

10. Alphabet Test

Alphabetical order: Arranging words in alphabetical order implies 'to arrange them in the order as they appear in a dictionary', i.e., as per the order in which the beginning letters of these words appear in the English alphabet.

Solved examples

Ex.1 If the following five words are arranged in alphabetical order, which word will come in third place?

- (1) Draw (2) Read (3) Play (4) Back

Sol. Arranging the words in alphabetical order, we have: Back, Draw, Play, Read, Want.

Clearly, the word 'Play' comes in the middle. So, the answer is (3).

Ex.2 Which of the following words will come fourth in the English dictionary?

- (1) False (2) Follow (3) Faithfully (4) Fallible

Sol. The given words can be arranged in the alphabetical order as :

Faithfully, Fallible, False, Follow, Fool

Clearly, 'Follow' comes fourth. So, the answer is (2).

Ex.3 How many such letters are there in the word BACKLASH each of which is as far away from the beginning of the word as it is from the beginning of the English alphabet?

- (1) Three (2) One (3) Two (4) None

Sol. Clearly, C and H are respectively the third and eighth letters in the word BACKLASH as well as in the English alphabet. Thus, there are two such letters.

Hence, the answer is (3).

Ex.4 If the letters in the word POWERFUL are rearranged as they appear in the English alphabet, the position of how many letters will remain unchanged after the rearrangement?

- (1) None (2) One (3) Two (4) Three

Sol. Sequence in the word:

POWERFUL }

Sequence in English alphabet:

EFLOPRUW }

Clearly, the position of letter U remains unchanged. Hence, the answer is (2).

In this type of questions, generally a letter-series is given, be it the English alphabets from A to Z or a randomised sequence of letters. The candidate is then required to trace the letters satisfying certain given conditions as regards their position in the given sequence or the sequence obtained by performing certain given operations on the given sequence.

Ex.5 Answer the given questions based on the following English alphabet:

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

1. Which letter is fifth to the right of the eighteenth letter from your right?

- (1) C (2) D (3) E (4) N

2. If all the vowels are removed from the alphabet, which letter will be the seventh to the right of the fifth letter from the left?

- (1) L (2) M (3) N (4) P

3. If every alternate letter, starting with A, is removed from the alphabet, which letter among the remaining letters would be the third to the right of the fifth letter from the right?

- (1) X (2) V (3) L (4) J

4. If A and B are written as B and A, C and D as D and C, E and F as F and E and so on till the end of the alphabet, what will be the position of M from your right?
 (1) 11th (2) 12th (3) 13th (4) 14th
5. If the above alphabet is arranged in reverse order, which letter will be twelfth to the left of the sixteenth letter from your left?
 (1) D (2) V (3) W (4) X

Sol.

1. Counting from the right end of the given alphabet-series, i.e., from Z, the eighteenth letter is I. Counting from I towards the right, the fifth letter is N.
 So, the answer is (4).
2. Removing all the vowels, i.e., A, E, I, O, U, we obtain the following letter-series:
 B C D F G H J K L M N P Q R S T V W X Y Z
 Counting from the left in the above series, i.e., from B, the fifth letter is G. Counting from G towards right, the seventh letter is P.
 So, the answer is (4).
3. Leaving out A, C, E, G, ..., W, Y, we obtain the following letter-series:
 B D F H J L N P R T V X Z
 Counting from the right in the above letter-series, the fifth letter is R. Counting from R, the third letter to the right is X. So, the answer is (1).
4. The new letter-series obtained is :
 B A D C F E H G J I L K N M P O R Q T S V U X W Z Y
 Counting from Y in the above series, M is the 13th letter. So, the answer is (3).
5. We obtain the following letter-series on reversing the order of the alphabets:
 Z Y X W V U T S R Q P O N M L K J I H G F E D C B A
 Counting from left, i.e., from Z in the above series, the sixteenth letter is K. Counting from K towards left, the twelfth letter is W. So, the answer is (3).

EXERCISE

Direction (Q.1 to Q.4) : In each of the following questions, arrange the given words in the sequence in which they occur in the dictionary and then choose the correct sequence.

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| 1. 1. Select 5. Seller (1) 1, 2, 4, 5, 3 | 2. 2. Seldom (2) 2, 1, 5, 4, 3 | 3. 3. Send (3) 2 , 1, 4, 5, 3 | 4. 4. Selfish (4) 2, 5, 4, 1, 3 |
| 2. 1. Protein 5. Project (1) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 | 2. 2. Problem (2) 2, 1, 4, 3, 5 | 3. 3. Proverb (3) 2 , 5, 4, 1, 3 | 4. 4. Property (4) 3, 4, 5, 2, 1 |
| 3. 1. Pestle 5. Pessimist (1) 5 , 4, 3, 2, 1 | 2. 2. Pestilence (2) 4, 3, 1, 5, 2 | 3. 3. Pester (3) 3, 4, 2, 5, 1 | 4. 4. Pest (4) 4, 5, 1, 2, 3 |
| 4. 1. Page 5. Palate (1) 1, 4, 2, 3, 5 | 2. 2. Pagan (2) 2, 4, 1, 3, 5 | 3. 3. Palisade (3) 1, 4, 2, 5, 3 | 4. 4. Pageant (4) 2 , 1, 4, 5, 3 |

Direction (Q.5 to Q.7) : Arrange the given words as in a dictionary and tick the one that comes fourth.

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|-----------------|-------------|---------------|----------------|
| 5. (1) Fault | (2) Fantasy | (3) Fascinate | (4) Fansticism |
| 6. (1) Harridan | (2) Harness | (3) Harrow | (4) Harmony |
| 7. (1) Warring | (2) Waving | (3) Watching | (4) Wanting |
8. Arrange the given words in alphabetical order and tick the one that comes last.
 (1) plane (2) plain (3) ~~player~~ (4) place
9. Which letter should be fourth to the right of twelfth letter from the right if the second half of the alphabet series is reversed ?
 (1) J (2) K (3) L (4) M
10. If it is possible to make a meaningful word with the second, the fourth, the fifth, the seventh and the eleventh letters of the word DISTRIBUTION which of the following will be the third letter of that word ? If no such word can be formed give X as answer.
 (1) O (2) I (3) ~~B~~ (4) X
11. If the alphabets were written in the reverse order, which letter will be the fifth letter to the right of the fourteenth letter from the left.
 (1) R (2) I (3) S (4) H
12. Which letter will come exactly between the 10th letter from your left and the 7th letter from your right. Without changing any order in the original from the alphabet?
 (1) N (2) P (3) O (4) Q
13. If it is possible to form a word with the first, fourth, seventh and eleventh letters in the word 'SUPERFLUOUS' write the second letter of that word. Otherwise, X is the answer?
 (1) S (2) E (3) L (4) X
14. In the following alphabet second half is written first and then the first half is arranged in reverse order. Then which of the following will be the 5th letter to the left of 16th letter from the right?
 (1) S (2) T (3) P (4) F
15. If 1st & 7th, 2nd & 8th, 3rd & 9th letters are interchanged in the word TRANSLATION. What will be the fifth letter to the right of 9th letter from the right?
 (1) ~~T~~ (2) L (3) R (4) S

- A¹ B² C³ D⁴ E⁵ F⁶ G⁷ H⁸ I⁹ J¹⁰ K¹¹ L¹² M¹³ N¹⁴ O¹⁵ P¹⁶ Q¹⁷ R¹⁸ S¹⁹ T²⁰ U²¹ V²²
W^x Y^z
23 24 25 26

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|------|----|----|----|----|----|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Que. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| Ans. | 3 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 2 |
| Que. | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ans. | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |