Verbal Reasoning Mock Test 20 Answers

Q#	Answer	Explanation
1	A	The end of **Clara** and the beginning of **inspected** make **rain**: Cla-**rain**-spected. None of the other joins hides a word.
2	E	The last letter of **the** and the beginning of **chorus** make **echo**: th-**echo**-rus. A hidden word can take just one letter from one of the two words.
3	D	The end of **have** and the beginning of **ink** make **vein**: ha-**vein**-k. None of the other joins hides a word.
4	C	The last letter of **Sam** and the beginning of **into** make **mint**: Sa-**mint**-o. The word 'into' is not the answer: it sits inside one word, so it does not cross a join.
5	B	The last letter of **shelf** and the beginning of **leaned** make **flea**: shel-**flea**-ned. 'lean' sits inside 'leaned' on its own, so it does not count.
6	E	The last letter of **Sasha** and the beginning of **cheered** make **ache**: Sash-**ache**-ered. 'cheer' sits inside 'cheered' on its own, so it does not count.
7	C	The last letter of **desk** and the beginning of **items** make **kite**: des-**kite**-ms. 'item' sits inside 'items' on its own, so it does not count.
8	C	Each letter moves **two** places forward: J→L, U→W, M→O, P→R. So TENT becomes T→V, E→G, N→P, T→V, which is **VGPV**. RCLR moves the letters back instead.
9	A	Each letter moves **one** place back: P→O, E→D, S→R, T→S. To decode, move each letter one place **forward**: L→M, N→O, K→L, D→E, which spells **MOLE**. MILE would be LHKD.
10	E	The **first letter moves to the end**: G-UST becomes UST-G. So P-ORK becomes ORK-P, which is **ORKP**. KPOR moves the last letter to the front instead, and KROP writes the word backwards.

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11	B	Only the **vowels** change, each to the **next vowel** in A, E, I, O, U: A→E in HAT, I→O in LIP. The consonants stay. In MOUSE, O→U, U→A (going back round to the start) and E→I, giving **MUASI**. MUESI treats U as if it came before E.
12	D	The 1st and 3rd letters are swapped for their **mirror** letters (the same distance from the other end of the alphabet: B↔Y, S↔H), and the 2nd and 4th stay the same. Decoding YOOT: Y↔B, O stays, O↔L, T stays, which spells **BOLT**. BOOT is the trap: it reads the third letter as it is written, but it must be mirrored.
13	A	Each letter is written and then followed by the **next letter of the alphabet**: C becomes CD, A becomes AB, T becomes TU. So E becomes EF, and each G becomes GH, giving **EFGHGH**. EFGGHH writes the doubled letters in the wrong order.
14	C	Vowels move **one forward** and consonants move **one back**: B→A, E→F, A→B, K→J. So SNAIL becomes S→R, N→M, A→B, I→J, L→K, which is **RMBJK**. RMZHK moves every letter back.
15	D	A **hat**, a **scarf** and a **glove** are things you wear. A **sandwich** and a **pizza** are things you eat.
16	B	A **lion**, a **bear** and a **wolf** are mammals with four legs. An **eagle** and a **hawk** are birds.
17	E	**Breakfast**, **lunch** and **dinner** are meals. A **kitchen** and a **cellar** are rooms in a house.
18	A	To **boil**, **fry** and **roast** are ways of cooking food with heat. To **freeze** and to **chill** make food colder.
19	C	**Swim**, **run** and **jump** are verbs, words for actions. **Happy** and **angry** are adjectives, words that describe how someone feels.
20	E	**Valiant**, **intrepid** and **daring** all mean brave. **Fearful** and **cowardly** mean the opposite.
21	B	**Knee**, **lamb** and **write** each have a **silent letter**: the k in knee, the b in lamb and the w in write. Every letter is sounded in **sock** and **jump**.
22	A	Moving **b** leaves **link** and makes **bring**. 'k' would make rink, but blin is not a word.

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23	B	Moving **w** leaves **sift** and makes **what**. 's' makes hats and 't' makes that, but wift and swif are not words.
24	C	Moving **s** leaves **hate** and makes **cost**. 'a' would make coat, but hste is not a word.
25	D	Moving **r** leaves **chip** and makes **cart**. 'h' would make chat, but cirp is not a word.
26	B	Moving **e** leaves **bard**, a poet, and makes **seat**. 'r' leaves bead and 'd' leaves bear, but neither r nor d can be put into sat to make a word.
27	E	Moving **k** leaves **plan** and makes **skip**. 'l' would make slip and 'n' would make snip, but pank and plak are not words.
28	A	Moving **g** leaves **rave** and makes **glow**. 'r' is the trap: it leaves gave, but no word can be made by putting r into low.
29	B	Both letters move one step **forward** each time. The first letters run P, Q, R, S, so the next is T; the second run D, E, F, G, so the next is H. The pair is **TH**.
30	D	The first letters move **two** steps back: Z, X, V, T, so the next is R. The second letters move **one** step forward: M, N, O, P, so the next is Q. The pair is **RQ**.
31	A	The first letters move **three** steps forward: E, H, K, N, so the next is Q. The second letters move **three** steps back: X, U, R, O, so the next is L. The pair is **QL**.
32	E	The first letters move forward +1, +2, +3, +4: B, C, E, H, so the next is L. The second letters move **three** steps forward each time: A, D, G, J, so the next is M. The pair is **LM**.
33	C	The first letters move **four** steps forward: D, H, L, P, so the next is T. The second letters move **four** steps back: V, R, N, J, so the next is F. The pair is **TF**.
34	B	The first letters move **two** steps forward: B, D, F, H, so the next is J. The second letter is always a growing distance after the first: C is 1 after B, F is 2 after D, I is 3 after F, L is 4 after H. So the next is 5 after J, which is O. The pair is **JO**.

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35	D	The first letters move forward +1, +2, +3, +4: E, F, H, K, so the next is O. The second letters move back −2, −3, −4, −5: Y, W, T, P, so the next is K. The pair is **OK**.
36	E	**Happy** is the opposite of **sad**. Large means huge, and clever means smart.
37	C	**Above** is the opposite of **below**. Near means close, and simple means easy.
38	A	**Forward** is the opposite of **backward**. A gift is a present, and to stroll is to walk.
39	D	To **admit** something is to say it is true; to **deny** it is to say it is not. To wreck is to ruin, and a glance is a peek.
40	B	**Major** means big or important, and **minor** means small or unimportant. Chilly means cold, and a tale is a story.
41	E	A **meticulous** person pays great attention to detail, the opposite of **careless**. Jovial means cheerful, and hazy means misty.
42	A	A **sceptical** person doubts what they are told, while a **gullible** person believes anything. Cumbersome means bulky, and pungent means smelly.
43	D	The first two letters of ‘bud’ and the last letter of ‘yes’ make ‘bus’. In the same way, the first two letters of ‘fig’ and the last letter of ‘tan’ make **fin**.
44	A	The last letter of ‘cab’ and the first three letters of ‘area’ make ‘bare’. In the same way, the last letter of ‘hop’ and the first three letters of ‘earn’ make **pear**. ‘reap’ has the right letters in the wrong order.
45	C	The 2nd and 3rd letters of ‘clap’ and the first letter of ‘bone’ make ‘lab’. In the same way, the 2nd and 3rd letters of ‘spot’ and the first letter of ‘tent’ make **pot**. ‘top’ and ‘opt’ use the same letters in the wrong order.
46	E	‘lamp’ takes the 4th letter of ‘smell’ (l), the 2nd of ‘camp’ (a), the 2nd of ‘smell’ (m) and the 4th of ‘camp’ (p). In the same way, the 4th letter of ‘user’ (r), the 2nd of ‘home’ (o), the 2nd of ‘user’ (s) and the 4th of ‘home’ (e) make **rose**. ‘sore’ uses the same letters in the wrong order.

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47	B	'tins' is 'nit' written **backwards** (t, i, n) followed by the last letter of 'bags' (s). In the same way, 'pot' backwards (t, o, p) and the last letter of 'maps' (s) make **tops**. 'pots' forgets to reverse 'pot', and stop, spot and post use the same letters in other orders.
48	D	'gold' takes letters from the two words **in turn**, **starting with the second word**: g from 'glum', o from 'odds', l from 'glum', d from 'odds'. In the same way, c from 'crab', a from 'adds', r from 'crab' and d from 'adds' make **card**.
49	A	'stem' is the last letter of 'masks', then the first two letters of 'tent', then the first letter of 'masks'. In the same way, t from the end of 'moist', ra from 'rain' and m from the start of 'moist' make **tram**. 'mart' uses the same letters in the wrong order.
50	A	To **punch** is to hit or strike, and punch is also a fruit drink. Slap and kick fit only the first pair; squash and cordial are drinks but do not mean hit.
51	C	A **bear** is an animal, such as a grizzly, and to bear something is to carry it or put up with it. Tolerate and hold fit only the second pair, and a lion is an animal but does not mean carry.
52	E	To **pound** is to hit or thump hard, and a pound is a unit of money and a coin. Bang and beat fit only the first pair; penny and euro fit only the second.
53	B	A **bluff** is a steep cliff or headland, and to bluff is to pretend in order to deceive. Crag fits only the first pair; cheat and trick fit only the second.
54	D	An **invalid** (said IN-va-lid) is a person who is ill, and **invalid** (said in-VAL-id) means useless or void, as in an invalid ticket. Null and worthless fit only the second pair; a casualty is hurt, but it does not mean void.
55	A	A **desert** is dry, empty land, and to desert someone is to abandon them. 'dessert' is the trap: it sounds like the verb but is spelt with two s's and means a pudding.

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56	C	A **minute** (said MIN-it) is sixty seconds, and **minute** (said my-NEWT) means tiny. ‘second’ is the trap: it is a unit of time, but it does not mean tiny. Instant fits only the first pair; little and petite only the second.

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