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**UPSC CSE Prelims 2023**

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*for* Prelims 2023

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**UPDATED**

Answer Key  
&  
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CSAT UPSC Prelims 2023 - Answer Key							
SET - A							
1. (a)	11. (c)	21. (b)	31. (d)	41. (a)	51. (d)	61. (d)	71. (b)
2. (d)	12. (c)	22. (b)	32. (c)	42. (a)	52. (a)	62. (a)	72. (a)
3. (c)	13. (b)	23. (b)	33. (d)	43. (a)	53. (c)	63. (b)	73. (d)
4. (d)	14. (a)	24. (a)	34. (c)	44. (c)	54. (b)	64. (c)	74. (d)
5. (b)	15. (d)	25. (c)	35. (a)	45. (c)	55. (a)	65. (d)	75. (d)
6. (b)	16. (d)	26. (b)	36. (c)	46. (c)	56. (d)	66. (c)	76. (a)
7. (a)	17. (d)	27. (a)	37. (d)	47. (a)	57. (c)	67. (a)	77. (d)
8. (a)	18. (a)	28. (c)	38. (d)	48. (c)	58. (a)	68. (a)	78. (a)
9. (d)	19. (c)	29. (b)	39. (c)	49. (b)	59. (d)	69. (a)	79. (a)
10. (c)	20. (a)	30. (c)	40. (d)	50. (b)	60. (b)	70. (b)	80. (c)

**Q1.**

**Answer: a**

**Q2.**

**Answer: d**

**Q3.**

**Answer: c**

**Q4.**

**Answer: d**

**Explanation:**

Worst case analysis:

In this case Raj would be completing a red pair in the end. So, let's say Raj draws 18 white and 16 black shoes first and then 9 red shoes (all of left foot).

In this way Raj has drawn 44 shoes and a red pair is still not complete. The next shoe drawn will complete a red pair.

**Hence option d.**

**Q5.**

**Answer: b**

**Explanation:**

	6s	4s	1s
1	4	0	1
2	3	1	1
3	3	0	4
4	2	3	1
5	2	2	5
6	2	1	9
7	2	0	13
8	1	4	3



**Q10.**

**Answer: c**

**Explanation:**

As per the given situation, the value of D would be 199. So  $\frac{199}{19} = 10\frac{9}{19}$  (least possible)

Therefore the difference between hundred's and units place = 8

Hence, option c.

**Q11.**

**Answer: c**

**Q12.**

**Answer: c**

**Q13.**

**Answer: b**

**Q14.**

**Answer: a**

**Q15.**

**Answer: d**

**Q16.**

**Answer: d**

**Explanation:**

$$D(100A + 10B + C) = 3000 + 700 + 10D + D = 3700 + 11D$$

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- (i) If  $D = 4$ , the number  $[3700 + 11D]$  is divided by  $D (= 4)$   
In this case, A, B and C are 9, 3 and 6 respectively.
- (ii) If  $D = 5$ , the number  $[3700 + 11D]$  is divided by  $D (= 5)$   
In this case, A, B and C are 7, 5 and 1.

Hence there's no unique value for  $(A + B + C)$

**Hence, option d.**

**Q17.**

**Answer: d**

**Explanation:**

Any number of the form 'XYZXYZ' is a multiple of 1001 (in a way that  $1001 \times XYZ = XYZXYZ$ )

So, irrespective of the values of X, Y and Z, the number XYZXYZ is definitely divided by 1001.

$$1001 = 7 \times 11 \times 13.$$

**Hence option d.**

**Q18.**

**Answer: a**

**Explanation:**

The cubes in the question one found when all the surface cubes are removed (Let's call them core)

If the total number of smaller cubelets in  $n^3$ , then the number of core cubes is  $(n - 2)^3$ .

Here  $n = 5$ , so  $(n - 2)^3 = 27$ .

**Hence, option a.**

**Q19.**

**Answer: c**

**Q20.**

**Answer: a**

Let's say the total amount of work = 48 units.

Hence A would do 6 units a day, B would do 3 units a day and c would do 4 units a day.

Consider the following presentation:

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu
A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B
6	3	4	6	3	4	6	3	4	6	3

48 units done in 11 days.

**Hence, option a.**

**Q21.**

**Answer: b**

**Q22.**

**Answer: b**

**Q23.**

**Answer: b**

**Q24.**

**Answer: a**

**Explanation:**

$$(i) \quad 7 \oplus 9 \oplus 10 = 8$$

$$\text{Code : } 7 + 9 + 10 = 26 \text{ and } 2 + 6 = 8$$

(ii)  $9 \oplus 11 \oplus 30 = 50$

**Code :**  $9 + 11 + 30 = 55$  and  $5 + 0 = 5$

(iii)  $11 \oplus 17 \oplus 21 = 13$

**Code :**  $11 + 17 + 21 = 49$  and  $4 + 9 = 13$

Therefore  $23 \oplus 4 \oplus 15$  will be coded as follows :

$23 + 4 + 15 = 42$  and  $4 + 2 = 6$ .

**Hence, option a.**

**Q25.**

**Answer: c**

**Explanation:**

For  $7x + 96$  to be divisible by  $x$ ,  $96$  should be divisible by  $x$ .

$96 = 2^5 \times 3$ , so it has 12 factors  $\{(5 + 1) \times (1 + 1)\}$

Therefore there are 12 possible values of  $x$ .

**Hence, option c.**

**Q26.**

**Answer: b**

**Explanation:**

Take the greatest possible four digits i.e 9, 8, 7 and 6 for  $p, q, r$  and  $s$ . (not in the same order)

$p + q + r + s = 30$  and  $(p + q)(r + s)$  is to be maximized the highest product of two numbers, whose sum is given, is obtained when both are equal.

Hence,  $15 \times 15 = 225$  is the greatest possible product.

{Like  $(9 + 6)(8 + 7)$ }

**Hence, option b.**

**Q27.**

**Answer: a**

**Explanation:**

1001 is a multiple of 13.

When a 3-digit number is multiplied with 1001, a six digit. Pattern, of the type 'abcabc' is formed.

So, if 999 is multiplied with 1001, it will make 999999, which is a multiple of 13.

If 99999999 ..... (99 times) is written, then every group of 6 nines will not give any remainder when divided by 13, as follows :

$$\underbrace{999999 | 999999 | 999999 | \dots}_{16 \text{ groups } (=96 \text{ digits})} \underbrace{999}_{\text{last 3 digits}}$$

Its only last three 9's which one responsible for any remainder.

So,  $\begin{array}{r} 13 \overline{) 999} 76 \\ - 988 \\ \hline 11 \end{array}$ ; 11 is the remainder.

**Hence, option a.**

**Q28.**

**Answer: c**

**Explanation:**

$(11111111)^2 = 12345678987654321$

Sum of its digits = 81

**Hence, option c.**

**Q29.**

Answer: b

Explanation:

Consider 90 two-digit numbers. (from 10 to 99)

Sum of all the digits at units place =  $(1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + 9) \times 9$   
 $= 45 \times 9 = 405$

Sum of all the digits at tens place =  $10(1 + 2 + \dots + 9) = 450$

Hundred's place = 1

So, sum of all the digits =  $405 + 450 + 1 = 856$

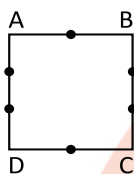
Hence, option b.

**Q30.**

Answer: c

Explanation:

No three of the six highlighted points are collinear.



So, total number of triangles =  ${}^6C_3$   
 $= 20$

Hence, option c.

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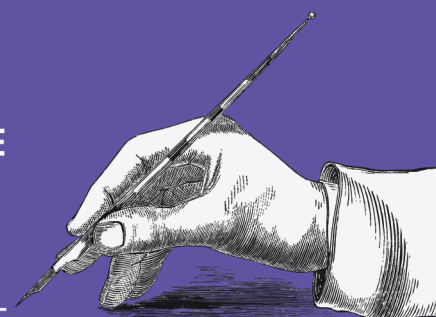


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Q31.

Answer: d

Q32.

Answer: c

Q33.

Answer: d

Q34.

Answer: c

Q35.

Answer: a

Q36.

Answer: c

Explanation:

1. Consider the (worst) case that the first 13 balls one black, next 19 one blue, next 25 one green, next 27 one yellow, next 37 one red, next 53 one white.

Till now  $180 - 6 = 174$  balls have been drawn and no complete group has been down. Now any ball drawn next will complete a group definitely. Hence this statement is correct.

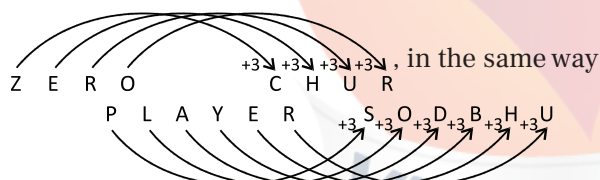
2. Consider the case that first 54 ball are white, next 38 are red, next 28 are yellow, next 26 are green, next 20 are blue. Till now 166 balls have been drawn, yet all colours are not present. The next ball drawn will fulfill the requirement. Hence this statement is correct.

Hence option c.

Q37.

Answer: d

Explanation:



Hence, option d.

Q38.

Answer: d

Explanation:

$C = D > F > A > B > E$

All five statements are needed.

Hence, option d

Q39.

Answer: c

Explanation:

Analysis of options:

- (a)  $\boxed{D}$   
 $A = B; \downarrow$  {There's no connective established between B & E}  
 $\boxed{E} \leftrightarrow C$   
 Hence, not sufficient

(b)  $\textcircled{C} \leftrightarrow \textcircled{A} = \boxed{B}$  ;  $\downarrow^D$   
 $\boxed{E}$  {There's no connective established between B & E}

Hence, not sufficient

$\downarrow^D$   
 (c)  $\boxed{E} \leftrightarrow \textcircled{C} \leftrightarrow \textcircled{A} = \boxed{B}$  {Using all form statements, it's evident that E is brother-in-law of B}

Hence, option c.

**Q40.**

**Answer: d**

**Explanation:**

Option (D) is the answer as it contains one composite number (91), all the other options contain only prime numbers.

Hence, option d.

**Q41.**

**Answer: a**

**Q42.**

**Answer: a**

**Q43.**

**Answer: a**

**Q44.**

**Answer: c**

**Explanation:**

Here principal and amount both are same over the period of same 1 year.

Since R (% annually) is compound half-yearly

and S (% annually) is compounded yearly

So, here amount is same, then

$S > R$

Hence, option c.

**Q45.**

**Answer: d**

**Explanation:**

Since 1186 is divided by the given no leaves remainder 31.

So,  $1186 - 31 = 1155 \leftarrow$  this will be exactly divisible.

$5 \overline{)1155}$

$11 \overline{)231}$

$7 \overline{)21}$

3

Hence factors of 1155  $\rightarrow 5 \times 11 \times 7 \times 3$

Since, it is said that remainder is 31, so, numbers should be greater than 31, hence all those numbers are:

(1)  $3 \times 11 = 33$  (2)  $5 \times 7 = 35$  (3)  $5 \times 11 = 55$

(4)  $7 \times 11 = 77$  (5)  $15 \times 7 = 105$  (6)  $15 \times 11 = 165$

(7)  $15 \times 7 \times 11 = 1155$  (8)  $35 \times 11 = 385$  (9)  $77 \times 3 = 231$

Total such number are  $\rightarrow 9$ .

Hence, option d.

**Q46.**

**Answer: c**

**Explanation:**

Information given are:

$$p < q < r \text{ \&}$$

$$pp + qq + rr = tto$$

it means we have choose all the values of p, q & r such that we get o, at unit digit of tto  $\leftarrow$  3 digit number.

**Case-I :** When p = 1

	<b>p</b>	<b>q</b>	<b>r</b>		
(a)	1,	2,	7	$\rightarrow$	o
(b)	1,	3,	6	$\rightarrow$	o
(c)	1,	4,	5	$\rightarrow$	o

**Case-II :** When p = 2

(a) 2, 3, 5  $\rightarrow$  o

**Case-III :** When p = 3

(a) 3, 8, 9  $\rightarrow$  o

**Case-IV :** When p = 4

(a) 4, 7, 9  $\rightarrow$  o

**Case-V :** When p = 5

(a) 5, 6, 9  $\rightarrow$  o

1. Possible value of P = 5 (1, 2, 3, 4 & 5)  $\rightarrow$  right

2. Possible value of Q = 6 (2, 3, 4, 6 & 8)  $\rightarrow$  right

**Hence, option c.**

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**Q47.**

**Answer: a**

**Explanation:**

All 4 digit numbers which are less than 2000 are →

$$\begin{array}{r} 1234 \\ 1243 \\ 1324 \\ 1342 \\ 1423 \\ + 1432 \\ \hline 7998 \end{array}$$

Hence, option a.

**Q48.**

**Answer: c**

**Explanation:**

Since, it is a case of circular arrangement but here  $n - 1$  will not be applicable.

So, number of selection will be in 12 ways.

Hence, option c.

**Q49.**

**Answer: b**

**Explanation:**

Since, it is based on calendar, so here we have to find out total number of odd days

So, divide  $10^{10}$  by 7, whatever, remainder we get that will be the number odd days.

$$\frac{10^{10}}{7} = \frac{(10^2)^5}{7} = \frac{(100)^5}{7} = \frac{2^5}{7} = \frac{32}{7} = 4 \text{ R } 4$$

Remainder is 4. So, if today is Sunday then on  $10^{10}$  day, it will be Thursday.

Hence, option b.

**Q50.**

**Answer: b**

**Explanation:**

Duration of time after which each signal changes colours are:

1<sup>st</sup> → 25 sec

2<sup>nd</sup> → 39 sec

3<sup>rd</sup> → 60 sec

Now, all three will become red after, take LCM of 25, 39, 60

$$\begin{array}{r} 5 \overline{)25, 39, 60} \\ 5 \overline{)5, 39, 12} \\ 5 \overline{)1, 39, 12} \\ 5 \overline{)1, 39, 6} \\ 5 \overline{)1, 39, 3} \\ 5 \overline{)1, 13, 1} \\ 1, 1, 1 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{LCM} &= 5 \times 5 \times 2 \times 2 \times 3 \times 13 \\ &= 3900 \end{aligned}$$

So, all 3 will become red after 3900 sec.

Again, they will become green after 3900 sec.

So, total time from green to green

$$= 3900 + 3900 = 7800 \text{ sec}$$

$$= \frac{7800}{60} \text{ min}$$

$$= 130 \text{ min}$$

$$= 2 \text{ hr } 10 \text{ min}$$

So, they become again green at

$$2 \text{ pm} + 10 \text{ min}$$

i.e. 4:10 pm

Hence, option b.

Q51.

Answer: d

Q52.

Answer: a

Q53.

Answer: c

Q54.

Answer: b

Explanation:

The pattern is:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 1^{\text{st}}, & 2^{\text{nd}}, & 4^{\text{th}}, & 7^{\text{th}}, & 11^{\text{th}}, & 16^{\text{th}}, & \dots \\ \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \\ +1 & +2 & +3 & +4 & +5 & & \end{array}$$

Since the children are making a circle, the ring will come back to 1<sup>st</sup> child if the number in the pattern is  $(40x + 1)$ , like 41<sup>st</sup>, 81<sup>st</sup>, 121<sup>st</sup>, etc.

$$\text{So, } 1 + (1 + 2 + 3 + \dots) = 40x + 1.$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + x = 40x$$

$$\frac{x(x+1)}{2} = 40x$$

$x = 15$  does the work

Hence, option b.

Q55.

Answer: a

Explanation:

z z y y x x x x w w w w ..... A.

In the above sequence, the total number of terms

$$= 2 + 3 + \dots + 27 = 13 \times 29 = 377$$

The middle term is 189<sup>th</sup> term.

Therefore  $2 + 3 + 4 + \dots + x \leq 189$

$$x(x+1) \leq 380$$

$x = 19$  fits the bill.

So, the 19<sup>th</sup> letter (starting from Z) would be 8<sup>th</sup> letter ( $27 - 19 = 8$ ) starting from A, which is H.

Hence, option a.

Q56.

Answer: d

Explanation:

St. 1.  $p \times q > 0$  establishes two things

(i) Neither of p or q is zero

(ii) Both have the same sign.

But doesn't tell us anything about values.

**St. 2.**  $p^2 > q^2$

Consider (p, q) as (4, 3) and (-4, -3). Both the pairs fit the bill but do not ascertain.

If  $p > q$  or  $q > p$ .

Even the combination of both the above statement doesn't decide if  $p > q$  or  $q > p$ .

**Hence, option d.**

**Q57.**

**Answer: c**

**Explanation:**

If  $p + q - r > p - q + r$

then  $q > r$ ; so p doesn't matter.

Therefore, neither statement 1 alone nor statement 2 alone will answer the question.

Combining both the statements:

$$\begin{array}{rcl} p + q > 0 & \Rightarrow & r > q \\ \underline{r - p > 0} & & \\ r - q > 0 & & \end{array}$$

Since  $q - r < 0$ , the answer is confirmed no.

**Hence, option c.**

**Q58.**

**Answer: a**

**Explanation:**

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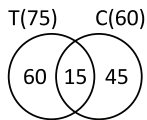
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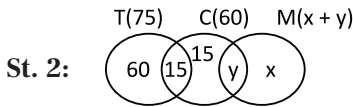
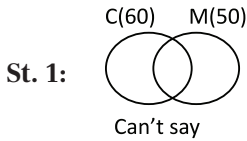
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120 took T or C.



Total number of people = 120 + x

Milk only = x

$$\Rightarrow 120 + x = 5x$$

$$\Rightarrow x = 30 ; \text{ sufficient}$$

Hence, option a.

Q59.

Answer: d

Explanation:

St. 1: The digits are 1, 2, 3; but there would be 6 three-digit numbers possible with these digits.

Hence, option d.

Q60.

Answer: b

Q61.

Answer: d

Q62.

Answer: a

Q63.

Answer: b

Q64.

Answer: c

Q65.

Answer: d

Total marks deducted were 4.

Now, how these are going to be distributed among 4 papers are as follows.

Case 1 → When all 4 marks are deducted from 1 paper.

Total ways = 4

Case 2 → When 1 marks is deducted from each 4 paper.

Total ways = 1

Case 3 → When 3 marks is deducted from 1 paper & 1 marks is deducted from 1 paper.

Total ways = 12 {Since  $4P_1 \times 3P_1 = 12$ }

Case 4 → When 2 marks are deducted from any 2 papers.

Total ways = 6

Case 5 → When 2 marks are deducted from 1 paper & 1 marks are deducted from 2 papers.

Total ways = 12

So, overall ways =  $12+6+12+1+4=35$  ways.

Hence, option d.

**Q66.**

**Answer: c**

**Explanation:**

Four horizontal strips

	← we can fill it in 3 ways
	← again this can filled in 2 ways
	← again in 2 ways
	← again in 2 ways

So, depending upon question total number of ways in which we can fill the strips are

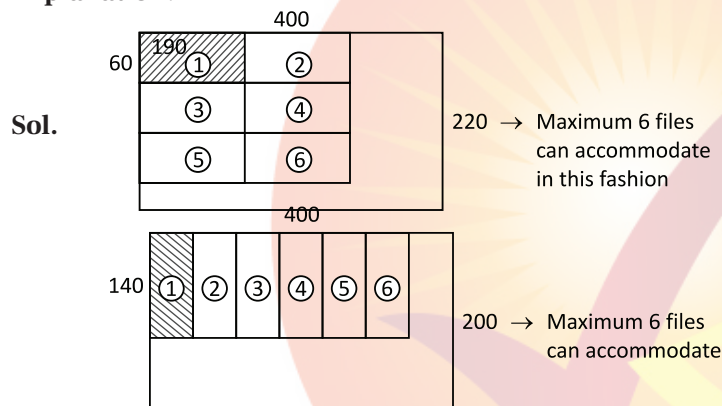
→  $3 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 = 24$  ways

Hence, option c.

**Q67.**

**Answer: a**

**Explanation:**



So, maximum 6 files.

Hence, option a.

**Q68.**

**Answer: a**

**Explanation:**

Understanding from the question, there are two tasks - 1 and 2 and five persons - P, Q, R, S and T. As per the given constraints, the number of ways of assigning tasks to P and Q is just 1 (because P as well as Q can be given only Task -2)

No. of ways of assigning task to T is 2 (T can be given any of the two tasks)

No. of ways of assigning tasks to R and S is 3 ( R-1, S-2 ; R-2, S-1 ; R-2, S-2)

So, total number of ways of assigning tasks to five persons is  $1 \times 2 \times 3 = 6$

Hence, option a.

**Q69.**

**Answer: a**

**Explanation:**

According to question

1. Maximum number of coins required to buy

78 gm = 7

↓

50 gm → 1 coin

10 gm  $\rightarrow$  2 coins

24 gm  $\rightarrow$  4 coins

Statement 1 is correct.

2. To measure 78 gm, minimum we have to use 7 coins.

So, it is wrong.

**Hence, option a.**

**Q70.**

**Answer: b**

**Explanation:**

According to information given in question.

$A + B \rightarrow A > B$

$A - B \rightarrow A \leq B$

$A \times B \rightarrow A \geq B$

$A \div B \rightarrow A < B$

$A \pm B \rightarrow A = B$

Statement  $\rightarrow$  conclusion (we derived)

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} P \times Q \rightarrow P \geq Q \\ P - T \rightarrow P \leq T \\ T \div R \rightarrow T < R \\ R \pm S \rightarrow R = S \end{array} \right\} S = R > T \geq P \geq Q$$

**Conclusion:**

1.  $Q \pm T \rightarrow Q = T \rightarrow$  wrong

2.  $S + Q \rightarrow S > Q \rightarrow$  correct

**Hence, option b.**

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Q71.

Answer: b

Q72.

Answer: a

Q73.

Answer: d

Q74.

Answer: d

Explanation:

Here we have to find remainder

$$\text{i.e. } \frac{2^{192}}{6} = \frac{2 \cdot 2^{191}}{6} = \frac{2^{191}}{3}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{2^{+2} \cdot 2^{-1}}{3} = \frac{(2)^{191}}{3} = \frac{(-1)^{191}}{3} = \frac{-1}{3} \cdot 2$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{2}{3} \rightarrow \text{Remainder} = 2 \times \frac{2}{3} = 4$$

Because we have solve the fraction by 2.

Hence, option d.

Q75.

Answer: d

Explanation:

A B C \_ \_ | A B C \_ D | A B B C D | \_ A B C D  
           ↓ ↓          ↓          ↓          ↓  
           D D          C          A

Here, if we observe then in each slot two alphabet are repeated 2 are side by side.

Ex. D D | C C | B B | A A

Hence, option d.

Q76.

Answer: a

Explanation:

DEF

GHI

975

Here, E = 0, F = 8

D 0 8

So, GHI

975

So, value of I = 7, H = 6

Now the value of D may be either 5 or 4

Case-I : when value of D is 4

then, xy = 408

factors of 408 =  $2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 3 \times 17$

x and y are two digit numbers

so, pairs formed are

{ (i) 27 & 17, (ii) 34 & 12 }

$$A + B + C = 1 + 2 + 3 = 6$$

Since no digits are same

So, value of A = 1, B = 2, C = 3

**Case-II :** when value of D is 5

then,  $xy = 508$

factors of  $508 = 2 \times 2 \times \frac{127}{\downarrow}$

Since it is 3 digit

So, this will not be the case.

**Hence, option a.**

**Q77.**

**Answer: d**

**Explanation:**

**Statement**

**Conclusion**

True statement →

either P or Q get job

False statement →

neither R nor S get job

True statement →

maximum of two among R, S & T get the job

1 → wrong

2 → wrong

**Hence, option d.**

**STEP UP**

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PROGRAMME**



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Mentorship



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Guidance



Mains-focused  
Guidance



Value Addition  
Lectures



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Q78.

Answer: a

Explanation:

	Statement	Conclusion
I	$\rightarrow$ If $P \rightarrow \checkmark$ , then $Q \& S \rightarrow \checkmark$	
II	$\rightarrow$ If $R \& S \rightarrow \checkmark$ , then $T \rightarrow \times$	

Now on the basis of above information

1.  $\rightarrow$  If T is true  $\begin{cases} R \rightarrow \text{false} \\ \text{or} \\ S \rightarrow \text{false} \\ \text{or} \\ R \& S \rightarrow \text{false} \end{cases}$

Now, when S is false then P is false.

$\therefore$  Either one or atleast P & R must be false.

So, it is true.

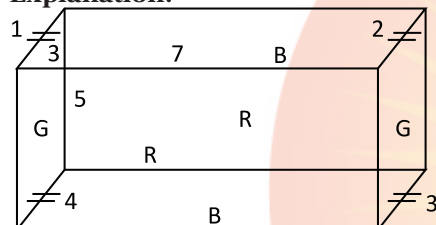
2.  $\rightarrow$  It is wrong. As P is dependent on both Q & S.

Hence, option a.

Q79.

Answer: a

Explanation:



Total volume of cuboid =  $7 \times 5 \times 3 = 105 \text{ cm}^3$

Total number of cube of  $1 \text{ cm}^3 = 105$

1. **No painted face**

Total number of cube of  $1 \text{ cm}^3 = 5 \times 3 \times 1 = 15$

It is true.

2. Number of cubes of  $1 \text{ cm}^3$  with two faces painted (Blue & Green)

It will be 4

It is wrong.

Hence, option a.

Q80.

Answer: c

Explanation:

I N C O M P R E H E N S I B I L I T I E S  
T S S R P O N N M L I I H E E E C B

Only 2 positions are matching in both the cases.

Hence, option c.

# Optional Test Series



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