100, or, for the purposes of this question, multiply Today's price of each share by 100 instead.
- b) Instead of trying to calculate the percentage of each dividend out of the share's price, let's try to estimate how much is 10% and 5% of each share's price and start eliminating answers. The correct answer will be a number between 10% and 5%:

Share	Price (X100)	10%	5%	Dividend	
Acorn	1400	140	70	45+15=60	<5%
EDP	1310	131	≈65	15+60=75	5% -10%
Jasone	1250	125	≈62	20+50=70	5% -10%
Kilic	925	92.5	≈46	30+35=65	5% -10%
Soares	810	81	≈40	10+30=40	= 5%
Safron	1380	138	69	35+35=70	= 5%
Troika	1275	127.5	≈64	40+10=50	< 5%

- c) We are left with 3 options. Time permitting we can now quickly calculate the percentage value of each dividend out of the share's price. If there is no time left we will make an estimated guess. Since **Kilic's** dividend falls exactly between the 5% and 10% values, we will choose this as the correct answer.

Q6

- a) Calculate Today's price of 50,000 Kilic shares: $50,000 * 9.25 = £462,500$
- b) Calculate the July-Dec dividend (and don't forget to divide by 100!): $50,000 * 35/100 = £17,500$.
- c) Add up profits: $£462,500 + £17,500 = £480,000$.
- d) Locate the price of Soars shares (£8.1) and divide the profits by the price per share to arrive at the number of Soars shares you can buy with your proceeds: $£480,000/£8.1 = 59,259.2$ shares.
- e) Find the nearest correct answer (to the nearest £1000): there are two answer options that could be considered, 59,000 and 60,000. Since our result is closer to **59,000** than to 60,000, this is our final answer.



Set 3

Q7

- a) Locate the entrance fee of an adult (second row) visiting the Royal Park (third column): £9.00.
- b) Pay attention to the date: the 1st of February. Even if you haven't read the asterisks at the bottom of the table prior to reading the question, an explicit mentioning of a specific date should serve as a clue that there might be additional information in the question/data that is important to acknowledge.
- c) Read the relevant asterisk: '10% on full price between 1 Dec and 31 Jan'. This discount does not apply to the first date mentioned in the question.
- d) Locate the adult fee for visiting the Theme Park: £11. Since it is mentioned that this visit happened on the previous day (i.e. 31 Jan) this price should be reduced by 10%: $11 * 0.9 = £9.9$. Thus, the ratio of the fees is: 9:9.9.
- e) Find the corresponding ratio among the answer options. Since there is no option of 9:9.9 we must try and find another ratio representing the same relationship between both fees. The answer is **10:11**.

Q8

- a) First let's understand what 'aged 60 and under' means: it means calculating only the 'children' and 'adult' categories.
- b) Secondly, pay attention to the headline: 'Average Daily Visitors...' Thus, to calculate the number of visitors from Monday to Friday we will need to multiply the number of visitors by 5.
- c) Calculate the number of visitors to Flower Park: children + adults = 4650 per day; 23,250 per week.
- d) Calculate the number of visitors to Theme Park: children + adults = 6100 per day; 30,500 per week.
- e) The difference between the two: $30,500 - 23,250 = 7,250$.

Q9

- a) First let's thoroughly understand the question. We are asked to calculate the **additional daily** revenue across all types of fees once 5% is added to the price. Additional = the 5% increase in price. Daily = the fee is to be multiplied by the daily number of visitors.
- b) For each fee type (children/adult/senior) we need to perform the following operations: (5% of old price) X number of visitors.



- c) On a calculator we can type in one long calculation: $6 \cdot .05 \cdot 1550 + 10 \cdot .05 \cdot 3100 + 4.5 \cdot .05 \cdot 4450 = 3,016.25$.
- d) Select the nearest correct answer: the only option close to our result is **3,016**, which is the correct answer.

Set 4

Q10

- a) Locate Dublin and Berlin in the table. Before moving forward with the question, notice the asterisk attached to these cities. Apparently, their data appears in Euros and, moreover, each month has a different exchange rate. Since we are asked to compare Berlin and Dublin to London, we will have no choice other than to convert Euros to GBP or vice versa. Since the conversion table offers the conversion rates to GBP, we will convert Euros to GBP.
- b) Calculate the combined sales of Dublin and Berlin for the months of April to June in GBP: April: $(105+95) \cdot 1.1 = \text{£}269.5$; May: $(105+105) \cdot 1.15 = \text{£}241.5$; (135+90) $\cdot 1.2 = \text{£}270$. The sum of all three months is: **£781 (thousand)**. Please note that using a calculator, you can do this calculation in one long step.
- c) Add up the London sales for the same months: $100+120+120 = \text{£}340$ (thousand).
- d) Calculate the ratio: 781:340.
- e) Find the corresponding ratio within the answer choices: the closest ratio is 2:1.
- f) Please note that since the conversion rates between the Euro and the GBP are quite close to 1, it is possible to estimate the ratio without converting the currencies and thus saving time in the process.

Q11

- a) Identify the sales number for the first quarter in Berlin (305) and Dublin (250).
- b) Notice two important details in the table and question: (1) the sales data are in units of thousands; (2) the question asks for the answer in Euros. Thus, there is no need to convert the sales data of Dublin and Berlin.
- c) All that is left is to subtract the Dublin sales from the Berlin sales: $\text{€}305 - \text{€}250 = \text{€}55$ (**000's**).



Q12

- a) Locate the New York outlet's sales for April and May: $145+135=280$.
- b) Note that, according to the asterisk attached to this city, sales data are in dollars. Also note that the question asks us for the sales sum in dollars as well. Thus, there is no need to convert the data to a different currency.
- c) Basically, we already have our answer, as calculated in the first clause: **\$280 (thousand)**.

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