PPSC Branch Officer | BS-17 — GUESS PAPER 2026 (Set 2 of 2) · Predicted Questions

Body: Punjab Public Service Commission (PPSC) · **Post:** Branch Officer | BS-17 · **Set:** 2 of 2 · **Questions:** 100 predicted — 0 repeated questions, 79 verified facts predicted to recur, 21 syllabus anchors · **Price:** Free

GUESS PAPER — predicted questions for the upcoming exam, NOT a past paper. Every question below is a prediction: it is here because the same question, the same fact, or the same topic appeared in verified PPSC Branch Officer | BS-17 past papers. **No pass guarantee.** A guess paper raises the odds; it does not promise a result. Answers are the best-supported answers, not exam keys.

> **How to use this paper:** study the basis under each question, not just the answer — the real paper will ask the same topics in different words. Revise the underlying topic, not only the four options. Do not quote any item as "asked in the 2026 exam" — nothing here has been asked yet.

Question 1 General Knowledge

Britain's handover of Hong Kong to China took place in which year?

- A. 1999
- B. 1984
- C. 1997 ✓ **Predicted answer**
- D. 1949

Why this answer? Britain transferred Hong Kong to China on 1 July 1997 under the Sino-British Joint Declaration.

ed [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q3 (verified fact — 1997).

Question 2 General Knowledge

Tiananmen Square stands in the centre of which Chinese city?

- A. Beijing ✓ **Predicted answer**
- B. Shanghai
- C. Hong Kong
- D. Guangzhou

Why this answer? Tiananmen Square lies in the centre of Beijing, before the Forbidden City.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q6 (verified fact — Beijing).

Question 3 General Knowledge

In which game did Arthur Ashe win world fame?

- A. Golf
- B. Boxing
- C. Athletics
- D. Tennis ✓ **Predicted answer**

Why this answer? Arthur Ashe was the first black man to win the US Open, Australian Open and Wimbledon men's singles.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q8 (verified fact — Tennis).

4 General Knowledge

Naseem Hameed of Pakistan is best known as what?

- A. Cricketer
- B. Squash player
- C. Athlete (sprinter) ✓ **Predicted answer**
- D. Mountaineer

Why this answer? Naseem Hameed won the women's 100 metres gold at the 2010 South Asian Games, becoming the fastest woman in South Asia.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q9 (verified fact — Athlete (sprinter)).

Question 5 General Knowledge

Pakistan's first Test captain, Kardar, was known for which game?

- A. Hockey
- B. Squash
- C. Cricket ✓ **Predicted answer**
- D. Wrestling

Why this answer? A. H. Kardar was Pakistan's first Test cricket captain in 1952.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q10 (verified fact — Cricket).

Question 6 General Knowledge

SAARC came into being in which year?

- A. 1980
- B. 1983
- C. 1990

5 ✓ **Predicted answer**

Why this answer? SAARC was established on 8 December 1985 at the Dhaka summit.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q11 (verified fact — 1985).

Question 7 General Knowledge

China's flag has one big star and four little ones; how many stars is that in all?

- A. Three
- B. Five ✓ **Predicted answer**
- C. Four
- D. Six

Why this answer? China's flag carries five yellow stars, one large and four small.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q14 (verified fact — Five).

Question 8 General Knowledge

In Dublin, shoppers pay with which currency?

- A. Pound sterling
- B. Irish punt
- C. Krone
- D. Euro ✓ **Predicted answer**

Why this answer? The Republic of Ireland adopted the euro in 1999, with notes and coins from 2002.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q19 (verified fact — Euro).

9 General Knowledge

Which statesman is regarded as Great Britain's first Prime Minister?

- A. William Pitt the Younger
- B. Sir Robert Walpole ✓ **Predicted answer**
- C. Benjamin Disraeli
- D. William Gladstone

Why this answer? Walpole, First Lord of the Treasury from 1721 to 1742, is regarded as Britain's first Prime Minister because he led the cabinet as the office later came to be defined.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q29 (verified fact — Sir Robert Walpole).

Question 10 General Knowledge

In which country is the ancient city of Aleppo?

- A. Iraq
- B. Syria ✓ **Predicted answer**
- C. Jordan
- D. Lebanon

Why this answer? Aleppo (Halab) is in northern Syria and is one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the world.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q36 (verified fact — Syria).

Question 11 General Knowledge

The government offices housed in the Kremlin belong to which country?

- A. Ukraine

- C. Russia ✓ **Predicted answer**
- D. Kazakhstan

Why this answer? The Kremlin is the fortified complex in central Moscow that serves as the official residence and workplace of the President of Russia.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q52 (verified fact — Russia).

Question 12 General Knowledge

Babar Azam rose to fame playing which game for Pakistan?

- A. Hockey
- B. Cricket ✓ **Predicted answer**
- C. Squash
- D. Snooker

Why this answer? Babar Azam is a Pakistani batsman who made his international debut in 2015 and went on to captain Pakistan.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q53 (verified fact — Cricket).

Question 13 General Knowledge

At the age of nine, Arfa Karim Randhawa became the world's youngest what?

- A. Microsoft Certified Professional ✓ **Predicted answer**
- B. Chess grandmaster
- C. Nobel laureate
- D. Published novelist

Why this answer? Arfa Karim of Faisalabad passed the Microsoft Certified Professional

in 2004 at the age of nine, becoming the youngest MCP in the world.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q54 (verified fact — Microsoft Certified Professional).

Question 14 General Knowledge

A narrow neck of land joining two larger land masses, with sea on both sides, is known as what?

- A. Strait
- B. Peninsula
- C. Archipelago
- D. Isthmus ✓ **Predicted answer**

Why this answer? An isthmus is a narrow neck of land connecting two larger land masses, with water on both sides, such as the Isthmus of Panama.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q62 (verified fact — Isthmus).

Question 15 General Knowledge

Ships using the Panama Canal pass between which two oceans?

- A. The Atlantic and Pacific Oceans ✓ **Predicted answer**
- B. The Mediterranean and Red Seas
- C. The Atlantic and Indian Oceans
- D. The Pacific and Indian Oceans

Why this answer? The Panama Canal, opened in 1914, cuts across the Isthmus of Panama to link the Atlantic Ocean with the Pacific Ocean.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q63 (verified fact — The Atlantic and Pacific Oceans).

16 General Knowledge

Which country has more glaciers than any other outside the polar regions?

- A. Mongolia
- B. Afghanistan
- C. Pakistan ✓ **Predicted answer**
- D. Norway

Why this answer? Pakistan's Karakoram, Himalaya and Hindu Kush ranges hold more than 7,000 glaciers, including Siachen, Biafo and Baltoro, more than any other country outside the polar regions.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q68 (verified fact — Pakistan).

Question 17 General Knowledge

In which field did the ninth-century scholar Al-Khwarizmi win lasting fame?

- A. Medicine
- B. Chemistry
- C. History
- D. Algebra ✓ **Predicted answer**

Why this answer? Muhammad ibn Musa al-Khwarizmi wrote Al-Kitab al-Mukhtasar fi Hisab al-Jabr wal-Muqabala, from which the word algebra comes; the word algorithm derives from his name.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q77 (verified fact — Algebra).

Question 18 General Knowledge

What is the capital of Canada?

- B. Ottawa ✓ **Predicted answer**
- C. Vancouver
- D. Montreal

Why this answer? Ottawa is the capital city of Canada; Toronto is larger but not the capital.

Why predicted [C] — Syllabus anchor: syllabus anchor — General Knowledge: world capitals recurs in every sitting of this post.

Question 19 General Knowledge

Which is the largest ocean in the world?

- A. Atlantic Ocean
- B. Indian Ocean
- C. Pacific Ocean ✓ **Predicted answer**
- D. Arctic Ocean

Why this answer? The Pacific Ocean is the largest ocean in the world.

Why predicted [C] — Syllabus anchor: syllabus anchor — General Knowledge: world geography recurs in every sitting of this post.

Question 20 General Knowledge

Which is the highest mountain peak in the world?

- A. K2
- B. Kangchenjunga
- C. Mount Everest ✓ **Predicted answer**
- D. Makalu

Why this answer? Mount Everest is the highest mountain peak in the world.

ed [C] — Syllabus anchor: syllabus anchor — General Knowledge: world geography recurs in every sitting of this post.

Question 21 General Knowledge

Who was the first woman Prime Minister of Pakistan?

- A. Fatima Jinnah
- B. Benazir Bhutto ✓ **Predicted answer**
- C. Nusrat Bhutto
- D. Hina Rabbani Khar

Why this answer? Benazir Bhutto became the first woman Prime Minister of Pakistan in 1988.

Why predicted [C] — Syllabus anchor: syllabus anchor — General Knowledge: first office holders of Pakistan recurs in every sitting of this post.

Question 22 General Knowledge

Which flower is the national flower of Pakistan?

- A. Rose
- B. Jasmine ✓ **Predicted answer**
- C. Tulip
- D. Sunflower

Why this answer? The jasmine is the national flower of Pakistan.

Why predicted [C] — Syllabus anchor: syllabus anchor — General Knowledge: national symbols of Pakistan recurs in every sitting of this post.

Question 23 English

As a zoo is a home for animals, an aquarium is a home for what?

- B. Birds
- C. Glass
- D. Fish ✓ **Predicted answer**

Why this answer? A zoo houses animals and an aquarium houses fish.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q16 (verified fact — Fish).

Question 24 English

CELIBATE means unmarried; which word is its opposite?

- A. Married ✓ **Predicted answer**
- B. Chaste
- C. Abstinent
- D. Solitary

Why this answer? Celibate means staying unmarried, so its opposite is married.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q17 (verified fact — Married).

Question 25 English

To VILIFY is to speak ill of someone; which word means the reverse?

- A. Praise ✓ **Predicted answer**
- B. Defame
- C. Malign
- D. Slander

Why this answer? To vilify is to speak abusively of someone; to praise is the opposite.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q18

— Praise).

Question 26 English

FULSOME praise is praise that is what?

- A. Meagre
- B. Hesitant
- C. Lavish ✓ **Predicted answer**
- D. Bitter

Why this answer? Fulsome describes praise or thanks that is lavish, often excessively so.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q20 (verified fact — Lavish).

Question 27 English

How many words is a picture worth, according to the proverb?

- A. hundred
- B. million
- C. thousand ✓ **Predicted answer**
- D. few

Why this answer? The fixed wording of the proverb is: A picture is worth a thousand words.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q21 (verified fact — thousand).

Question 28 English

The proverb says not to count chickens before they are what?

- A. fed

- C. grown
- D. hatched ✓ **Predicted answer**

Why this answer? The fixed wording of the proverb is: Don't count your chickens before they are hatched.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q22 (verified fact — hatched).

Question 29 English

Lions in a group are a pride; which of these animals gathers in a shoal?

- A. Geese
- B. Wolves
- C. Fish ✓ **Predicted answer**
- D. Bees

Why this answer? A group of lions is a pride and a group of fish is a shoal (or school).

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q23 (verified fact — Fish).

Question 30 English

PARITY between two things means what between them?

- A. Disparity
- B. Priority
- C. Equality ✓ **Predicted answer**
- D. Majority

Why this answer? Parity means the state of being equal, especially in status, pay or value.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q37

— Equality).

Question 31 English

Sofa, Table and Chair are furniture; which of these four is not?

- A. Sofa
- B. Table
- C. Chair
- D. Rug ✓ **Predicted answer**

Why this answer? Sofa, table and chair are all pieces of furniture; a rug is a woven floor covering, not a piece of furniture.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q40 (verified fact — Rug).

Question 32 English

Just as an odometer tells mileage, a compass tells what?

- A. Speed
- B. Direction ✓ **Predicted answer**
- C. Hiking
- D. Needle

Why this answer? An odometer measures mileage, the distance travelled, so the matching relation is that a compass indicates direction.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q41 (verified fact — Direction).

Question 33 English

PRISTINE means untouched and spotless; which word means the opposite?

- B. Contaminated ✓ **Predicted answer**
- C. Immaculate
- D. Original

Why this answer? Pristine means in its original, unspoiled and perfectly clean condition, so its opposite is contaminated.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q57 (verified fact — Contaminated).

Question 34 English

An EXTROVERT loves company; what do we call the opposite kind of person?

- A. Ambivert
- B. Introvert ✓ **Predicted answer**
- C. Convert
- D. Invert

Why this answer? An extrovert is an outgoing person who draws energy from social contact, and the opposite type is the introvert.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q58 (verified fact — Introvert).

Question 35 English

What does a drowning man clutch at, in the proverb?

- A. rope
- B. branch
- C. straw ✓ **Predicted answer**
- D. plank

Why this answer? The fixed wording of the proverb is: A drowning man will clutch at a straw.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q59 (verified fact — straw).

Question 36 English

The proverb warns against putting all your eggs in one what?

- A. basket ✓ **Predicted answer**
- B. box
- C. nest
- D. tray

Why this answer? The fixed wording of the proverb is: Don't put all your eggs in one basket.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q60 (verified fact — basket).

Question 37 English

Healing is the work of a hospital; what is the work of a court?

- A. Lawyer
- B. Building
- C. Crime
- D. Justice ✓ **Predicted answer**

Why this answer? A hospital is the place where healing is carried out, so the pair links a place with its purpose; a court is where justice is administered.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q78 (verified fact — Justice).

38 English

Which word means nearly the same as BRAVE?

- A. Cowardly
- B. Weak
- C. Courageous ✓ **Predicted answer**
- D. Timid

Why this answer? Courageous means showing bravery, so it is the closest in meaning to brave.

Why predicted [C] — Syllabus anchor: syllabus anchor — English: synonyms recurs in every sitting of this post.

Question 39 English

What is the opposite of RICH?

- A. Poor ✓ **Predicted answer**
- B. Wealthy
- C. Costly
- D. Dear

Why this answer? Rich means having much money, so its opposite is poor.

Why predicted [C] — Syllabus anchor: syllabus anchor — English: antonyms recurs in every sitting of this post.

Question 40 English

What is the past tense of 'go'?

- A. Gone
- B. Going
- C. Goes

nt ✓ **Predicted answer**

Why this answer? The past tense of go is went.

Why predicted [C] — Syllabus anchor: syllabus anchor — English: verb forms recurs in every sitting of this post.

Question 41 Pakistan Studies

Of all the Nishan-e-Haider winners, who was the youngest when martyred?

- A. Pilot Officer Rashid Minhas ✓ **Predicted answer**
- B. Major Aziz Bhatti
- C. Sawar Muhammad Hussain
- D. Lance Naik Muhammad Mahfuz

Why this answer? Minhas was only 20 when he died on 20 August 1971, the youngest Nishan-e-Haider recipient.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q13 (verified fact — Pilot Officer Rashid Minhas).

Question 42 Pakistan Studies

Chaudhry Rahmat Ali, who coined the name Pakistan, lies buried in which city?

- A. Lahore
- B. London
- C. Cambridge ✓ **Predicted answer**
- D. Karachi

Why this answer? Chaudhry Rahmat Ali, who coined the name Pakistan in his 1933 pamphlet Now or Never, died in Cambridge in February 1951 and was buried in the city's Newmarket Road Cemetery.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q28

— Cambridge).

Question 43 Pakistan Studies

Iqbal took his doctorate from which German university?

- A. University of Munich ✓ **Predicted answer**
- B. University of Cambridge
- C. University of Heidelberg
- D. University of Oxford

Why this answer? Iqbal earned his doctorate in 1907 from Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich for the thesis The Development of Metaphysics in Persia.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q30 (verified fact — University of Munich).

Question 44 Pakistan Studies

In August 1947, Jammu and Kashmir was ruled by which Maharaja?

- A. Sheikh Abdullah
- B. Maharaja Gulab Singh
- C. Maharaja Hari Singh ✓ **Predicted answer**
- D. Maharaja Ranjit Singh

Why this answer? Maharaja Hari Singh of the Dogra dynasty was ruling Jammu and Kashmir in August 1947, and in October 1947 he signed the disputed Instrument of Accession with India.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q38 (verified fact — Maharaja Hari Singh).

45 Pakistan Studies

When pirates seized Muslim ships near Debal, Hajjaj sent Muhammad bin Qasim against which ruler of Sindh?

- A. Raja Jaipal
- B. Raja Chach
- C. Raja Dahir ✓ **Predicted answer**
- D. Prithviraj Chauhan

Why this answer? When pirates near Debal seized ships carrying Muslims, Hajjaj demanded redress from Raja Dahir of Sindh; Dahir refused, so Hajjaj sent Muhammad bin Qasim, who defeated him in 712 AD.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q39 (verified fact — Raja Dahir).

Question 46 Pakistan Studies

Which one division touches Punjab, Sindh, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan?

- A. Dera Ismail Khan
- B. Dera Ghazi Khan ✓ **Predicted answer**
- C. Bahawalpur
- D. Zhob

Why this answer? Dera Ghazi Khan Division lies in south-western Punjab and borders Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to the north, Balochistan to the west and Sindh to the south.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q44 (verified fact — Dera Ghazi Khan).

Question 47 Pakistan Studies

Which reform movement did Lala Lajpat Rai lead?

- a Samaj ✓ **Predicted answer**
- B. Brahmo Samaj
- C. Dev Samaj
- D. Prarthana Samaj

Why this answer? Lala Lajpat Rai, the Punjab Kesari, was a prominent leader of the Arya Samaj founded by Swami Dayanand Saraswati.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q49 (verified fact — Arya Samaj).

Question 48 Pakistan Studies

Fort William College, founded in 1800, stood in which city?

- A. Delhi
- B. Bombay
- C. Calcutta ✓ **Predicted answer**
- D. Madras

Why this answer? Fort William College was founded in Calcutta in 1800 by Governor-General Lord Wellesley to train British officials in Indian languages.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q65 (verified fact — Calcutta).

Question 49 Pakistan Studies

Lahore's dry port, the first of its kind in Pakistan, opened in which year?

- A. 1965
- B. 1981
- C. 1990
- D. 1973 ✓ **Predicted answer**

swer? Pakistan's first dry port was set up at Lahore in 1973, allowing cargo to be examined and cleared by customs inland instead of only at Karachi's seaport.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q66 (verified fact — 1973).

Question 50 Pakistan Studies

Youm-e-Takbeer falls on which date each year?

- A. 28 May ✓ **Predicted answer**
- B. 11 May
- C. 14 August
- D. 6 September

Why this answer? Youm-e-Takbeer marks 28 May 1998, when Pakistan carried out five nuclear tests in the Chagai hills of Balochistan.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q67 (verified fact — 28 May).

Question 51 Pakistan Studies

In which year was the Lahore Resolution passed?

- A. 1930
- B. 1940 ✓ **Predicted answer**
- C. 1935
- D. 1947

Why this answer? The Lahore Resolution was passed on 23 March 1940.

Why predicted [C] — Syllabus anchor: syllabus anchor — Pakistan Studies: Pakistan movement dates recurs in every sitting of this post.

52 Pakistan Studies

Which language is the national language of Pakistan?

- A. Punjabi
- B. Urdu ✓ **Predicted answer**
- C. Sindhi
- D. English

Why this answer? Urdu is the national language of Pakistan.

Why predicted [C] — Syllabus anchor: syllabus anchor — Pakistan Studies: national symbols of Pakistan recurs in every sitting of this post.

Question 53 Pakistan Studies

Which game is the national game of Pakistan?

- A. Cricket
- B. Squash
- C. Football
- D. Field hockey ✓ **Predicted answer**

Why this answer? Field hockey is the national game of Pakistan.

Why predicted [C] — Syllabus anchor: syllabus anchor — Pakistan Studies: national symbols of Pakistan recurs in every sitting of this post.

Question 54 Urdu

Which reformist novelist wrote Fasana-e-Mubtala in 1885?

- A. Mirza Hadi Ruswa
- B. Ratan Nath Sarshar
- C. Deputy Nazir Ahmad ✓ **Predicted answer**
- D. Abdul Halim Sharar

Why this answer? Fasana-e-Mubtala (1885) is one of Deputy Nazir Ahmad's reformist novels, along with Mirat-ul-Uroos and Taubat-un-Nasuh.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q1 (verified fact — Deputy Nazir Ahmad).

Question 55 Urdu

The great four-volume Urdu dictionary Farhang-e-Asifiya was the work of which scholar?

- A. Maulvi Abdul Haq
- B. Maulvi Syed Ahmad Dehlvi ✓ **Predicted answer**
- C. Deputy Nazir Ahmad
- D. Muhammad Husain Azad

Why this answer? Farhang-e-Asifiya, the large four-volume Urdu dictionary, was compiled by Maulvi Syed Ahmad Dehlvi and named after the Nizam of Hyderabad.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q2 (verified fact — Maulvi Syed Ahmad Dehlvi).

Question 56 Urdu

Who is the poet of the ghazal whose first line is 'Tum aaye ho na shab-e-intezar guzri hai'?

- A. Ahmad Faraz
- B. Habib Jalib
- C. Faiz Ahmad Faiz ✓ **Predicted answer**
- D. Nasir Kazmi

Why this answer? This is the opening couplet of a well-known ghazal by Faiz Ahmad Faiz.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q7 (verified fact — Faiz Ahmad Faiz).

57 Urdu

Hali's Musaddas, 'Madd-o-Jazr-e-Islam', dates from which year?

- A. 1857
- B. 1867
- C. 1873
- D. 1879 ✓ **Predicted answer**

Why this answer? Altaf Husain Hali composed his Musaddas, Madd-o-Jazr-e-Islam (The Ebb and Flow of Islam), in 1879 at the urging of Sir Syed Ahmad Khan.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q31 (verified fact — 1879).

Question 58 Urdu

The Pakistani Anjuman Taraqqi-e-Urdu has its headquarters in which city?

- A. Lahore
- B. Karachi ✓ **Predicted answer**
- C. Islamabad
- D. Peshawar

Why this answer? After independence Maulvi Abdul Haq, the Baba-e-Urdu, moved the Anjuman's work to Karachi, and the Pakistani body has been based there ever since.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q32 (verified fact — Karachi).

Question 59 Urdu

The Raja Gidh author Bano Qudsia married which fellow writer in 1956?

- A. Mumtaz Mufti
- B. Qudratullah Shahab

faq Ahmad ✓ **Predicted answer**

- D. Ahmad Nadeem Qasmi

Why this answer? Bano Qudsia, author of the novel Raja Gidh, married the writer and broadcaster Ashfaq Ahmad in 1956.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q33 (verified fact — Ashfaq Ahmad).

Question 60 Urdu

'Masjid-e-Qurtuba', written after a visit to Cordoba in 1933, is the work of which poet?

- A. Allama Muhammad Iqbal ✓ **Predicted answer**
- B. Altaf Husain Hali
- C. Josh Malihabadi
- D. Faiz Ahmad Faiz

Why this answer? Masjid-e-Qurtuba was written by Allama Iqbal after his visit to the Great Mosque of Cordoba in Spain in 1933, and it appears in Bal-e-Jibril (1935).

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q34 (verified fact — Allama Muhammad Iqbal).

Question 61 Urdu

When someone's 'aab-o-dana uth jana' from a place, what has happened to him?

- A. To become very wealthy
- B. To fall seriously ill
- C. To make a solemn promise
- D. To have to leave a place, one's lot there having ended ✓ **Predicted answer**

Why this answer? Aab-o-dana literally means water and grain, the sustenance a person is destined to receive in a place; when it rises from somewhere, the person's time there is

must move away.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q35 (verified fact — To have to leave a place, one's lot there having ended).

Question 62 Urdu

The scholar who pioneered modern Urdu poetry through the Anjuman-e-Punjab died in which city in 1910?

- A. Delhi
- B. Lucknow
- C. Aligarh
- D. Lahore ✓ **Predicted answer**

Why this answer? Muhammad Husain Azad was born in Delhi in 1830 but settled in Lahore after 1857; he died in Lahore in 1910 and was buried there.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q55 (verified fact — Lahore).

Question 63 Urdu

What was the real name of the poet Ghalib?

- A. Mirza Asadullah Khan Ghalib ✓ **Predicted answer**
- B. Mir Taqi Mir
- C. Muhammad Husain Azad
- D. Altaf Husain Hali

Why this answer? Ghalib's full name was Mirza Asadullah Khan Ghalib.

Why predicted [C] — Syllabus anchor: syllabus anchor — Urdu: Urdu novelists recurs in every sitting of this post.

64 Urdu

Who wrote the novel Mirat-ul-Uroos?

- A. Ratan Nath Sarshar
- B. Deputy Nazir Ahmad ✓ **Predicted answer**
- C. Abdul Halim Sharar
- D. Mirza Hadi Ruswa

Why this answer? Mirat-ul-Uroos is the famous reformist novel of Deputy Nazir Ahmad.

Why predicted [C] — Syllabus anchor: syllabus anchor — Urdu: Urdu novelists recurs in every sitting of this post.

Question 65 Everyday Science

An adult human brain weighs roughly how much?

- A. 0.5 kg
- B. 1.4 kg ✓ **Predicted answer**
- C. 2.5 kg
- D. 3.5 kg

Why this answer? An adult human brain weighs roughly 1.3 to 1.4 kilograms.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q4 (verified fact — 1.4 kg).

Question 66 Everyday Science

The first reliable mercury-in-glass thermometer was made by whom?

- A. Daniel Gabriel Fahrenheit ✓ **Predicted answer**
- B. Anders Celsius
- C. Lord Kelvin
- D. Evangelista Torricelli

swer? Fahrenheit made the first reliable mercury-in-glass thermometer in 1714.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q5 (verified fact — Daniel Gabriel Fahrenheit).

Question 67 Everyday Science

Kiwi and ostrich cannot fly; what are such birds called?

- A. Migratory birds
- B. Flightless birds ✓ **Predicted answer**
- C. Birds of prey
- D. Aquatic birds

Why this answer? The kiwi of New Zealand and the ostrich of Africa are ratites, birds with small wings and a flat breastbone that lacks the keel for strong flight muscles, so they cannot fly.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q43 (verified fact — Flightless birds).

Question 68 Everyday Science

Making an exact genetic copy of a living thing is known as what?

- A. Mutation
- B. Cloning ✓ **Predicted answer**
- C. Hybridisation
- D. Grafting

Why this answer? Cloning is the production of copies that carry exactly the same genetic material as the original, whether a DNA segment, a cell line or a whole organism such as Dolly the sheep (1996).

ed [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q69 (verified fact — Cloning).

Question 69 Everyday Science

Vibrio, the comma-shaped germ, and Spirillum, the spiral-shaped one, are both what?

- A. Viruses
- B. Fungi
- C. Protozoa
- D. Bacteria ✓ **Predicted answer**

Why this answer? Vibrio (comma-shaped, such as Vibrio cholerae, the cause of cholera) and Spirillum (spiral-shaped) are bacteria named after their shapes, like cocci and bacilli.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q70 (verified fact — Bacteria).

Question 70 Everyday Science

Of the eight planets, which one is the smallest?

- A. Mars
- B. Venus
- C. Mercury ✓ **Predicted answer**
- D. Pluto

Why this answer? Mercury, the planet nearest the Sun, is the smallest of the eight planets, with a diameter of about 4,880 km.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q72 (verified fact — Mercury).

71 Everyday Science

When scientists quote a Richter reading, what are they measuring?

- A. Wind speed
- B. Magnitude of earthquakes ✓ **Predicted answer**
- C. Intensity of rainfall
- D. Atmospheric pressure

Why this answer? The Richter scale measures the magnitude of earthquakes.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q79 (verified fact — Magnitude of earthquakes).

Question 72 Everyday Science

Which planet is known as the Red Planet?

- A. Mars ✓ **Predicted answer**
- B. Venus
- C. Jupiter
- D. Saturn

Why this answer? Mars is known as the Red Planet because of its reddish appearance.

Why predicted [C] — Syllabus anchor: syllabus anchor — Everyday Science: the Solar System recurs in every sitting of this post.

Question 73 Everyday Science

Which gas do green plants take in from the air for photosynthesis?

- A. Oxygen
- B. Nitrogen
- C. Hydrogen
- D. Carbon dioxide ✓ **Predicted answer**

swer? Green plants take in carbon dioxide from the air for photosynthesis.

Why predicted [C] — Syllabus anchor: syllabus anchor — Everyday Science: photosynthesis recurs in every sitting of this post.

Question 74 Computer

Sending a file from your own computer up to a server is known as what?

- A. Uploading ✓ **Predicted answer**
- B. Downloading
- C. Browsing
- D. Streaming

Why this answer? Uploading means sending data from your own device to a remote computer or server, as when a photo is posted to a website.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q42 (verified fact — Uploading).

Question 75 Computer

Each computer on the internet is recognised by its unique what?

- A. Domain name
- B. URL
- C. Web page
- D. IP address ✓ **Predicted answer**

Why this answer? An IP (Internet Protocol) address is the numerical label that identifies a device on a network so that data can be routed to it.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q47 (verified fact — IP address).

76 Computer

A network covering a single building or campus is usually what kind of network?

- A. WAN
- B. LAN ✓ **Predicted answer**
- C. MAN
- D. PAN

Why this answer? A Local Area Network links computers within a limited area such as a single building, office or campus, usually by Ethernet or Wi-Fi.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q48 (verified fact — LAN).

Question 77 Computer

Using computers in ways that cut energy use and pollution is known by what name?

- A. Green computing ✓ **Predicted answer**
- B. Cloud computing
- C. Grid computing
- D. Quantum computing

Why this answer? Green computing covers practices such as energy-efficient hardware, power management and the safe recycling of electronic waste, all meant to reduce the environmental impact of computing.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q56 (verified fact — Green computing).

Question 78 Computer

Signals travelling as pulses of light move through what?

- A. Coaxial cable

ical fibre ✓ **Predicted answer**

- C. Twisted pair cable
- D. Copper wire

Why this answer? An optical fibre is a hair-thin strand of glass or plastic that carries data as pulses of light by total internal reflection, giving very high bandwidth.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q64 (verified fact — Optical fibre).

Question 79 Computer

TCP/IP and HTTP are examples of what?

- A. Topology
- B. Browser
- C. Protocol ✓ **Predicted answer**
- D. Server

Why this answer? A protocol is a standard set of rules for formatting, sending and receiving data so that different devices can communicate, as with TCP/IP, HTTP or FTP.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q71 (verified fact — Protocol).

Question 80 Computer

What does WWW stand for?

- A. World Wide Web ✓ **Predicted answer**
- B. World Wide Window
- C. Web World Wide
- D. Wide World Web

Why this answer? WWW stands for World Wide Web.

ed [C] — Syllabus anchor: syllabus anchor — Computer: computer basics recurs in every sitting of this post.

Question 81 Computer

MS Word is mainly used for what?

- A. Image editing
- B. Word processing ✓ **Predicted answer**
- C. Data analysis
- D. Web browsing

Why this answer? MS Word is word processing software, used to create and edit documents.

Why predicted [C] — Syllabus anchor: syllabus anchor — Computer: computer software recurs in every sitting of this post.

Question 82 Islamiat

Ihya Ulum-ud-Din, the Revival of the Religious Sciences, is the great work of which scholar?

- A. Imam Ghazali ✓ **Predicted answer**
- B. Ibn Khaldun
- C. Ibn Rushd
- D. Shaikh Ali Hajveri

Why this answer? Ihya Ulum-ud-Din (The Revival of the Religious Sciences) is the major work of Imam Abu Hamid al-Ghazali, written in the late eleventh century.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q45 (verified fact — Imam Ghazali).

83 Islamiat

The decisive Muslim victory at Qadisiyyah and the fall of Ctesiphon took place in whose caliphate?

- A. Hazrat Usman (RA)
- B. Hazrat Ali (RA)
- C. Hazrat Muawiya (RA)
- D. Hazrat Umar (RA) ✓ **Predicted answer**

Why this answer? Campaigns in Iraq began under Hazrat Abu Bakr, but the decisive victory at Qadisiyyah (636 AD) and the capture of the Sasanian capital Ctesiphon came under Hazrat Umar, so the conquest of Iraq is credited to his caliphate.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q46 (verified fact — Hazrat Umar (RA)).

Question 84 Islamiat

The tomb of Hazrat Abu Ayyub Ansari (RA), the Companion who hosted the Holy Prophet (PBUH) in Madina, stands in which city?

- A. Madina
- B. Damascus
- C. Istanbul ✓ **Predicted answer**
- D. Baghdad

Why this answer? Hazrat Abu Ayyub Ansari, the Companion who hosted the Holy Prophet (PBUH) on his arrival in Madina, died during an Umayyad siege of Constantinople in the 670s and was buried near its walls, in the Eyup district of present-day Istanbul.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q50 (verified fact — Istanbul).

85 Islamiat

Before Cairo, the Fatimids ruled from which first capital?

- A. Cairo
- B. Baghdad
- C. Mahdia ✓ **Predicted answer**
- D. Damascus

Why this answer? The Fatimid dynasty arose in North Africa in 909, and its first caliph, Ubaydullah al-Mahdi, founded Mahdia on the Tunisian coast as his capital.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q51 (verified fact — Mahdia).

Question 86 Islamiat

The Charter of Madina bound the Muslims together with which other community of the city?

- A. The Muslims and the Jews of Madina ✓ **Predicted answer**
- B. The Muslims and the Quraysh of Makkah
- C. The Muslims and the Christians of Najran
- D. The Muslims and the Persians

Why this answer? Soon after the Hijrah, the Holy Prophet (PBUH) drew up the Charter of Madina, which bound the Muhajirin, the Ansar and the Jewish tribes of Madina into one community.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q74 (verified fact — The Muslims and the Jews of Madina).

Question 87 Islamiat

The Madina agreement that organised the city's communities dates from which Hijri

- A. 1 AH ✓ **Predicted answer**
- B. 2 AH
- C. 5 AH
- D. 6 AH

Why this answer? The Charter of Madina was drawn up in 1 AH (622 AD), in the first months after the Holy Prophet's (PBUH) migration.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q75 (verified fact — 1 AH).

Question 88 Islamiat

What was the first word revealed to the Holy Prophet (PBUH)?

- A. Iqra ✓ **Predicted answer**
- B. Alhamd
- C. Qul
- D. Bismillah

Why this answer? The first revealed word was Iqra, meaning read.

Why predicted [C] — Syllabus anchor: syllabus anchor — Islamiat: the Holy Quran recurs in every sitting of this post.

Question 89 Islamiat

In which Hijri year was the Battle of Badr fought?

- A. 1 AH
- B. 3 AH
- C. 2 AH ✓ **Predicted answer**
- D. 5 AH

swer? The Battle of Badr was fought in 2 AH.

Why predicted [C] — Syllabus anchor: syllabus anchor — Islamiat: early Islamic battles recurs in every sitting of this post.

Question 90 Current Affairs

For his peace deal with the FARC, which Colombian president received the 2016 Nobel Peace Prize?

- A. Juan Manuel Santos ✓ **Predicted answer**
- B. Malala Yousafzai
- C. The Tunisian National Dialogue Quartet
- D. Denis Mukwege

Why this answer? The 2016 Nobel Peace Prize went to Juan Manuel Santos, President of Colombia, for the peace agreement with the FARC.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q12 (verified fact — Juan Manuel Santos).

Question 91 Current Affairs

King Bhumibol Adulyadej, who died in October 2016 after a seventy-year reign, was king of which country?

- A. Thailand ✓ **Predicted answer**
- B. Cambodia
- C. Nepal
- D. Saudi Arabia

Why this answer? King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thailand died on 13 October 2016 after reigning seventy years since 1946.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q15

— Thailand).

Question 92 Current Affairs

The Summer Olympics of 2020 were awarded to which city?

- A. Paris
- B. Los Angeles
- C. Istanbul
- D. Tokyo ✓ **Predicted answer**

Why this answer? Tokyo won the right to host the 2020 Summer Olympics in 2013, defeating Istanbul and Madrid; the Games were held in 2021 but kept the name Tokyo 2020.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q27 (verified fact — Tokyo).

Question 93 Current Affairs

Which country did Emperor Akihito rule?

- A. China
- B. Thailand
- C. South Korea
- D. Japan ✓ **Predicted answer**

Why this answer? Akihito reigned as Emperor of Japan from 1989 until he abdicated in April 2019 in favour of his son Naruhito.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q61 (verified fact — Japan).

94 Current Affairs

The Hizbul Mujahideen commander killed by Indian forces on 8 July 2016 was described as what?

- A. A young Kashmiri commander of Hizbul Mujahideen ✓ **Predicted answer**
- B. An Indian army officer
- C. A Pakistani journalist
- D. An Afghan Taliban leader

Why this answer? Burhan Muzaffar Wani was a young commander of the Hizbul Mujahideen in Indian-held Kashmir who became widely known through social media; his killing on 8 July 2016 set off months of mass protests in the Kashmir Valley.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q73 (verified fact — A young Kashmiri commander of Hizbul Mujahideen).

Question 95 Current Affairs

Who is the Secretary-General of the United Nations?

- A. Ban Ki-moon
- B. Kofi Annan
- C. Boutros Boutros-Ghali
- D. António Guterres ✓ **Predicted answer**

Why this answer? António Guterres is the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Why predicted [C] — Syllabus anchor: syllabus anchor — Current Affairs: international organisations recurs in every sitting of this post.

Question 96 Mathematics

Divide Rs 1,360 among A, B and C where A gets two-thirds of B's share and B gets one-fourth of C's share: how much does B receive?

- B. Rs 240 ✓ **Predicted answer**
- C. Rs 320
- D. Rs 960

Why this answer? Let C = x; B = x/4; A = (2/3)(x/4) = x/6; x + x/4 + x/6 = 17x/12 = 1360, so x = 960 and B = 960/4 = 240.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q24 (verified fact — Rs 240).

Question 97 Mathematics

A walker covers three yards each two minutes; what distance does he cover in fifty minutes?

- A. 60
- B. 100
- C. 150
- D. 75 ✓ **Predicted answer**

Why this answer? The rate is 1.5 yards per minute, so 1.5 x 50 = 75 yards.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q25 (verified fact — 75).

Question 98 Mathematics

A son is half his father's age today, but twenty years ago the father was twelve times older. How old is the father now?

- A. 40 years
- B. 48 years
- C. 52 years
- D. 44 years ✓ **Predicted answer**

swer? Let the son's present age be s, so the father is 2s. Twenty years ago: 2s - 20 = 12(s - 20), giving 10s = 220 and s = 22; the father is 44.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q26 (verified fact — 44 years).

Question 99 Mathematics

A leap year contains how many days?

- A. 364 days
- B. 365 days
- C. 367 days
- D. 366 days ✓ **Predicted answer**

Why this answer? A leap year has 366 days because an extra day, 29 February, is added roughly every four years.

Why predicted [B] — Verified fact, predicted to recur: ppsc-branch-officer-2016 Q76 (verified fact — 366 days).

Question 100 Mathematics

What is 15 percent of 200?

- A. 25
- B. 30 ✓ **Predicted answer**
- C. 35
- D. 45

Why this answer? 15 percent of 200 is 15/100 x 200 = 30.

Why predicted [C] — Syllabus anchor: syllabus anchor — Mathematics: percentages recurs in every sitting of this post.

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