Verbal Reasoning Mock Test 21 Answers

Q#	Answer	Explanation
1	A	The letter **p** makes **sharp**, **pencil**, **camp** and **post**. 'k' is the trap: it gives shark, but kencil and camk are not words. 'e' gives share and came, but eencil is not a word.
2	D	The letter **d** makes **band**, **date**, **wind** and **deep**. 'g' is the trap: bang and gate are both real words, but wing leaves geep, which is not.
3	C	The letter **g** makes **rang**, **grip**, **young** and **glove**. 't' is the trap: rant and trip are both real words, but youn followed by t is not.
4	E	The letter **m** makes **bloom**, **marble**, **custom** and **machine**. 'd' is the trap: blood is a word, but darble and custod are not.
5	D	The letter **y** makes **army**, **youth**, **library** and **yellow**. 's' is a strong trap, because arms and south are both real words, but librars is not.
6	E	The letter **r** makes **flower**, **rock**, **power** and **rescue**. 'd' is a strong trap, because flowed and dock are both real words, but powed is not.
7	B	The letter **n** makes **turn**, **nail**, **green** and **noise**. 'f' is a strong trap, because turf and fail are both real words, but greef is not.
8	C	WEST and WETS are made of the same four letters, so 9247 and 9274 must be those two; both begin 9 2, so W=9 and E=2. The remaining code 5297 is therefore NEWT, giving N=5 and T=7. With T=7, WEST is 9247, so S=4. STEW is S-T-E-W = **4729**.
9	D	With W=9, E=2, N=5, T=7 and S=4, the code 9257 reads W-E-N-T, which spells **WENT**. WEST is 9247, NEWT is 5297, STEW is 4729 and TENS is 7254.
10	B	S=4, W=9, E=2 and T=7, so SWEETS is S-W-E-E-T-S = **492274**. The two 2s next to each other stand for the double e, and the code begins and ends with 4 because the word begins and ends with S.

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11	E	MOST and SORT share three letters (O, S and T) and differ in only one, which is why 4138 and 3168 are alike apart from a single digit; the odd code out, 8694, must be TRAM. That gives T=8, R=6, A=9 and M=4. MOST then starts with 4, so MOST is 4138, O=1 and S=3. STORM is S-T-O-R-M = **38164**.
12	C	With S=3, T=8, O=1, R=6, M=4 and A=9, the code 34968 reads S-M-A-R-T, which spells **SMART**. STORM would be 38164, MOATS 41983, ROAST 61938 and TRAMS 86943.
13	D	MOTORS is M-O-T-O-R-S = **418163**. The digit 1 appears twice, in the second and fourth places, because the letter O appears twice in those places.
14	A	The code 61943 reads R-O-A-M-S, which spells **ROAMS**. ROAST is the trap: it shares the first three letters, but it would be coded 61938.
15	C	**Thin** and **slim** both mean not fat. Loud and soft are opposites, and so are early and late, so neither of those pairs is closest in meaning.
16	A	To **choose** is to **select**. Rise and fall are opposites, and so are hollow and solid.
17	B	To **alter** something is to **change** it. Reduce and increase are opposites, and so are praise and scold.
18	D	**Sturdy** and **robust** both mean strongly built. Timid and bold are opposites, and so are gentle and harsh. Sturdy and bold both suggest strength, but one describes how something is made and the other how somebody behaves.
19	C	Somebody **fickle** keeps changing their mind, so fickle and **changeable** are closest in meaning. Steadfast is the opposite of changeable, and lavish is the opposite of thrifty.
20	E	Something **transient** lasts only a short time, and so does something **fleeting**. Boisterous is the opposite of quiet, and stern is the opposite of kindly.
21	A	To **relish** something is to **enjoy** it greatly. To deter is the opposite of to encourage, and coarse is the opposite of smooth.

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22	A	Each second word is the first with **-ing** added and the last letter doubled first: run becomes running, hop becomes hopping. So sit becomes **sitting**. 'siting' forgets to double the t.
23	B	Each of these words is made of two smaller words joined together, and the second word of the pair is the **first** half: sunflower gives sun, football gives foot. So sandcastle gives **sand**. 'castle' is the trap: it is the second half.
24	C	Each second word **sounds the same** as the first but is spelt differently and means something else: flour and flower, pair and pear. The word that sounds like weight is **wait**. 'weigh' is the trap: it looks closest, but it rhymes with way, not with weight.
25	D	Each second word is the form of the pronoun used as the **object**: we becomes us, he becomes him. So they becomes **them**. 'their' and 'theirs' are the traps: they show who owns something rather than who the action is done to.
26	E	Each second word is the person who does the thing, made by adding **-or** rather than -er: act gives actor, sail gives sailor. So edit gives **editor**. 'editer' is the trap, because -er is the commoner ending on other words.
27	C	Each second word is the number written as an ordinal, and each drops or changes a letter rather than simply adding -th: nine gives ninth, twelve gives twelfth. Eight already ends in t, so it needs only an h: **eighth**. 'eightth' doubles the t, 'eigth' is the common misspelling, and eightieth is the ordinal of eighty.
28	B	Each second word is the **simple past tense** of the first, formed by changing the vowel rather than adding -ed: drive gives drove, ride gives rode. So steal gives **stole**. 'stolen' is the strong trap: it is the form that needs has or was in front of it, as in has stolen.
29	C	Both letters move **five** steps forward: J becomes O and L becomes Q. So R becomes **W** and T becomes **Y**.
30	B	Both letters move **four** steps back: P becomes L and T becomes P. So H becomes **D** and L becomes **H**.

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31	C	The two letters move in **opposite directions**: the first goes three steps forward (F to I) and the second three steps back (Q to N). So L becomes **O** and U becomes **R**.
32	D	The two letters **change places** and each then moves on one: B L becomes L B, which becomes M C. So O Y becomes Y O, which becomes **Z P**.
33	A	The first letter moves **one step back** and the second **four steps forward**: P becomes O and E becomes I. So T becomes **S** and L becomes **P**.
34	E	The two letters **change places** and each then moves back two: J O becomes O J, which becomes M H. So D I becomes I D, which becomes **G B**.
35	B	The first letter moves **five steps back** and the second **two steps forward**: V becomes Q and N becomes P. So K becomes **F** and H becomes **J**.
36	C	**bare** and **foot** join to make **barefoot**. Cloud and sky go together in the mind, but cloudsky is not a word.
37	B	**win** and **dow** join to make **window**. A marble tile and a purple shade are each two separate words.
38	D	**pig** and **eon** join to make **pigeon**. Pig meat and pig farm are the traps: both are two words, and the pair has to make a single word.
39	B	**cob** and **web** join to make **cobweb**. A gem box and an oak fire are two words each, and neither makes a single word.
40	E	**carp** and **enter** join to make **carpenter**. The first group is all fish and the second all ways of going in or out, which is what makes the join easy to miss.
41	A	**man** and **date** join to make **mandate**, which is an official order. The first group is all people and the second all fruit, so no other pair joins up.
42	D	**car** and **nation** join to make **carnation**, which is a flower. The first group is all vehicles and the second all places, so the answer crosses the two ideas.

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43	C	A rabbit eats **lettuce** and an owl eats a **mouse**, so the link is what each animal feeds on. A burrow is a rabbit's home but a wing is part of an owl, and hop and hoot are a movement and a sound, so neither of those pairs matches.
44	B	A kitchen is the room used for **cooking** and a bedroom is the room used for **sleeping**, so the link is what each room is for. A sink and a curtain are things that happen to be in the rooms, not what the rooms are for.
45	D	The language spoken in Japan is **Japanese** and the language spoken in Greece is **Greek**. Tokyo is a capital city and Asia a continent, and neither islands nor sunshine answers the same question about Greece.
46	B	You **ring** a bell and you **beat** a drum, so the link is what you do to each one. A tower is where a bell hangs and a band is a group of players, which is not the same kind of link at all.
47	C	A sentence ends with a **full stop** and a question ends with a **question mark**, so the link is the mark that closes each one. A capital letter begins a sentence rather than ending it, and an answer follows a question rather than belonging to it.
48	E	The part you take off and throw away is the banana's **skin** and the walnut's **shell**, so the link is the outer covering. A tree and autumn tell us where and when walnuts come, which is a different idea.
49	A	Freezing water turns it into **ice** and boiling water turns it into **steam**, so the link is what each process produces. A kettle is what you boil water in and winter is when water freezes, which are not the same kind of link.
50	C	Every plant in the greenhouse is watered twice a week, and the tomato plant is one of them, so **it is watered twice a week**. We are told nothing about plants outside the greenhouse, which days the watering happens, or how tall anything is.

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51	D	The caretaker was away on Friday, so the playground was locked; and when the playground is locked the children play in the hall. Following the chain, **on Friday the children played in the hall**. Nothing tells us about other Fridays, where the hall is, or when the caretaker came back.
52	A	If Ed were in the brass band he would be in the front row, and his hat makes that impossible, so **Ed is not in the brass band**. He may still play an instrument; band members may own hats as long as they do not wear them there; and the front row may hold other people as well.
53	B	Two of the four drinks are fizzy, and Zoe chose neither of them. The milk was Tariq's, so the only drink left for Zoe is the **water**. What Zoe usually drinks is not stated, and the other two friends took the two fizzy drinks between them.
54	E	Shelves 1 and 5 are taken by the sugar and the pasta, so the rice, the cereal and the flour fill shelves 2, 3 and 4. The cereal is two shelves above the rice, and the only pair that fits is rice on 2 and cereal on 4, which leaves the flour on 3, directly below the cereal as required. So **the rice is on shelf 2**.
55	B	The gate is locked from six in the evening until seven the next morning, and Yusuf walked out through it without climbing, so the gate must have been unlocked. Half past nine in the evening falls inside the locked hours, so **that cannot be true**. Five in the afternoon and eight in the morning both fall outside them, and how long he had been in the park is not fixed by anything we are told.
56	D	The thriller and the western must sit together in that order, and the thriller cannot be first, so the pair fills either the second and third places or the third and fourth. That leaves two possible orders: cartoon, thriller, western, comedy; or cartoon, comedy, thriller, western. The cartoon comes first in both, so **the cartoon was shown first** is the only sentence that must be true.

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