Verbal Reasoning Mock Test 17 Answers

Q#	Answer	Explanation
1	C	Putting **AND** into the gap makes **CANDLE**. CENDLE, CARELE, COLDLE and CINKLE are not words.
2	A	Putting **TAR** into the gap makes **CUSTARD**. RAT, ART, TEA and OAT hold the same kinds of letters, but CUSRATD, CUSARTD, CUSTEAD and CUSOATD are not words.
3	E	Putting **ARE** into the gap makes **SCARECROW**. EAR and ERA use the same three letters in a different order, but SCEARCROW and SCERACROW are not words.
4	B	Putting **COD** into the gap makes **CROCODILE**. CAD is the trap: CROCADILE is a common misspelling, not a word.
5	D	Putting **NIT** into the gap makes **DEFINITELY**. NET is the trap: DEFINETELY is one of the most common misspellings, but it is not a word.
6	A	Putting **RAT** into the gap makes **CONSIDERATE**, which means thoughtful towards others. ART and TAR have the same letters, but CONSIDEARTE and CONSIDETARE are not words.
7	C	Putting **MET** into the gap makes **THERMOMETER**. MAT is the trap: THERMOMATER is a misspelling, not a word.
8	D	Both letters move **one** step forward: E becomes F and G becomes H. So U becomes **V** and W becomes **X**, giving **VX**.
9	B	The first letter moves **two back** (P to N) and the second moves **two forward** (M to O). So J becomes **H** and G becomes **I**, giving **HI**. LE moves both letters the wrong way.
10	E	The first letter moves **four forward** (C to G) and the second moves **four back** (X to T). So D becomes **H** and S becomes **O**, giving **HO**. OH has the right letters in the wrong order.
11	A	Each letter moves **one forward** and the two letters **swap places**: H becomes I and M becomes N, written NI. So C becomes D and T becomes U, written **UD**. DU forgets to swap them.

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12	C	The first letter moves **three forward** (G to J) and the second moves **five back** (S to N). So P becomes **S** and W becomes **R**, giving **SR**.
13	E	Each letter is swapped for its **mirror** letter, the one the same distance from the other end of the alphabet: A↔Z and R↔I. D↔W and M↔N, so the answer is **WN**.
14	B	Each letter is swapped for its **mirror** letter (E↔V, L↔O) and then the pair is written **back to front**, so EL becomes OV. H↔S and B↔Y give SY, and written back to front that is **YS**. SY forgets the second step.
15	E	**Small** and **little** mean the same. Rich and poor are opposites, and so are clean and dirty.
16	B	A **gift** is a **present**. Sad and happy are opposites, and so are push and pull.
17	D	To **halt** is to **stop**. To hurry is the opposite of to dawdle, and to create is the opposite of to destroy.
18	A	**Fortunate** means **lucky**. Foolish is the opposite of wise, and ancient is the opposite of modern.
19	C	To **rescue** someone is to **save** them. Attack is the opposite of defend, and lower is the opposite of raise. Rescue and defend are close, but defending stops harm before it happens, while rescuing and saving both get someone out of it.
20	E	A **diligent** person is **hardworking**. Diligent is the opposite of lazy, and reckless is the opposite of careful. Serene means calm, which none of the second group means.
21	B	**Hostile** means **unfriendly**. Jubilant means full of joy, the opposite of miserable, and a meagre helping is the opposite of a generous one.
22	B	Each word takes **un** in front to make its opposite: unkind, unlock. So tie becomes **untie**. ‘unite’ has the same letters but is a different word.
23	E	Each pair gives the word used to compare two things: good, better; bad, worse. For many it is **more**. ‘most’ is the trap: it is the form for comparing three or more, like best and worst.

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24	C	Each pair gives an animal and its young: a fawn is a young deer and a cygnet is a young swan. A young goose is a **gosling**. A gander is a male goose, and a duckling is a young duck.
25	A	Each second word is the first with an **r** added as its second letter: b-r-ake, t-r-ee. So fame becomes **frame**. 'flame' adds an l instead, and 'framed' adds a d as well.
26	D	Each pair are words that **sound the same** but are spelt differently: knight and night, write and right. 'knows' sounds exactly like **nose**. 'now' loses the s sound.
27	B	Each pair makes an adjective ending in **-ous**: fame, famous; danger, dangerous. From humour the word is **humorous**, which drops the u before r, just as glamour becomes glamorous. 'humourous' is the common misspelling.
28	D	Each pair gives a noun and then the verb that goes with it: a breath, to breathe; advice, to advise. In British English the verb from practice is **practise**, with an s. 'practising' is a form of the verb, but not the plain verb itself.
29	C	PINE and PENS both begin with P, so the two codes beginning 4 are theirs and P=4; the other code, 5472, must be SPIN or SNIP, so S=5. PENS has E second and PINE has E last: 4925 and 4729 share 9 in those places, so E=9, 4925 is PENS (N=2) and 4729 is PINE (I=7). 5472 is S-P-I-N, SPIN, so SNIP is the missing word. SNIP is S-N-I-P = **5274**. 5472 is the trap: that is SPIN.
30	A	PINE and PENS both begin with P, so the two codes beginning 4 are theirs and P=4; the other code, 5472, must be SPIN or SNIP, so S=5. PENS has E second and PINE has E last: 4925 and 4729 share 9 in those places, so E=9, 4925 is PENS (N=2) and 4729 is PINE (I=7). 5472 is S-P-I-N, SPIN, so SNIP is the missing word. 5-4-7-2-9 is S-P-I-N-E, **SPINE**. SNIPE would be 52749 and PINES 47295.

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31	D	PINE and PENS both begin with P, so the two codes beginning 4 are theirs and P=4; the other code, 5472, must be SPIN or SNIP, so S=5. PENS has E second and PINE has E last: 4925 and 4729 share 9 in those places, so E=9, 4925 is PENS (N=2) and 4729 is PINE (I=7). 5472 is S-P-I-N, SPIN, so SNIP is the missing word. PIPES is P-I-P-E-S = **47495**. The P-digit 4 appears twice, in the first and third places.
32	B	All four words use the same five letters, so look at positions. Two codes end in 6, and SURE and TRUE are the only words sharing a last letter, so E=6. R is third in SURE and second in TRUE: 9376 has 7 third and 1736 has 7 second, so R=7, 9376 is SURE (S=9, U=3) and 1736 is TRUE (T=1). 7391 is R-U-S-T, so USER is the missing word. USER is U-S-E-R = **3967**. 9367 swaps the first two letters, giving SUER.
33	E	All four words use the same five letters, so look at positions. Two codes end in 6, and SURE and TRUE are the only words sharing a last letter, so E=6. R is third in SURE and second in TRUE: 9376 has 7 third and 1736 has 7 second, so R=7, 9376 is SURE (S=9, U=3) and 1736 is TRUE (T=1). 7391 is R-U-S-T, so USER is the missing word. 9-1-7-3-1 is S-T-R-U-T, **STRUT**. TRUST has the same letters but would be 17391.
34	A	All four words use the same five letters, so look at positions. Two codes end in 6, and SURE and TRUE are the only words sharing a last letter, so E=6. R is third in SURE and second in TRUE: 9376 has 7 third and 1736 has 7 second, so R=7, 9376 is SURE (S=9, U=3) and 1736 is TRUE (T=1). 7391 is R-U-S-T, so USER is the missing word. STEER is S-T-E-E-R = **91667**. 91676 would spell STERE, and 96167 SETER.
35	D	All four words use the same five letters, so look at positions. Two codes end in 6, and SURE and TRUE are the only words sharing a last letter, so E=6. R is third in SURE and second in TRUE: 9376 has 7 third and 1736 has 7 second, so R=7, 9376 is SURE (S=9, U=3) and 1736 is TRUE (T=1). 7391 is R-U-S-T, so USER is the missing word. 7-6-9-6-1 is R-E-S-E-T, **RESET**. TERSE (16796), STEER (91667) and TREES (17669) use the same letters in other orders.

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36	D	**London**, **Paris** and **Madrid** are capital cities. The **Thames** and the **Nile** are rivers.
37	A	A **wasp**, a **beetle** and an **ant** are insects. A **sparrow** and an **owl** are birds. Wasps and owls can both fly, but so can beetles, so flying is not the link.
38	C	A **saucepan**, a **kettle** and a **wok** are used for heating food or water. A **wardrobe** and a **bookcase** are furniture for storing things.
39	E	**Furious**, **livid** and **irate** all mean very angry. **Delighted** and **thrilled** mean very pleased.
40	B	**Mutton**, **veal** and **venison** are kinds of meat (from sheep, calves and deer). A **heifer** (a young cow) and a **ewe** (a female sheep) are living animals.
41	D	**Pair**, **rain** and **sale** each sound the same as another word spelt differently: pear, rein, sail. **Desk** and **lamp** do not. Desk and lamp are also both things in a study, which makes the other three look like the odd ones.
42	A	**Meagre**, **scant** and **sparse** all mean too little or thinly spread. **Ample** and **copious** mean more than enough.
43	A	Ice is **cold** and fire is **hot**. A rink is made of ice, but smoke is not where fire is kept, and skating and matches are not linked in the same way.
44	D	**Teeth** is the plural of tooth, and **feet** is the plural of foot. A toe is part of a foot, but a bite is not part of a tooth.
45	B	A **captain** is in charge of a ship and a **pilot** flies an aeroplane. A ship waits in a harbour, but an aeroplane does not wait in a cloud.
46	E	A knight wears **armour** and a diver wears a **wetsuit**. A knight rides a horse, but a diver does not ride a fish, and a castle is a place while deep is not.
47	C	An acorn grows into an **oak**, and an egg hatches into a **chicken**. A yolk is inside an egg, but brown is only the colour of an acorn, not something inside it.

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48	A	A biography is a book about a person's **life**, and an atlas is a book about the **world**. A globe also shows the world, but it is not what an atlas is about.
49	C	Written backwards, dog spells **god** and war spells **raw**. A dog barks and armies fight, but a bark is a sound while a fight is not, so the backwards spelling is the only link that works both times.
50	B	The pencil came from Amy's case, and every pencil in it is blue, so **Josh borrowed a blue pencil**. Amy might have red pencils somewhere else, and we are not told why Josh needed one or how many pencils are left.
51	E	The white car takes the far-left space, and red, blue and green must follow in that order, so the row is white, red, blue, green. The blue car is third and the white car is first, so **the blue car cannot be next to the white car**. All the other sentences are true.
52	C	The pool cannot be open without a lifeguard, and it was open, so **a lifeguard was on duty on Saturday morning**. Nothing tells us about other Saturdays, the afternoon, the lifeguard's working days or how busy it was.
53	A	From oldest to youngest, Gus is older than Eva, Eva older than Finn and Finn older than Hana. We only know that Ian is older than Hana, so he could be anywhere above her. Hana is younger than Finn, who is younger than Eva, so **Hana cannot be older than Eva**. Ian could be older than Gus or younger than Finn, and the other two sentences are always true.
54	D	Uma has May. Wes cannot be in January, because Yara is earlier, and Zak must follow Wes. That leaves two possible orders: Yara, Wes, Zak, Vic, Uma, or Yara, Vic, Wes, Zak, Uma (Vic cannot take January). In both, **Yara's birthday is in January**. Each of the other sentences is true in only one of the two orders.

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55	B	Sara, Rob, Priya and Quinn must finish in that order, and Tom can come anywhere after Rob, so there are three possible results. Nobody can beat Sara: Rob, Priya and Quinn are behind her, and Tom is behind Rob. So **Sara won the race.** Tom might be third, fourth or last, which is why the other sentences are not certain.
56	E	The children on the trip who had packed lunches all ate in the park, and nobody who ate there got wet. So at least those children stayed dry: **some of the children who went on the trip did not get wet.** We know nothing about the children without packed lunches, so some of them may have got wet, and other people may have eaten in the park too.

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