

TMC - 1



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Logical Minds Challenge
Sample Questions

Sample Question 1: *(Geometrical Shapes)*

Alex makes a design using different geometric shape:

- He uses **9 shapes altogether**.
- The total number of sides is **34**.
- He uses **2 pentagons**.

Each type of shape has a fixed number of sides.

- (a) How many sides are contributed by the shapes that are **not pentagons**?
- (b) Alex says, “I might have used 6 triangles.”
Explain why this is not possible.
- (c) How many squares and triangles does Alex use?

Sample Question 2: *(Numbers and Operations)*

A train starts with some passengers.



- At the first station, 9 passengers get off and 4 get on.
 - At the second station, 5 passengers get off and 7 get on.
 - After the second station, there are 22 passengers on the train.
- (a) How many passengers were on the train before the first station?
 - (b) How many passengers were on the train after the first station?
 - (c) At the third station, 6 passengers want to get on. The train can carry a maximum of 35 passengers. After the 6 passengers board, how many empty spaces are left on the train?

TMC - 2



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Sample Questions

Sample Question 1: (Number Pattern)

A pattern is made using circles.

- Pattern 1 uses 8 circles
- Pattern 2 uses 11 circles
- Pattern 3 uses 14 circles



The pattern continues in the same way.

- How many circles are added each time?
- How many circles will pattern 6 use?
- Another student says pattern 8 uses 30 circles. Explain the mistake.
- If pattern 1 started with 10 circles instead, how many more circles would the new pattern 6 use compared to the original pattern 6?

Sample Question 2: (Geometry)

A rectangular garden is 25 m long and 15 m wide.

A runner goes around the garden 4 times and then walks across the width one additional time.



- Find the perimeter of the garden.
- Find the total distance for the 4 full rounds.
- A student says the total distance walked is 320 m. Is the student correct? Explain your answer.

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Sample Questions

Sample Question 1: *(Percentages)*

A toy costs £50 and is sold at a discount of 20%.

- (a) What is the discounted price of one toy?
- (b) A customer buys some toys and pays £200 altogether. How many toys did the customer buy?
- (c) Another customer buys the same number of toys, but every third toy is sold at half price. Who pays less? Explain your reasoning.

Sample Question 2: *(Volume & Rates)*

A tank holds 720 litres of water.

- One pipe fills the tank at 12 litres per minute.
- A leak drains 3 litres per minute.

- (a) How long does one pipe take to fill the tank without the leak?
- (b) How long does it take to fill the tank with the leak?
- (c) A student says:

“Using two identical pipes will exactly halve the filling time.” Is the student correct?

Explain your reasoning.

- (d) Without fully calculating the exact filling time, decide whether using three identical pipes **while the leak continues** would take:
 - less than 20 minutes,
 - exactly 20 minutes,
 - or more than 20 minutes.

Explain your reasoning.

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Sample Question 1: *(Ratio and Percentage)*

At a toy shop, cars, dolls, and balls are sold in the ratio:

$$4 : 5 : 3$$

A total of 360 toys are sold.

- Cars cost £5 each
- Dolls cost £3 each
- Balls cost £2 each

- Explain how the ratio shows that 30 groups of toys were sold.
- Find the total amount collected.
- A student says more than 50% of the money came from cars. Without calculating the total income from each toy separately, explain whether more than half of the money came from cars.

Sample Question 2: *(Sequences)*

A sequence is defined by the formula $5n + 2$.

- Explain how you can determine whether 42 belongs to the sequence without listing terms.
- Describe all values of n for which $5n+25$ is divisible by 3.

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Sample Questions

Sample Question 1:

(Quadratic Functions)

A quadratic function has one root at -1 and axis of symmetry $x = 2$.
It passes through $(0, 15)$.

- Find the other root.
- Find the equation of the quadratic function.
- Find the coordinates of the vertex and hence determine the maximum value.
- Without sketching the graph, determine the interval for which the function is positive. .

Sample Question 2: *(Numbers and Operations)*

A rescue boat travels from the north shore to the south shore at 15 m/s .
On the return journey, strong waves slow the boat to 10 m/s .
The return journey takes 3 minutes longer than the outward journey.



- Find the distance between the two shores.
- A boat travels outward at 8 m/s . A scientist claims that if a strong current helps the boat on the return trip, then the return journey will be 4 minutes shorter than the outward journey. Explain why the claim could be true without finding the exact return speed.
- Suppose the river in part (a) is three times wider, while the outward and return speeds remain 15 m/s and 10 m/s respectively. Find the total time for the complete round trip.

TMC - 6



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Logical Minds Challenge
Sample Questions

Sample Question 1: (*Quadratic Functions*)

For the function $f(x) = x^2 - 4x - 5$:

- (a) Without sketching the graph, determine the coordinates where the graph intersects the coordinate axes.
- (b) Explain why the function does not have an inverse over all real numbers.
- (c) Given that $x \geq 2$, find the inverse function.
- (d) Without sketching either graph, determine whether: $f^{-1}(0) > 0$



Sample Question 2:

A company sells each item for p pounds and can sell:

$$q = 400 - 5p$$

items per week. The cost of producing q items is:

$$C(q) = 1000 + 6q$$

- (a) Express the profit P as a function of p .
- (b) Without fully expanding the quadratic expression, explain why the profit function must have a maximum value.
- (c) Find the value of p that maximises the profit.
- (d) Determine the maximum profit and explain what this value represents in the context of the problem.