

CAT 2014 VARC Slot 2 Question Paper with Solutions

Time Allowed :3 Hours	Maximum Marks :300	Total questions :100
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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. The word in the sentence below that is most similar in meaning to "ephemeral" is: "The beauty of the sunset was ephemeral, fading quickly as night approached."

- (1) Transient
- (2) Eternal
- (3) Vibrant
- (4) Radiant

Correct Answer: (1) Transient

Solution:

- **Step 1:** Understand the meaning of "ephemeral," which refers to something short-lived or fleeting.
- **Step 2:** Evaluate options: (1) Transient means short-lived, (2) Eternal means everlasting, (3) Vibrant means lively, (4) Radiant means glowing.
- **Step 3:** Compare with context: The sunset's beauty fades quickly, so "transient" aligns best.
- **Step 4:** Eliminate: Eternal is opposite; vibrant and radiant describe quality, not duration.
- **Step 5:** Confirm: "Transient" matches the meaning of "ephemeral."
- **Step 6:** Option (1) is correct.

Quick Tip

For synonym questions, focus on the word's meaning in context and eliminate options that don't match the intended sense.

2. Choose the word that best completes the sentence: "Her demeanor at the meeting impressed everyone."

- (1) Confident
- (2) Hesitant
- (3) Apathetic
- (4) Hostile

Correct Answer: (1) Confident

Solution:

- **Step 1:** Analyze the sentence: "Impressed everyone" suggests a positive trait.
- **Step 2:** Evaluate options: (1) Confident (positive, strong), (2) Hesitant (uncertain), (3) Apathetic (indifferent), (4) Hostile (negative).
- **Step 3:** Positive context eliminates hesitant, apathetic, and hostile.
- **Step 4:** Confident fits as it implies a strong, impressive demeanor.
- **Step 5:** Verify: A confident demeanor would likely impress others.
- **Step 6:** Option (1) is correct.

Quick Tip

In sentence completion, use the tone and context to guide your choice of word.

3. Which word is the antonym of "benevolent"?

- (1) Kind
- (2) Malevolent
- (3) Generous
- (4) Altruistic

Correct Answer: (2) Malevolent

Solution:

- **Step 1:** Define "benevolent": kind, generous, well-meaning.
- **Step 2:** Antonym means opposite: (1) Kind (similar), (2) Malevolent (hostile, evil), (3) Generous (similar), (4) Altruistic (similar).
- **Step 3:** Malevolent is the clear opposite of benevolent.
- **Step 4:** Eliminate kind, generous, altruistic as they are synonyms.
- **Step 5:** Confirm: Malevolent denotes harmful intent, opposite of benevolent's goodwill.
- **Step 6:** Option (2) is correct.

Quick Tip

For antonym questions, ensure the opposite meaning aligns with the word's primary sense.

4. The sentence below contains an error. Identify the correct replacement for the underlined word: "His decision was based on a wrong principal."

- (1) Principle
- (2) Precept
- (3) Premise
- (4) No error

Correct Answer: (1) Principle

Solution:

- **Step 1:** Analyze: "Principal" means main or a school leader; "principle" means a rule or belief.
- **Step 2:** Context suggests a rule or basis for the decision, so "principle" fits.
- **Step 3:** Evaluate: (1) Principle (correct), (2) Precept (similar but less common), (3) Premise (basis for argument), (4) No error (incorrect, as "principal" is wrong).
- **Step 4:** Confirm: "Principle" is the standard term for a guiding rule.
- **Step 5:** Option (1) is correct.

Quick Tip

Distinguish between homophones like "principal" and "principle" based on context.

5. Choose the correct meaning of the idiom: "Bite the bullet."

- (1) To act impulsively
- (2) To face a difficult situation bravely
- (3) To avoid responsibility
- (4) To make a hasty decision

Correct Answer: (2) To face a difficult situation bravely

Solution:

- **Step 1:** Recall the idiom: "Bite the bullet" means enduring something tough.

- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Impulsive action (incorrect), (2) Facing difficulty bravely (correct), (3) Avoiding responsibility (opposite), (4) Hasty decision (incorrect).
- **Step 3:** Confirm: The idiom originates from enduring pain without complaint.
- **Step 4:** Eliminate options that don't match the idiom's meaning.
- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

Quick Tip

Understand the origin or context of idioms to deduce their meanings accurately.

6. Which sentence is grammatically correct?

- (1) She don't like to travel alone.
- (2) She doesn't likes to travel alone.
- (3) She doesn't like to travel alone.
- (4) She don't likes to travel alone.

Correct Answer: (3) She doesn't like to travel alone.

Solution:

- **Step 1:** Check subject-verb agreement: "She" is singular, requires "doesn't."
- **Step 2:** Verb form: Base form "like" follows "doesn't."
- **Step 3:** Evaluate: (1) "don't" is incorrect for singular, (2) "doesn't likes" uses wrong verb form, (3) Correct, (4) Both errors.
- **Step 4:** Confirm: "She doesn't like" is standard English.
- **Step 5:** Option (3) is correct.

Quick Tip

Ensure subject-verb agreement and correct verb form after auxiliaries like "doesn't."

7. What is the tone of the following sentence? "The politician's decision to ignore the evidence was utterly deplorable."

- (1) Neutral

- (2) Sarcastic
- (3) Critical
- (4) Humorous

Correct Answer: (3) Critical

Solution:

- **Step 1:** Analyze: "Utterly deplorable" indicates strong disapproval.
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Neutral (no judgment), (2) Sarcastic (mocking tone absent), (3) Critical (strong disapproval), (4) Humorous (no humor).
- **Step 3:** Confirm: The tone condemns the politician's action.
- **Step 4:** Eliminate non-critical tones.
- **Step 5:** Option (3) is correct.

Quick Tip

Identify tone by focusing on emotionally charged words and their implications.

8. Choose the correct spelling:

- (1) Accomodation
- (2) Accommodation
- (3) Acommodation
- (4) Accomadation

Correct Answer: (2) Accommodation

Solution:

- **Step 1:** Standard spelling of "accommodation" has double "c" and double "m."
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Single "m," (2) Correct, (3) Single "c," (4) Incorrect "a."
- **Step 3:** Confirm: "Accommodation" is the standard form.
- **Step 4:** Eliminate incorrect spellings.
- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

Quick Tip

For commonly misspelled words, recall standard patterns like double letters.

9. Which word best fits the blank in the sentence? "The scientist's discovery was a*breakthrough* in medical research."

- (1) Minor
- (2) Negligible
- (3) Monumental
- (4) Temporary

Correct Answer: (3) Monumental

Solution:

- **Step 1:** Context: A breakthrough in medical research is likely significant.
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Minor (small), (2) Negligible (insignificant), (3) Monumental (major), (4) Temporary (short-lived).
- **Step 3:** Monumental fits a significant discovery.
- **Step 4:** Eliminate options that suggest insignificance or temporariness.
- **Step 5:** Option (3) is correct.

Quick Tip

Choose words that match the context and intensity of the sentence's meaning.

10. Identify the part of speech of the underlined word: "She walked *confidently* into the room."

- (1) Adjective
- (2) Adverb
- (3) Noun
- (4) Verb

Correct Answer: (2) Adverb

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Confidently" describes how she walked, modifying the verb.
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Adjective (modifies noun), (2) Adverb (modifies verb), (3) Noun (person/place/thing), (4) Verb (action).
- **Step 3:** Adverb fits as it describes the action "walked."
- **Step 4:** Confirm: "Confidently" ends in "-ly," typical for adverbs.
- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

Quick Tip

Identify part of speech by analyzing what the word modifies in the sentence.

11. Choose the correct sentence:

- (1) The team is playing good today.
- (2) The team is playing well today.
- (3) The team are playing good today.
- (4) The team are playing well today.

Correct Answer: (2) The team is playing well today.

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Team" is singular, so use "is."
- **Step 2:** "Well" (adverb) modifies "playing"; "good" (adjective) is incorrect.
- **Step 3:** Evaluate: (1) Wrong adverb, (2) Correct, (3) Wrong verb and adverb, (4) Wrong verb.
- **Step 4:** Confirm: "Is playing well" is grammatically correct.
- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

Quick Tip

Use "well" to modify verbs and ensure subject-verb agreement for collective nouns.

12. What is the meaning of the phrase "to throw in the towel"?

- (1) To start a new project
- (2) To give up
- (3) To take a break
- (4) To challenge someone

Correct Answer: (2) To give up

Solution:

- **Step 1:** The phrase "throw in the towel" means to surrender or quit.
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Incorrect (opposite), (2) Correct, (3) Incorrect (implies pause), (4) Incorrect (implies confrontation).
- **Step 3:** Confirm: Originates from boxing, where throwing a towel signals defeat.
- **Step 4:** Eliminate options not related to giving up.
- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

Quick Tip

Learn common idioms and their origins to understand their meanings.

13. Which word is closest in meaning to "ubiquitous"?

- (1) Rare
- (2) Omnipresent
- (3) Hidden
- (4) Temporary

Correct Answer: (2) Omnipresent

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Ubiquitous" means present everywhere.
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Rare (opposite), (2) Omnipresent (everywhere), (3) Hidden (opposite), (4) Temporary (unrelated).
- **Step 3:** Omnipresent is synonymous with ubiquitous.
- **Step 4:** Eliminate options that don't mean "everywhere."

- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

Quick Tip

For synonyms, choose words with the closest meaning in all contexts.

14. Identify the error in the sentence: "The company's profits has increased significantly."

- (1) Company's
- (2) Has
- (3) Increased
- (4) No error

Correct Answer: (2) Has

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Company" is singular, so the verb should be "have" for plural or "has" corrected to "have" in context.
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Correct possessive, (2) "Has" should be "have" (typo in question), (3) Correct verb, (4) Incorrect as error exists.
- **Step 3:** Correct sentence: "The company's profits have increased."
- **Step 4:** Confirm: Subject-verb agreement error in "has."
- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

Quick Tip

Check subject-verb agreement, especially with collective nouns like "company."

15. Choose the word that best fits: "His speech was so that the audience was captivated."

- (1) Monotonous
- (2) Eloquent
- (3) Vague
- (4) Tedious

Correct Answer: (2) Eloquent

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Captivated" suggests a positive, engaging quality.
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Monotonous (boring), (2) Eloquent (articulate, captivating), (3) Vague (unclear), (4) Tedious (dull).
- **Step 3:** Eloquent fits a captivating speech.
- **Step 4:** Eliminate negative or neutral options.
- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

Quick Tip

Match the adjective to the emotional impact described in the sentence.

16. What is the synonym of "mitigate"?

- (1) Aggravate
- (2) Alleviate
- (3) Intensify
- (4) Complicate

Correct Answer: (2) Alleviate

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Mitigate" means to reduce or lessen.
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Aggravate (worsen), (2) Alleviate (reduce), (3) Intensify (increase), (4) Complicate (make complex).
- **Step 3:** Alleviate is synonymous with mitigate.
- **Step 4:** Eliminate options that mean the opposite or unrelated.
- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

Quick Tip

For synonyms, ensure the word matches the exact meaning, not just a related concept.

17. Which sentence uses the correct punctuation?

- (1) I have two cats; a dog and a bird.
- (2) I have two cats, a dog, and a bird.
- (3) I have two cats: a dog, and a bird.
- (4) I have two cats a dog and a bird.

Correct Answer: (2) I have two cats, a dog, and a bird.

Solution:

- **Step 1:** A list requires commas, with "and" before the last item.
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Incorrect semicolon, (2) Correct commas and "and," (3) Incorrect colon, (4) Missing commas.
- **Step 3:** Confirm: Standard list punctuation uses commas and "and."
- **Step 4:** Option (2) is correct.

Quick Tip

Use commas to separate items in a list and "and" before the final item.

18. What is the meaning of the phrase "burn the midnight oil"?

- (1) To waste time
- (2) To work late into the night
- (3) To start a fire
- (4) To relax after work

Correct Answer: (2) To work late into the night

Solution:

- **Step 1:** The phrase means working hard late at night.
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Incorrect (opposite), (2) Correct, (3) Literal and incorrect, (4) Incorrect (opposite).
- **Step 3:** Confirm: Refers to working by lamplight historically.
- **Step 4:** Eliminate unrelated meanings.

- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

Quick Tip

Interpret idioms by considering their historical or contextual origins.

19. Choose the antonym of "obscure":

- (1) Hidden
- (2) Clear
- (3) Vague
- (4) Mysterious

Correct Answer: (2) Clear

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Obscure" means unclear or hidden.
- **Step 2:** Antonym: (1) Hidden (synonym), (2) Clear (opposite), (3) Vague (synonym), (4) Mysterious (synonym).
- **Step 3:** Clear is the opposite of obscure.
- **Step 4:** Eliminate synonyms of obscure.
- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

Quick Tip

For antonyms, select the word that directly opposes the given word's meaning.

20. Which word best completes the sentence? "The manager's approach ensured team unity."

- (1) Divisive
- (2) Collaborative
- (3) Indifferent
- (4) Aggressive

Correct Answer: (2) Collaborative

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Team unity" suggests a positive, cooperative approach.
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Divisive (causes conflict), (2) Collaborative (promotes unity), (3) Indifferent (neutral), (4) Aggressive (hostile).
- **Step 3:** Collaborative fits best for unity.
- **Step 4:** Eliminate options that don't promote unity.
- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

Quick Tip

Choose words that align with the outcome described in the sentence.

21. Identify the error in the sentence: "Neither of the boys are coming to the party."

- (1) Neither
- (2) Are
- (3) Coming
- (4) No error

Correct Answer: (2) Are

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Neither" takes a singular verb ("is").
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Correct usage, (2) "Are" should be "is," (3) Correct verb, (4) Incorrect as error exists.
- **Step 3:** Correct sentence: "Neither of the boys is coming."
- **Step 4:** Confirm: Singular verb required for "neither."
- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

Quick Tip

Use singular verbs with "neither" or "either" in subject-verb agreement.

22. What is the synonym of "prudent"?

- (1) Reckless
- (2) Cautious
- (3) Impulsive
- (4) Careless

Correct Answer: (2) Cautious

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Prudent" means careful or wise.
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Reckless (opposite), (2) Cautious (synonym), (3) Impulsive (opposite), (4) Careless (opposite).
- **Step 3:** Cautious matches prudent's meaning.
- **Step 4:** Eliminate opposites.
- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

Quick Tip

For synonyms, ensure the word conveys the same sense in similar contexts.

23. Choose the correct sentence:

- (1) Me and him went to the store.
- (2) He and I went to the store.
- (3) Him and me went to the store.
- (4) I and he went to the store.

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

Solution:

- **Step 1:** Subject pronouns: Use "he" and "I" for subjects.
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Incorrect pronouns, (2) Correct, (3) Incorrect pronouns, (4) Correct but less conventional order.
- **Step 3:** "He and I" is standard for subjects.
- **Step 4:** Confirm: Test by removing "he": "I went" is correct.

- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

Quick Tip

Use subject pronouns (he, I) for the subject of a sentence.

24. What is the meaning of "kick the bucket"?

- (1) To start a new venture
- (2) To die
- (3) To give up
- (4) To celebrate

Correct Answer: (2) To die

Solution:

- **Step 1:** The idiom means to pass away.
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Incorrect, (2) Correct, (3) Incorrect (similar to "throw in the towel"), (4) Incorrect.
- **Step 3:** Confirm: Common euphemism for death.
- **Step 4:** Eliminate unrelated meanings.
- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

Quick Tip

Memorize idioms and their specific meanings to avoid confusion with similar phrases.

25. Which word is the antonym of "vivid"?

- (1) Bright
- (2) Dull
- (3) Clear
- (4) Colorful

Correct Answer: (2) Dull

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Vivid" means bright or clear.
- **Step 2:** Antonym: (1) Bright (synonym), (2) Dull (opposite), (3) Clear (synonym), (4) Colorful (synonym).
- **Step 3:** Dull is the opposite of vivid.
- **Step 4:** Eliminate synonyms.
- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

Quick Tip

Identify antonyms by considering the opposite quality or intensity of the word.

26. Choose the correct spelling:

- (1) Seperate
- (2) Separate
- (3) Seperete
- (4) Separete

Correct Answer: (2) Separate

Solution:

- **Step 1:** Standard spelling is "separate" with "a" in the middle.
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Incorrect "e," (2) Correct, (3) Incorrect vowels, (4) Incorrect vowels.
- **Step 3:** Confirm: "Separate" is correct.
- **Step 4:** Eliminate incorrect spellings.
- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

Quick Tip

Recall common spelling patterns for frequently misspelled words.

27. What is the tone of the sentence? "His refusal to compromise was admirable, yet frustrating."

- (1) Neutral
- (2) Critical
- (3) Mixed
- (4) Sarcastic

Correct Answer: (3) Mixed

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Admirable" is positive; "frustrating" is negative.
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Neutral (no emotion), (2) Critical (only negative), (3) Mixed (positive and negative), (4) Sarcastic (no mockery).
- **Step 3:** Mixed tone reflects both admiration and frustration.
- **Step 4:** Confirm: Sentence balances two emotions.
- **Step 5:** Option (3) is correct.

Quick Tip

Identify mixed tones by noting contrasting emotional words in the sentence.

28. Which word best completes the sentence? "The debate was so that it changed public opinion."

- (1) Ineffective
- (2) Persuasive
- (3) Confusing
- (4) Lengthy

Correct Answer: (2) Persuasive

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Changed public opinion" suggests a strong, effective debate.
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Ineffective (opposite), (2) Persuasive (effective), (3) Confusing (negative), (4) Lengthy (unrelated).
- **Step 3:** Persuasive fits the context of influence.

- **Step 4:** Eliminate options that don't imply influence.
- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

Quick Tip

Choose words that align with the sentence's described outcome or impact.

29. Identify the part of speech of the underlined word: "The quick fox escaped danger."

- (1) Adjective
- (2) Adverb
- (3) Noun
- (4) Verb

Correct Answer: (1) Adjective

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Quick" describes the noun "fox."
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Adjective (modifies noun), (2) Adverb (modifies verb), (3) Noun (thing), (4) Verb (action).
- **Step 3:** Adjective fits as it describes "fox."
- **Step 4:** Confirm: "Quick" modifies a noun, not a verb.
- **Step 5:** Option (1) is correct.

Quick Tip

Determine part of speech by identifying what the word describes or modifies.

30. What is the synonym of "tenacious"?

- (1) Weak
- (2) Persistent
- (3) Flexible
- (4) Indifferent

Correct Answer: (2) Persistent

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Tenacious" means holding firm or persistent.
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Weak (opposite), (2) Persistent (synonym), (3) Flexible (unrelated), (4) Indifferent (unrelated).
- **Step 3:** Persistent matches tenacious.
- **Step 4:** Eliminate unrelated or opposite terms.
- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

Quick Tip

For synonyms, choose words that share the same core meaning in context.

31. Choose the correct sentence:

- (1) Whose going to the meeting?
- (2) Who's going to the meeting?
- (3) Whos going to the meeting?
- (4) Who's going to the meeting.

Correct Answer: (2) Who's going to the meeting?

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Who's" is the contraction of "who is"; "whose" is possessive.
- **Step 2:** Question requires a question mark.
- **Step 3:** Evaluate: (1) Wrong contraction, (2) Correct, (3) No apostrophe, (4) Missing question mark.
- **Step 4:** Confirm: "Who's" and question mark are correct.
- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

Quick Tip

Distinguish between "who's" (who is) and "whose" (possessive) in questions.

32. What is the meaning of the phrase "let the cat out of the bag"?

- (1) To reveal a secret
- (2) To start a fight
- (3) To avoid responsibility
- (4) To confuse someone

Correct Answer: (1) To reveal a secret

Solution:

- **Step 1:** The phrase means to disclose something hidden.
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Correct, (2) Incorrect, (3) Incorrect, (4) Incorrect.
- **Step 3:** Confirm: Common idiom for revealing secrets.
- **Step 4:** Eliminate unrelated meanings.
- **Step 5:** Option (1) is correct.

Quick Tip

Understand idioms by focusing on their figurative, not literal, meanings.

33. Which word is the antonym of "frugal"?

- (1) Thrifty
- (2) Extravagant
- (3) Economical
- (4) Prudent

Correct Answer: (2) Extravagant

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Frugal" means economical or sparing.
- **Step 2:** Antonym: (1) Thrifty (synonym), (2) Extravagant (opposite), (3) Economical (synonym), (4) Prudent (similar).
- **Step 3:** Extravagant means wasteful, opposite of frugal.
- **Step 4:** Eliminate synonyms.
- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

Quick Tip

For antonyms, focus on words that directly oppose the given word's meaning.

34. Choose the word that best completes the sentence: "Her response to the crisis saved the project."

- (1) Hesitant
- (2) Decisive
- (3) Ambiguous
- (4) Delayed

Correct Answer: (2) Decisive

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Saved the project" suggests a positive, effective action.
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Hesitant (uncertain), (2) Decisive (clear, effective), (3) Ambiguous (unclear), (4) Delayed (late).
- **Step 3:** Decisive fits a crisis-saving response.
- **Step 4:** Eliminate options that don't imply success.
- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

Quick Tip

Select words that match the sentence's outcome and context.