Assistant Director / District Development Officer / Assistant Secretary (Board) / Economist / Manager (PHS) (BS-17), Punjab Small Industries Corporation, Industries, Commerce, Investment & Skills Development Department — 2025 · Solved Past Paper

Body: Punjab Public Service Commission (PPSC) · **Post:** Assistant Director / District Development Officer / Assistant Secretary (Board) / Economist / Manager (PHS) (BS-17), Punjab Small Industries Corporation, Industries, Commerce, Investment & Skills Development Department · **Year:** 2025 · **Questions:** 100 in the original paper — **29 solved and verified**, 1 excluded as defective (Q11), 70 unrecoverable (Q31, Q32, Q33, Q34, Q35, Q36, Q37, Q38, Q39, Q40, Q41, Q42, Q43, Q44, Q45, Q46, Q47, Q48, Q49, Q50, Q51, Q52, Q53, Q54, Q55, Q56, Q57, Q58, Q59, Q60, Q61, Q62, Q63, Q64, Q65, Q66, Q67, Q68, Q69, Q70, Q71, Q72, Q73, Q74, Q75, Q76, Q77, Q78, Q79, Q80, Q81, Q82, Q83, Q84, Q85, Q86, Q87, Q88, Q89, Q90, Q91, Q92, Q93, Q94, Q95, Q96, Q97, Q98, Q99, Q100) · **Price:** Free

> **How to use this paper:** each question shows the stem, the four options, and the correct answer. Click “Why each option?” under a question to see all four options explained — one question teaches four topics. General Knowledge answers are as of the 2025 sitting.

Source note: test360.pk reproduction, 'Assistant Director 50J2024 26-04-2025' (20

1–Q20) + PACE GK Academy Past-Paper reproduction (Imtiaz Shahid Paper 180, 29 questions; 10 PACE-only stems added as Q21–Q30, 13 Nov 2026). 37cv's Q16 resolves the series question (n+47, answer B); the PACE option set omits n+47 and keys n+1 wrongly. 28 VERIFIED + 1 PICK-ONE (Q6) + 1 DEFECTIVE-excluded (Q11), all decided by the assistant under the owner's 8 Nov 2026 delegation. Dedup re-run 13 Nov 2026 vs 70,934 library stems: 1 exact, 1 first-8, 12 fuzzy >=0.55, at most 1 stem in any single other paper — CLEAR.

Question 1

Water sagacity refers to the wise and efficient use of water. In which area is it important?

- A. Domestic use
- B. Agriculture use
- C. Industrial use
- D. All of these ✓ **Correct answer**

Note: Wise water use matters everywhere water is consumed: homes, farms and industry all draw on the same scarce resource, so no single sector is the answer. PACE group 19 keys the same (D, "All of these").

Question 2

Synonym of "Prodigal":

- A. Extravagant ✓ **Correct answer**
- B. Arrogant
- C. Trivial
- D. Humble

Note: A prodigal spends wastefully and extravagantly. Arrogant is proud, trivial is unimportant, humble is the opposite of proud. PACE group 10 keys the same (C, "Extravagant", options reordered).

Antonym of "Odious":

- A. Repulsive
- B. Delightful ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. Cacophony
- D. Insignificant

Note: Odious means hateful, repulsive; its opposite is delightful (pleasing). Repulsive is a synonym, cacophony is harsh sound, insignificant is unrelated. No PACE counterpart; verified from the definitions.

Question 4

Antonym of "Taxing":

- A. Strenuous
- B. Exhausting
- C. Clear ✓ **Correct answer**
- D. Challenging

Note: Strenuous, exhausting and challenging are all synonyms of taxing (demanding); "Clear" is the only option that is not a synonym, and the verb "tax" in its accuse sense has the dictionary opposite "clear". (The true antonym in the demanding sense, "easy"/"effortless", is not among the options.) No PACE counterpart; verified from the printed key plus the synonym analysis.

Question 5

'A Strom in a teacup' means:

- A. Danger signal
- B. Over something trivial ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. Great noise

Note: A storm in a teacup (stem misprints "Strom" for "storm") is a big fuss over something trivial. PACE group 11 keys the same (C, "Much excitement over something trivial").

Question 6

"Shallow the bait" means:

- A. With disbelief
- B. Wholeheartedly
- C. Take seriously ✓ **Correct answer**
- D. With some reservation

Note: The idiom is "swallow the bait" (stem misprints "Shallow" for "swallow"): to be tricked into believing/accepting something false — to take it seriously as genuine. "With some reservation" and "with disbelief" are the opposite (that is "a grain of salt", Q20); PACE keys the same idiom as "To fully accept something, especially a trick or lie". The printed key D is corrected openly — see verification summary.

Question 7

"Fair and square" means:

- A. Businesslike
- B. Active
- C. Honest ✓ **Correct answer**
- D. Authoritative

Note: Fair and square means honest and straightforward. PACE group 14 keys the same (B, "Honest").

Jump on the bandwagon means:

- A. Be influenced
- B. Join a trend ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. Call trouble
- D. Be excited

Note: To jump on the bandwagon is to join a popular trend or activity. PACE group 6 keys the same (D, "Join a popular trend or activity").

Question 9

A poem or conclusion written at the end is a :

- A. Prologue
- B. Epilogue ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. Monologue
- D. Dialogue

Note: An epilogue is the concluding part at the end; a prologue opens a work, a monologue is one speaker, a dialogue is conversation. PACE group 5 keys the same (D, "Epilogue", with the identical option set).

Question 10

Dowry is no longer permitted by law even in ----- marriage

- A. Arrange
- B. Court
- C. Force
- D. Natural ✓ **Correct answer**

Note: Both reproductions of this paper give these same four options with the key

the paper's key stands. (The same sentence circulates in textbooks with different options and a different answer — that is a different variant, not this paper's; see verification summary.)

Question 11

A short story is called ----:

- A. Arrange
- B. Epilogue
- C. Force
- D. Prologue

No answer is given for this question, and none is taught. DEFECTIVE-excluded — no answer asserted (decided by assistant under owner's 8 Nov 2026 delegation). No option is correct: a short story is a brief fictional narrative, not an epilogue (a concluding section) and not a prologue (an introduction); "Arrange" and "Force" are not literary terms. The printed key (Epilogue) is wrong and there is no correct option to substitute, so NO answer is asserted for this question. The stem and options are shown so the defect is visible, not hidden.

Question 12

She ------- him for five years.

- A. Knows
- B. Has known ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. Is knowing
- D. Know

Note: "For five years" (a duration running up to now) takes the present perfect, "has known". "Knows" is simple present, "is knowing" is ungrammatical for "know", and "know" disagrees with "she". PACE group 13 keys the same (C, "has known").

He is ------ his study table.

- A. On
- B. At ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. Of
- D. In

Note: The idiom is "at his study table" (seated at it, working); "on" would put him on top of the table. PACE group 15 keys the same (B, "at").

Question 14

Given $f(x)=2x^2-4x+3$ and $g(x) = 2x+1$, find $f(g(2))$?

- A. 30
- B. 31
- C. 32
- D. 33 ✓ **Correct answer**

Note: $g(2) = 2(2)+1 = 5$, then $f(5) = 2(25) - 4(5) + 3 = 50 - 20 + 3 = 33$. No PACE counterpart; verified by derivation.

Question 15

Given $f(x) =3x^2+2x+4$, what is the value of $f(3)$?

- A. 34
- B. 37 ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. 40
- D. 42

Note: $f(3) = 3(9) + 2(3) + 4 = 27 + 6 + 4 = 37$. No PACE counterpart; verified by derivation.

16 The expression n-1^2+1^3+1^4---------1^{50} simplifies to:

- A. n+1
- B. n+47 ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. n+50
- D. n+51

Note: The powers 1^2…1^{50} are 49 ones; the first is subtracted and the other 48 added: n − 1 + 48 = n + 47. PACE keys n+1 with an option set that omits n+47 — not followed; see verification summary for the conflict.

Question 17

There are four numbers. Avg of first 3 is 17 last 3 is 14. what is the first number?

- A. 14
- B. 17
- C. 20
- D. 23 ✓ **Correct answer**

Note: The key 23 follows if the last number is 14: the middle two then sum to 28, the first three sum to 51, so the first is 51 − 28 = 23. NOTE: as printed ("avg of last 3 is 14") the stem is underdetermined — it would only fix first−last = 9 — so the stem is evidently truncated and the "last number is 14" reading is the one that yields a listed option. No PACE counterpart; verified by derivation under that reading.

Question 18

If the surface area of a cube is 96 cm^2 what is its volume?

- A. 64 cm^2 ✓ **Correct answer**
- B. 96 cm^2
- C. 128 cm^2

Note: Surface area $6s^2 = 96$ gives $s^2 = 16$, $s = 4$, so volume $s^3 = 64$ cm³. Option A prints the right value with the wrong unit (cm² for cm³); the value 64 is correct. PACE group 17 keys the same (A, "64cm").

Question 19

A person's income increased from Rs. 7800 to Rs. 10,500 in 3 years. What is the % increase?

- A. 30%
- B. 30.33%
- C. 34.62% ✓ **Correct answer**
- D. 36%

Note: Increase 2,700 on 7,800 = 2700/7800 × 100 = 34.615...% ≈ 34.62%. No PACE counterpart; verified by derivation.

Question 20

"To take with a grain of salt " mean :

- A. With disbelief
- B. Wholeheartedly
- C. Take seriously
- D. With some reservation ✓ **Correct answer**

Note: To take something with a grain of salt is to accept it with reservation and scepticism, not quite believing it. PACE group 9 keys the same (B, "To take with some reservation"). (This is the item whose option set Q6 copies — Q6's printed key D is the copy error corrected above.)

21 Computer Science

What is a printout copy called?

- A. Editable document
- B. Hard copy ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. Digital file
- D. Soft copy

A. A printout can be edited before printing, but the printed copy itself is not an editable document.

B. Correct: a printout on paper is a hard copy.

C. A digital file is the soft (on-screen) form, not a printout.

D. A soft copy is the on-screen form, not a printout.

Question 22 Computer Science

How many bits are there in a byte?

- A. 32
- B. 4
- C. 8 ✓ **Correct answer**
- D. 16

A. 32 bits is four bytes, not one byte.

B. 4 bits is a nibble, half a byte.

C. Correct: one byte is 8 bits.

D. 16 bits is two bytes, not one byte.

23 English

A complete sentence has two main parts. One is the subject; what is the other?

- A. Object
- B. Predicate ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. Clause
- D. Verb

A. The object is part of the predicate, not one of the two main parts.

B. Correct: a sentence's two main parts are the subject and the predicate (what is said about the subject).

C. A clause is a group of words with a subject and a verb; it is not one of the two main parts.

D. The verb is part of the predicate, not one of the two main parts.

Question 24 English

After lunch let's go for coffee. Identify the underlined word.

- A. Preposition ✓ **Correct answer**
- B. Adverb
- C. Noun
- D. Adjective

A. Correct: the underlined word is 'for', which is a preposition ('go for coffee').

B. An adverb modifies a verb or adjective; 'for' here is not an adverb.

C. A noun names a person, place or thing; 'for' is not a noun.

D. An adjective describes a noun; 'for' is not an adjective.

25 English

What is the synonym of 'Ponder'?

- A. think about ✓ **Correct answer**
- B. Ignore
- C. Laugh
- D. forget

A. Correct: to 'ponder' is to think about something carefully.

B. 'Ignore' is the opposite of pondering.

C. 'Laugh' has nothing to do with pondering.

D. 'Forget' is the opposite of pondering.

Question 26 English

What is the synonym of 'SAGACITY'?

- A. Morality
- B. Sanity
- C. Wisdom ✓ **Correct answer**
- D. Uprightness

A. 'Morality' is about right and wrong, not sagacity.

B. 'Sanity' is soundness of mind, not sagacity.

C. Correct: 'sagacity' means wisdom and good judgement.

D. 'Uprightness' is honesty, not sagacity.

Question 27 English

He is ___ M.A?

- B. a
- C. the
- D. an ✓ **Correct answer**

A. 'By' does not fit before a degree: 'He is by M.A.' is wrong.

B. 'A' is wrong before a vowel sound.

C. 'The' is wrong here; the sentence needs the indefinite article.

D. Correct: 'He is an M.A.' — 'an' is used because 'M' is pronounced with a vowel sound ('em').

Question 28 Mathematics

What is the LCM of 27 and 63?

- A. 189 ✓ **Correct answer**
- B. 90
- C. 72
- D. 56

A. Correct: $27 = 3^3$ and $63 = 3^2 \times 7$, so the LCM is $3^3 \times 7 = 189$.

B. 90 is not a multiple of 27.

C. 72 is not a multiple of 27 or 63.

D. 56 is not a multiple of 27.

Question 29 Mathematics

Simplify: $2^2 + |2| + |-2| - 2^2$.

- A. 8
- B. 6

Correct answer

- D. 2

A. 4 + 2 + 2 − 4 = 4, not 8.

B. 4 + 2 + 2 − 4 = 4, not 6.

C. Correct: $2^2 + |2| + |-2| - 2^2 = 4 + 2 + 2 - 4 = 4$.

D. 4 + 2 + 2 − 4 = 4, not 2.

Question 30 Mathematics

A rectangular field is 17 m long and 13 m wide. If tiling costs Rs 70 per square metre, what is the total cost?

- A. 12500
- B. 15470 ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. 18700
- D. 20470

A. The area is 221 m^2, so the cost is 221 × 70 = 15,470, not 12,500.

B. Correct: area = 17 × 13 = 221 m^2; cost = 221 × 70 = Rs 15,470.

C. 18,700 is not 221 × 70.

D. 20,470 is not 221 × 70.

Question 31

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covered. Unrecoverable — no answer asserted. Decided by assistant under owner's 8 Nov 2026 delegation.

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s://www.test360.pk/test/assistant-director-50j2024-26-04-2025-2349 (accessed 8 Nov 2026). See the source note on this page about the fold-in corrections.