Data Interpretation — Free Study Notes

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Tables, bar charts, pie charts, line graphs, caselets and mixed DI — a high-weight section in IBPS/SBI PO, RRB and SSC CGL.

Key topics

Tables
Read row and column headers first; compute only the asked cell; use ratios and differences.

Bar & Line Charts
Estimate values from the axis scale; look at growth rates and trends.

Pie Charts
Convert sectors to degrees or percentages of the total; central angle = share × 360°.

Caselets
Paragraph-based data; write the given facts as small equations before solving.

Speed Calculations
Fraction-percentage table (1/8 = 12.5%, 1/6 ≈ 16.67%), approximation, ratio comparison.

Common Tricks
Successive change a + b + ab/100, share of a part = (part/total) × 100, growth = (new − old)/old.

Study tips

• Do one timed set of 5 questions daily.
• Memorise the fraction-percentage table up to 1/15.
• Approximate instead of exact division wherever options are far apart.

Practice questions with solutions

1. In a pie chart of ₹2,00,000 expenses, one sector is 45°. Its value is:
A) ₹20,000 B) ₹25,000 C) ₹30,000 D) ₹40,000
Answer: B — 45°/360° = 1/8; 2,00,000 / 8 = ₹25,000.

2. Sales rose from 400 to 450 units. Percentage increase is:
A) 10% B) 12.5% C) 15% D) 20%
Answer: B — Increase 50; 50/400 × 100 = 12.5%.

3. A pie chart's total central angle is:
A) 180° B) 270° C) 360° D) 540°
Answer: C — A pie chart represents the whole (100%), so its angles sum to 360°.

4. Production is 1,200 units and defect rate is 2.5%. Defective units are:
A) 25 B) 30 C) 35 D) 40
Answer: B — 2.5% of 1,200 = 1,200 × 2.5/100 = 30.

5. Profit grew 20% in year 1 and 25% in year 2. Total growth is:
A) 45% B) 50% C) 48% D) 55%
Answer: B — 1.2 × 1.25 = 1.5, i.e. 50% total growth (successive change, not 45%).

6. Average of five readings is 40. One reading 50 is replaced by 70. New average is:
A) 42 B) 44 C) 46 D) 48
Answer: B — Sum rises by 20, so total +20 across 5 = +4; 40 + 4 = 44.

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