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Engineering Placement Prep

How to Prepare for Placement Aptitude
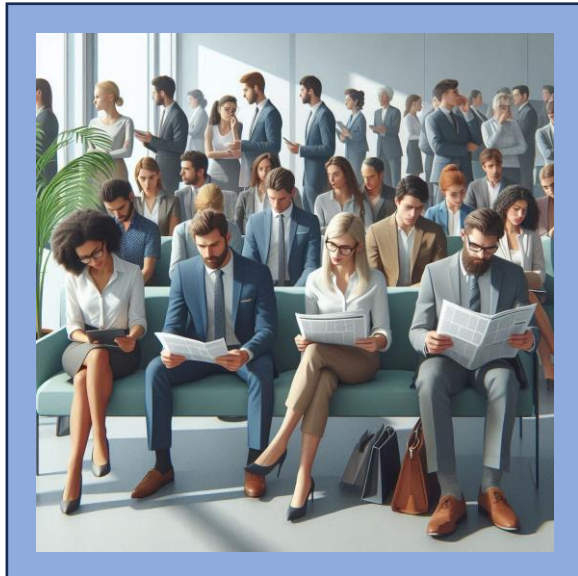
Ravindra Patidar
IIT-Madras (2011), IIM Calcutta (2016)
10 year+ across SAAS, AI, PE, Consulting and Mfg
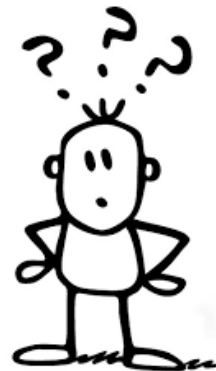**Founder, LearnTheta.com**

Importance of Aptitude for Placements

Useful for CAT, GRE, GATE, UPSC, etc as well

From over 1000 people applying for a job

To a selected few going to the next round

What happened in between !!

- Less than 50% student clear aptitude test for campus placements
- Selection drops further to about 20% for off campus process

Why do companies conduct Aptitude as a round?

Aptitude Test

↓

CV shortlisting

↓

Technical + HR Interview

↓

Offer

Why do Companies have Aptitude tests?

Too many applications (500) - Very few openings (5)

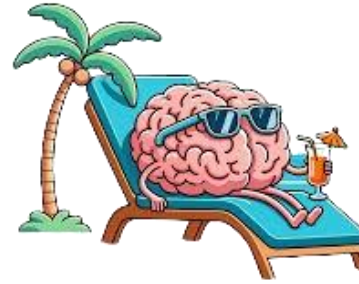Shortlist candidates who meet a certain benchmark of intellectual and problem-solving capabilities

W H A T ?

Have you started aptitude preparation already?

Common Mistakes

Over confidence

Laziness

Mugging up

Poor Prep

How long does it take to prepare for aptitude?

Understanding Aptitude Tests: Types and Formats

Placement Aptitude

Quantitative Aptitude

45%

Logical Reasoning

77%

Verbal Ability

87%

Mathematical & problem-solving skills: Work and time, Numbers, Ratio Proportion, etc

critical thinking and analytical abilities: series problems, coding decoding etc.

language proficiency and communication skills: parajumbles, find error, synonyms, RC, etc.

Which section do you find most challenging in aptitude tests?

Placement Aptitude Syllabus: Prioritization is the Key

Sr. No.	Quantitative Ability	Logical Reasoning	Verbal Ability
1	Number Systems	Letter and Number Series	Synonyms/ Antonyms
2	Percentages	Calendar and Clocks	Parajumbles
3	Ratio & Proportion	Blood relation	Fill in the blanks
4	Profit and Loss	Coding and decoding	Sentence correction
5	Simple and Compound Interest	Directions	Reading Comprehension
6	Ages	Mirror images	Identify Error
7	Average, Mixture and Alligations	Reasoning Analogies	
8	Time and Work (includes pipes etc.)	Cubes and dices	
9	Speed, Time, Distance (includes train, boat)	Seating arrangements	
10	Probability and PnC		
11	Mensuration: Area, Volume & Surface area		
12	Geometry		Important & Easy
13	Data Interpretation: Graphs, charts, tables		Less Important & Easy
14	Others: Algebra, Functions, Trigonometry		Rare & Difficult

Section 1 – Quantitative aptitude

20%

Revise concepts of important chapters

- Books (NCERT, RS Agrawal, Arun Sharma): if you have time

- Youtube: if short on time

70%

Practice, practice and practice

- LearnTheta

10%

Refer format of specific test (10%)

- Number Systems
- Percentages
- Ratio & Proportion
- Profit and Loss
- Interest
- Ages
- Average and Alligations
- Time and Work
- Speed, Time, Distance
  Probability and PnC
- Mensuration
- Geometry
- Data Interpretation

Quant – Things to Note

- Do not mug up

- Do not memorize shortcuts and tricks

- Practice is the simplest, fastest and only reliable way to score

Q. 1 A car travels at 50km/hr for first 50km and 100km/hr for next 50km. What is the average speed of the car?

Q. 2 A car travels at 50km/hr for first 1 hour and 100km/hr for next 1 hour. What is the average speed of the car?

Section 2 – Logical Reasoning

How to Prepare:

- ❑ Understand different Q types and Practice (90%)

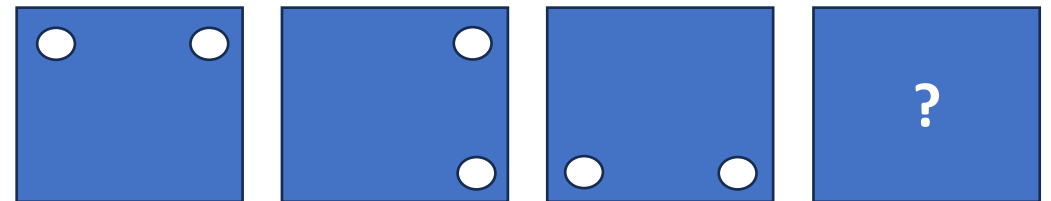- ❑ Refer format of specific test and mental preparation (10%)

Things to note:

- ❑ There is no limitation in terms of type of Qs that can be created for reasoning

- ❑ With little practice, your ability to identify the patterns will improve greatly

Pattern Problems:

Find the 5th term: MKI, MJK, MIM, MHO, _____?

First Letter	M	M	M	M	?
Second Letter	K	J	I	H	?
Third Letter	I	K	M	O	?

Calendar Problem:

If it was Thursday on 12 March 2015, then what was the day on 27 March 2015 ?

Section 3 - Verbal Ability

- **Develop a habit of reading (40%):** Books, magazines, newspaper

- **Revise your grammar (20%):** Wren and martin (if you have enough time)

- **Practice (30%):** LearnTheta

- Refer format of specific test and mental preparation (10%)

General tips for Test

- Generally, questions will carry equal weightage, so play to your strength

- If there is no negative marking, of course you must mark all the answers

- Verbal questions can be attempted faster compared to Reasoning and Quant but accuracy is the key

- Difficulty will vary from company to company, but remember if it is difficult for you, it is difficult for others as well

- Easy questions are generally sandwiched between difficult questions

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01 min 32 sec

Topic Selection

- ☑ Number systems
- ☐ Parajumbles
- ☑ Percentages
- ☐ Permutation and Combination
- ☐ Probability
- ☑ Profit and Loss
- ☐ Ratio, Proportion and Variation

Q #1   Attempted by: 720 | Correct 65%   QID #80192

P started a business with an investment of $7200. After 'n' months, Q joins with a capital of $5400. If the ratio of profit at the end of the year is 2 : 1 then n is :

A   8

B   6

C   4

D   3

Topic	Percentile ⓘ
Percentages	47
Number systems	55

Score 60 percentile and you are all set

Performance ⌄

Topics ⌄

Update   Solution   ⚑ Skip   Submit   End Practice

Change topics

Q will adjust to your skill level

Questions ?

Sign Up on LearnTheta.com

Thank You

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