# Reasoning Ability — Free Notes

Puzzles, seating arrangement, syllogism, coding-decoding, blood relations, direction sense, series and inequalities.

## Key topics

Puzzles & Seating Arrangement: Linear, circular, floor and box puzzles; start with the most definite clue.

Syllogism: Draw Venn diagrams; check 'some', 'all', 'no' and possibility cases.

Coding-Decoding: Letter positions (A=1 ... Z=26), reverse positions, shifting patterns.

Blood Relations: Draw a family tree with gender symbols.

Direction Sense: Mark North at top; use Pythagoras for shortest distance.

Inequalities & Series: Combine statements carefully; look for differences, squares and alternate patterns.

## Study tips

• Practise 2 puzzles every day.
• Memorise letter positions and EJOTY (5, 10, 15, 20, 25).
• Skip a puzzle after 5 minutes and return later.

## Practice questions

1. Find the next number: 2, 6, 12, 20, 30, ?
(A) 40 (B) 42 (C) 44 (D) 36
Answer: B. Differences are 4, 6, 8, 10, so next is 30 + 12 = 42.

2. If CAT is coded as DBU, how is DOG coded?
(A) EPH (B) EPG (C) CNF (D) FPH
Answer: A. Each letter moves +1: D→E, O→P, G→H = EPH.

3. A walks 3 km north, then 4 km east. How far is he from the start?
(A) 7 km (B) 5 km (C) 1 km (D) 6 km
Answer: B. $\sqrt{(3^2 + 4^2)} = \sqrt{25} = 5$ km.

4. Pointing to a man, Riya says, 'He is the son of my mother's only brother.' How is the man related to Riya?
(A) Brother (B) Cousin (C) Uncle (D) Nephew
Answer: B. Mother's only brother is her maternal uncle; his son is her cousin.

5. Statements: All pens are books. Some books are bags. Conclusion I: Some pens are bags. II: Some books are pens.
(A) Only I follows (B) Only II follows (C) Both follow (D) Neither follows
Answer: B. All pens are books, so some books are pens (II). Pens and bags have no definite link, so I does not follow.

6. Odd one out: 8, 27, 64, 100, 125
(A) 27 (B) 64 (C) 100 (D) 125
Answer: C. All others are perfect cubes; 100 is not.

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