



Previous Year Question Paper
of

G.A.T.E. (XL) 2014

LIFE SCIENCES

XL: General Aptitude

Examination

(Original Question Paper with Answer Key)

GRADUATE APTITUDE TEST IN ENGINEERING



For more question papers, please visit: www.easybiologyclass.com

1. Total duration of the GATE examination is **180** minutes.
2. The clock will be set at the server. The countdown timer at the top right corner of screen will display the remaining time available for you to complete the examination. When the timer reaches zero, the examination will end by itself. You need not terminate the examination or submit your paper.
3. Any useful data required for your paper can be viewed by clicking on the **Useful Common Data** button that appears on the screen.
4. Use the scribble pad provided to you for any rough work. Submit the scribble pad at the end of the examination.
5. You are allowed to use a non-programmable type calculator, however, sharing of calculators is not allowed.
6. The Question Palette displayed on the right side of screen will show the status of each question using one of the following symbols:

 1 You have not visited the question yet.

 3 You have not answered the question.

 5 You have answered the question.

 7 You have NOT answered the question, but have marked the question for review.

 9 You have answered the question, but marked it for review.

The **Marked for Review** status for a question simply indicates that you would like to look at that question again. *If a question is answered, but marked for review, then the answer will be considered for evaluation unless the status is modified by the candidate.*

Navigating to a Question :

7. To answer a question, do the following:
 - a. Click on the question number in the Question Palette to go to that question directly.
 - b. Select an answer for a multiple choice type question by clicking on the bubble placed before the 4 choices, namely A, B, C and D. Use the virtual numeric keypad to enter a number as answer for a numerical type question.
 - c. Click on **Save & Next** to save your answer for the current question and then go to the next question.
 - d. Click on **Mark for Review & Next** to save your answer for the current question and also mark it for review, and then go to the next question.

Caution: Note that your answer for the current question will not be saved, if you navigate to another question directly by clicking on a question number without saving the answer to the previous question.

You can view all the questions by clicking on the **Question Paper** button. This feature is provided, so that if you want you can just see the entire question paper at a glance.

Answering a Question :

8. Procedure for answering a multiple choice (MCQ) type question:
 - a. Choose one answer from the 4 options (A,B,C,D) given below the question, click on the bubble placed before the chosen option.
 - b. To deselect your chosen answer, click on the bubble of the chosen option again or click on the **Clear Response** button.
 - c. To change your chosen answer, click on the bubble of another option.
 - d. To save your answer, you **MUST** click on the **Save & Next** button.
9. Procedure for answering a numerical answer type question:
 - a. To enter a number as your answer, use the virtual numerical keypad.
 - b. A fraction (e.g. -0.3 or -.3) can be entered as an answer with or without '0' before the decimal point. As many as four decimal points, e.g. 12.5435 or 0.003 or -932.6711 or 12.82 can be entered.
 - c. To clear your answer, click on the **Clear Response** button.
 - d. To save your answer, you **MUST** click on the **Save & Next** button
10. To mark a question for review, click on the **Mark for Review & Next** button. *If an answer is selected (for MCQ) or entered (for numerical answer type) for a question that is **Marked for Review**, that answer will be considered in the evaluation unless the status is modified by the candidate.*
11. To change your answer to a question that has already been answered, first select that question for answering and then follow the procedure for answering that type of question.
12. Note that **ONLY** Questions for which answers are *saved* or *marked for review after answering* will be considered for evaluation.

Choosing a Section :

13. Sections in this question paper are displayed on the top bar of the screen. Questions in a Section can be viewed by clicking on the name of that Section. The Section you are currently viewing will be highlighted.
14. A checkbox is displayed for every optional Section, if any, in the Question Paper. To select the optional Section for answering, click on the checkbox for that Section.
15. If the checkbox for an optional Section is not selected, the **Save & Next** button and the **Mark for Review & Next** button will NOT be enabled for that Section. You will

only be able to see questions in this Section, but you will not be able to answer questions in the Section.

16. After clicking the **Save & Next** button for the last question in a Section, you will automatically be taken to the first question of the next Section in sequence.
17. You can move the mouse cursor over the name of a Section to view the answering status for that Section.

Changing the Optional Section :

18. After answering the chosen optional Section, partially or completely, you can change the optional Section by selecting the checkbox for a new Section that you want to attempt. A warning message will appear along with a table showing the number of questions answered in each of the previously chosen optional Sections and a checkbox against each of these Sections. Click on a checkbox against a Section that you want to reset and then click on the **RESET** button. Note that **RESETTING** a Section will **DELETE** all the answers for questions in that Section. Hence, if you think that you may want to select this Section again later, you will have to note down your answers for questions in that Section. If you do not want to reset the Section and want to continue answering the previously chosen optional Section, then click on the **BACK** button.
19. If you deselect the checkbox for an optional Section in the top bar, the following warning message will appear: "Deselecting the checkbox will **DELETE** all the answers for questions in this Section. Do you want to deselect this Section?" If you want to deselect, click on the **RESET** button. If you do not want to deselect, click on the **BACK** button.
20. You can shuffle between different Sections or change the optional Sections any number of times.

GATE 2014 Examination

XL: Life Sciences

Duration: 180 minutes

Maximum Marks: 100

Read the following instructions carefully.

1. To login, enter your Registration Number and password provided to you. Kindly go through the various symbols used in the test and understand their meaning before you start the examination.
2. Once you login and after the start of the examination, you can view all the questions in the question paper, by clicking on the **View All Questions** button in the screen.
3. This paper consists of 7 sections: **GA** (General Aptitude), **H** (Chemistry), **I** (Biochemistry), **J** (Botany), **K** (Microbiology), **L** (Zoology) and **M** (Food Technology).
Section **GA** (General Aptitude) and Section **H** (Chemistry) are compulsory.
Attempt any 2 sections out of the 5 optional Sections **I** through **M**.
There are 10 questions carrying 15 marks in the compulsory General Aptitude (**GA**) section.
Questions 1 to 5 of this section carry 1 mark each, and questions 6 to 10 carry 2 marks each.
There are 15 questions carrying 25 marks in Section **H** (Chemistry), which is compulsory. Questions 1 to 5 of this section carry 1 mark each and questions 6 to 15 carry 2 marks each.
Each of the optional sections (Sections **I** through **M**) contains 20 questions carrying 30 marks. In these sections, questions 1 to 10 are of 1 mark, while questions 11 to 20 are of 2 marks.
4. Depending upon the GATE paper, there may be useful common data that may be required for answering the questions. If the paper has such useful data, the same can be viewed by clicking on the **Useful Common Data** button that appears at the top, right hand side of the screen.
5. The computer allotted to you at the examination center runs specialized software that permits only one answer to be selected for multiple-choice questions using a mouse and to enter a suitable number for the numerical answer type questions using the virtual keyboard and mouse.
6. Your answers shall be updated and saved on a server periodically and also at the end of the examination. The examination will **stop automatically** at the end of **180 minutes**.
7. In each paper a candidate can answer a total of 65 questions carrying 100 marks.
8. The question paper may consist of questions of **multiple choice type** (MCQ) and **numerical answer type**.
9. Multiple choice type questions will have four choices against A, B, C, D, out of which only **ONE** is the correct answer. The candidate has to choose the correct answer by clicking on the bubble (○) placed before the choice.
10. For numerical answer type questions, each question will have a numerical answer and there will not be any choices. **For these questions, the answer should be entered** by using the virtual keyboard that appears on the monitor and the mouse.
11. All questions that are not attempted will result in zero marks. However, wrong answers for multiple choice type questions (MCQ) will result in **NEGATIVE** marks. For all MCQ questions a wrong answer will result in deduction of $\frac{1}{3}$ marks for a 1-mark question and $\frac{2}{3}$ marks for a 2-mark question.
12. There is **NO NEGATIVE MARKING** for questions of **NUMERICAL ANSWER TYPE**.
13. Non-programmable type Calculator is allowed. Charts, graph sheets, and mathematical tables are **NOT** allowed in the Examination Hall. You must use the Scribble pad provided to you at the examination centre for all your rough work. The Scribble Pad has to be returned at the end of the examination.

Declaration by the candidate:

“I have read and understood all the above instructions. I have also read and understood clearly the instructions given on the admit card and shall follow the same. I also understand that in case I am found to violate any of these instructions, my candidature is liable to be cancelled. I also find at the start of the examination that all the computer hardware allotted to me is in proper working condition”.

Q. 1 – Q. 5 carry one mark each.

Q.1 Choose the most appropriate word from the options given below to complete the following sentence.

A person suffering from Alzheimer’s disease _____ short-term memory loss.

- (A) experienced
- (B) has experienced
- (C) is experiencing
- (D) experiences

Ans. D

Q.2 Choose the most appropriate word from the options given below to complete the following sentence.

_____ is the key to their happiness; they are satisfied with what they have.

- (A) Contentment
- (B) Ambition
- (C) Perseverance
- (D) Hunger

Ans. A

Q.3 Which of the following options is the closest in meaning to the sentence below?

“As a woman, I have no country.”

- (A) Women have no country.
- (B) Women are not citizens of any country.
- (C) Women’s solidarity knows no national boundaries.
- (D) Women of all countries have equal legal rights.

Ans. C

Q.4 In any given year, the probability of an earthquake greater than Magnitude 6 occurring in the Garhwal Himalayas is 0.04. The average time between successive occurrences of such earthquakes is ____ years.

Ans. 25 to 25

Q.5 The population of a new city is 5 million and is growing at 20% annually. How many years would it take to double at this growth rate?

- (A) 3-4 years
- (B) 4-5 years
- (C) 5-6 years
- (D) 6-7 years

Ans. A

Q. 6 – Q. 10 carry two marks each.

Q.6 In a group of four children, Som is younger to Riaz. Shiv is elder to Ansu. Ansu is youngest in the group. Which of the following statements is/are required to find the eldest child in the group?

Statements

- 1. Shiv is younger to Riaz.
- 2. Shiv is elder to Som.

- (A) Statement 1 by itself determines the eldest child.
- (B) Statement 2 by itself determines the eldest child.
- (C) Statements 1 and 2 are both required to determine the eldest child.
- (D) Statements 1 and 2 are not sufficient to determine the eldest child.

Ans. A

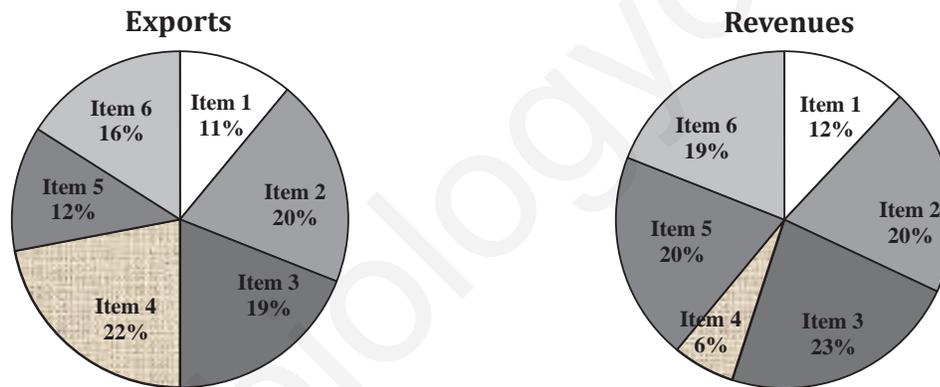
- Q.7 Moving into a world of big data will require us to change our thinking about the merits of exactitude. To apply the conventional mindset of measurement to the digital, connected world of the twenty-first century is to miss a crucial point. As mentioned earlier, the obsession with exactness is an artefact of the information-deprived analog era. When data was sparse, every data point was critical, and thus great care was taken to avoid letting any point bias the analysis.
 From "BIG DATA" Viktor Mayer-Schonberger and Kenneth Cukier

The main point of the paragraph is:

- (A) The twenty-first century is a digital world
- (B) Big data is obsessed with exactness
- (C) Exactitude is not critical in dealing with big data
- (D) Sparse data leads to a bias in the analysis

Ans. C

- Q.8 The total exports and revenues from the exports of a country are given in the two pie charts below. The pie chart for exports shows the quantity of each item as a percentage of the total quantity of exports. The pie chart for the revenues shows the percentage of the total revenue generated through export of each item. The total quantity of exports of all the items is 5 lakh tonnes and the total revenues are 250 crore rupees. What is the ratio of the revenue generated through export of Item 1 per kilogram to the revenue generated through export of Item 4 per kilogram?



- (A) 1:2
- (B) 2:1
- (C) 1:4
- (D) 4:1

Ans. D

- Q.9 X is 1 km northeast of Y. Y is 1 km southeast of Z. W is 1 km west of Z. P is 1 km south of W. Q is 1 km east of P. What is the distance between X and Q in km?

- (A) 1
- (B) $\sqrt{2}$
- (C) $\sqrt{3}$
- (D) 2

Ans. C

- Q.10 10% of the population in a town is HIV⁺. A new diagnostic kit for HIV detection is available; this kit correctly identifies HIV⁺ individuals 95% of the time, and HIV⁻ individuals 89% of the time. A particular patient is tested using this kit and is found to be positive. The probability that the individual is actually positive is _____

Ans. 0.48 to 0.48

END OF THE QUESTION PAPER

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