

Questions on Word Analogy appear recurrently in aptitude tests. In these, you have to select from a number of choices, the pair of words that relates together in the same fashion as the given pair of words in the question is. Since such question demands that you should be able to analyze and identify basic relationships (apart from having a good vocabulary in English language), it is widely believed to provide a good assessment of mental ability. Every analogy gives you a pair of words represented as below:

The symbol (:) stands for 'is related to' or simply 'is to'. The base pair is followed by several choices, and the whole question is written as follows:

ORCHESTRA: INSTRUMENTAL:

- a. Trio: harmonic
- b. Choir: vocal
- c. Band: martial
- d. pianist: solo

The symbol (::) stands for 'in the same way as' or simply 'as'.

In working out an analogy, you must proceed by first determining the nature of relationship that exists between the two words in the base pair. In this example, analysis indicates that orchestra is a large group of people playing various musical instruments together.

The next step is to study the relationship between the words in the pairs of answer choices. In our example, a study of the first pair indicates that a trio is not a large group performing harmonic music; in choice 2, a 'choir' is a large group performing vocal music. In choice (3) Band is a group but is not known to perform martial music.

Similarly, in choice (4) pianist is not a group. Of all the options given, the words in the second pair match most closely with the relationship expressed in the base pair. Consequently, option (b) provides the best answer.

IMPORTANT: You must remember that the pair of words of the answer choice must match the base pair in 'form' as well as 'relationship'. If, for example, the base pair depicts a relationship between two nouns, the correct answer will also consist of two nouns. If, moreover, the base pair is made up of two plurals, the correct answer will be made up of two plurals. Sometimes a quick scrutiny of options will help you immediately discard the choices that do not have the same form as the base pair.

Strategy For Analogy

- (i) Identify the relationship between the words in base pair by linking them using a sentence,
- (ii) Look out for contextual meaning of words,
- (iii) The relationship between the words could be vertical or horizontal.

- (iv) The sides should match; if the 'parent' is on the left side and the 'child' on the right in the question pair, then the correct answer choice should also follow the same order in sense.

CAUTION: Do read the instruction given in a test closely; sometimes the direction can be to select the option that LEAST similar to the question words.

Word analogies frequently illustrate common relationships. The following are worth noting.

Common Types of Analogy

	Analogy Types	Example
1	Action and its typical quality/adjective	spark plug-Car
2	Cause - effect	Clouds - rain
3	Degree / intensity	Tepid - not
4	Object / substance-natural component	Pearl – oyster
5	Object related to natural location	Camel - desert
6	Word-synonym	Suave - sophisticated
7	Word-antonym	Fertile - barren
8	Person related to tool	Carpenter - saw
9	Person related to major trait	Philosopher - wisdom
10	Person related to skill/interest	Scientists - research
11	Person related to least desirable characteristic	Stickler - approximation
12	One of a kind /class / type	Daisy-flower
13	Substance / raw material related to end product	Sheep - wool
14	Thing related to logical action.	Pestle - pound
15	ear clichéd expression	Friend - congeniality
16	Implied comparison	Clouds - sun
17	Relationship of description	Speech – articulate
18	Phenomenon/entity-measuring device/unit	Decibel - sound
19	Object is to thing with which it is made	Sweater - acrylic
20	Branch of study and subject	Ornithology-bird
21	Person is to area of specialization	Ichthyologist - marine life
22	Extract is to source	Gold-ore
23	Symbol and purpose	Lighthouse - danger
24	Legendary term - symbolic meaning	Malapropism - verbal
25	Object is to case in which it is kept	Quiver - arrows
26	Plan is to action	Agenda - meeting
27	Member is to particular group	Captain - team
28	Relationship of size	Boulder - pebble
29	Action and its typical quality/adjective	Movement - graceful
30	Relationship of structural/functional similarity	Drawbridge – castle
31	Idiomatic expression	On-off

Practice Exercise -1

Directions for (Que. 1-10): Read the information carefully and answer the questions given below it.

Each question below consists of a pair of words that are related. Complete the blank with suitable

word from the answer choices given to form an analogous pair.

- 1) Pediatrician : ____ :: Dermatologist: skin
(1) Children (2) Feet (3) Plant
(4) Hair (5) Bone
- 2) Blandish : Coax :: Asseverate : ____
(1) Affirm (2) Repeat (3) Complain
(4) Twist (5) Remove
- 3) Exigency: Emergency:: Expansive : ____
(1) Hostile (2) Friendly (3) Proactive
(4) Clumsy (5) Deterrent
- 4) Motif : decoration :: Eulogy : ____
(1) Diatribe (2) Lament (3) Praise
(4) Satire (5) Lecture
- 5) Illustration : Clarity :: Constriction : ____
(1) Wide (2) Upright (3) Swift
(4) Narrow (5) Confusion
- 6) Cosmology: Universe :: Morphology: ____
(1) Structure (2) Function (3) Radio
(4) Size (5) Anatomy
- 7) Answer : Test :: Denouement : ____
(1) Symphony (2) Mystery story (3) Horse race
(4) Complete understanding (5) Conjugate
- 8) Astronauts: Space :: Argonauts : ____
(1) Fire (2) Ship (3) Birds
(4) Sea (5) Ocean
- 9) Snake : Reptilian :: Fox : ____
(1) Leopard (2) Vulpine (3) Tiger
(4) Feline (5) Mare
- 10) Genuine: Simulated:: Unaffected: ____
(1) Elevated (2) Bombastic (3) Dynamic
(4) Emulated (5) Reasonable

Practice Exercise – 2

Directions for (Que) 1 - 100): Read the information carefully and answer the questions given below it

In each of the following questions identify the pair of words, which has a relationship similar to the pair in question

- 1) Wool : Acrylic**
(1) Rayon : Silk (2) Winter : Spring (3) Cotton : Terylene
(4) Rubber : Plastic (5) Joy : mourn
- 2) Bouquet : Flower**
(1) Skin : Body (2) Chain : Link (3) Page : Book
(4) Product : Factory (5) Blackboard : Chalk
- 3) Germ : Disease**
(1) Man : Woman (2) War : Destruction (3) Doctor : Medicine
(4) Owner : Shop (5) People : Mob
- 4) Ignominy : Disloyalty**
(1) Fame: Heroism (2) Derelict : Fool (3) Death : Victory
(4) Martyr : Man (5) Trust : Deceive
- 5) Gazelle : Swift**
(1) Horse : Slow (2) Swan : Graceful (3) Lion : Roar
(4) Lamb : Bleat (5) choked : suffocated
- 6) Ascetic : Luxury**
(1) Capitalist : Communist (2) Teacher : Classroom (3) Misogynist : Women
(4) Scholar : Knowledge (5) Reluctant : willing
- 7) Augur : Future**
(1) Knight : Medieval (2) Post : Century (3) Historian : Past
(4) Commuter : Present (5) Acrobatics : Supple
- 8) Spear : Dart**
(1) Knife : Sword (2) Door : Window (3) Mountain : Molehill
(4) Cannon : Gun (5) Blunt : sharp
- 9) Buzz : Hum**
(1) Whisper: Noise (2) Echo : Sound (3) Crack : Whip
(4) Tinkle : Clang (5) Harsh : Soft
- 10) Argument : Debate**
(1) Violence : Peace (2) Fight : Contest (3) Opponent : Challenge
(4) Abuse : Scold (5) Opponent : Supporter

- 11) Cow : Herd**
(1) Child : family (2) Peacock : Muster (3) Bald : Hair
(4) Horse : Jockey (5) Shoal : elephant
- 12) Bird : Ornithology**
(1) Zoology : Animal (2) Stars : Galaxy (3) Archaeology : Antiquity
(4) Plant : Botany (5) Insects : Hydrology
- 13) Wood : Carve**
(1) Clay : Mould (2) Pipe : Blow (3) Paper : Burn
(4) Trees : Sway (5) Stone : sculpture
- 14) Open : Secretive**
(1) Mystery : Detective (2) Honest : Truth (3) forthright : Snide
(4) Better : Best (5) Agony : pain
- 15) Wave : Crest**
(1) Pinnacle : Nadir (2) Mountain : Peak (3) Sea : Ocean
(4) High : Low (5) Amplitude : Crest
- 16) Letter : Word**
(1) Club : People (2) Page : Book (3) Product : Factory
(4) Picture : Crayon (5) Gemers : Antigen
- 17) Spasm : Pain**
(1) Sound : Noise (2) Flash : Light (3) Touch : Delicate
(4) Love : Hate (5) Smoke : Fog
- 18) Myth : Story**
(1) Fiction : Story (2) Bonnet : Hat (3) Pencil : Paper
(4) Novel : Tale (5) Fresh : marine
- 19) Saturnine : Mercurial**
(1) Redundant : Concise (2) Saturn : Venus (3) Heavenly : Starry
(4) Wolf : Sly (5) Avenue : Vicinity
- 20) Wheat : Chaff**
(1) Wine : Drugs (2) Crop : Corn (3) Laughter : Revelry
(4) Cloud : Rain (5) Attire : Attract
- 21) Intimidate: Fear**
(1) Maintain : Satisfaction (2) Astonish : Wonder (3) Soothe : Concern
(4) Tame: Lion (5) Auction : Sell
- 22) Handcuffs : Robber**
(1) Leash : Dog (2) Rope : Tie (3) Shoes: Feet
(4) Paper : Kite (5) Cage: prison

- 23) Celebrate : Marriage**
 (1) Window : Bedroom (2) Lament : Bereavement (3) Pot : Pan
 (4) Crime : Penalty (5) inflow : inflict
- 24) Banish : Apostate**
 (1) Reward : Traitor (2) Request : Assistant (3) Remove : Officer
 (4) Welcome : Ally (5) pale : paint
- 25) Affirm : Hint**
 (1) Say : Deny (2) Assert : Convince (3) Confirm : Reject
 (4) Charge : Insinuate (5) Face : Expression
- 26) Boiling : Lukewarm**
 (1) Cold : Hot (2) Cold : Freezing (3) Cloudy : Evening
 (4) Freezing : Cold (5) Sale : Returns
- 27) Dishonesty : Distrust**
 (1) Hand : Paper (2) Money : Pickpocket (3) Carelessness : Accident
 (4) Murder : Jail (5) Sanity : Purity
- 28) Immigration : Entrance**
 (1) Native : Foreigner (2) Emigration : Departure (3) File : Knife
 (4) Migration : Bird (5) Pipette : Burette
- 29) Emulate : Mimic**
 (1) Slander : Defame (2) Praise : Flatter (3) Aggravate : Promote
 (4) Express : Imply (5) Pious : Insane
- 30) Impeach : Dismiss**
 (1) Arraign : Convict (2) Exonerate : Charge (3) Plant : Reap
 (4) Imprison : Police (5) Pirate : Saint
- 31) Bigotry : Hatred**
 (1) Sweetness : Bitterness (2) Envy : Jealousy (3) Fanaticism: Intolerance
 (4) Good : Bad (5) Ochre : Dull
- 32) Urge : Insist**
 (1) Request : Hound (2) Plead : Request (3) Refuse : Deny
 (4) Finish : Begin (5) Intension : Fruitful
- 33) Plutocracy : Wealth**
 (1) Autocracy : Group (2) Democracy : People (3) Hierarchy : Government
 (4) Oligarchy : Tyrant (5) Oral : Verbal
- 34) Control: Order**
 (1) Government: Legislators (2) Anarchy : Chaos (3) Teacher : Pupil
 (4) Master : Servant (5) Distribute : Dissipate

- 35) **Delusion : Mirage**
(1) Gift : Party (2) Fulfillment : Wish (3) Haunt : Specter
(4) Plea : Request (5) Deny : Obey
- 36) **Poison : Death**
(1) Life : Famine (2) Elixir : Life (3) Medicine : Health
(4) Prayer : Spirit (5) Arms : Rave
- 37) **Law : Citizen**
(1) Reins : Horse (2) Tyranny : Despot (3) Democracy : Communism
(4) Weapon : Peace (5) law : Rule
- 38) **Joy : Ecstasy**
(1) Admiration : Love (2) Life : Hope (3) Happiness : Sorrow
(4) Youth : Fun (5) Secret : Mystery
- 39) **Mystery : Clue**
(1) Break : Crack (2) Door : Key (3) Detective : Crime
(4) Book : Reader (5) Glitter : Gold
- 40) **Garbage : Squalor**
(1) Dirtiness : Cleanliness (2) Colour : Brush (3) Diamond : Magnificence
(4) Poor : Hunger (5) Launch : Ooze
- 41) **Scholarly : Erudite**
(1) Teacher : Lawyer (2) Reader : Hermit (3) Ignorant : Illiterate
(4) Master : Slave (5) Radiant : Slave
- 42) **Chill : Cold**
(1) Joy : Ecstasy (2) Cool : Warm (3) Boil : Freeze
(4) Love : Hate (5) Tyranny : Vain
- 43) **Social worker : Delinquent**
(1) Patient : Doctor (2) Officer : Soldier (3) Evangelist : Sinner
(4) Doctor : Patient (5) Finish : Request
- 44) **Agility : Clumsiness**
(1) Agility : Skill (2) Felicity : Sorrow (3) Ignorance : Bliss
(4) Love : Hate (5) Assert : Reason
- 45) **Rupee : Paisa**
(1) Hour : Minute (2) Degree : Time (3) Week : Day
(4) Century : Year (5) Fight : Abuse
- 46) **Chain : Link**
(1) Necklace : Minute (2) Nexus : Connection (3) Vacillate : Waver
(4) Gang : Ring (5) Worry : Flower

- 47) Practice : Practise**
 (1) Noun : Adverb (2) Advice: Advise (3) Gone : Going
 (4) Do : Done (5) Animal : Dog
- 48) Synagogue : Religion**
 (1) Court : Law (2) Hospital : Illness (3) Asylum : Lunacy
 (4) Prison : Crime (5) Bigot : lenient
- 49) Oral : Taste**
 (1) Sense : Senile (2) Tactile : Touch (3) Pensive : Upright
 (4) Ear : Nose (5) Child : Boy
- 50) Gauche : Deft**
 (1) Rough : Smooth (2) Awkward : Clumsy (3) Meager : Appropriate
 (4) Cowboy : Active (5) Future : time
- 51) Virus : Fever**
 (1) Carelessness : Shrewd (2) Germ : Disease (3) Explosion : Debris
 (4) Earthquake : Tranquility (5) Flat : Obsolete
- 52) City : Village**
 (1) Skyscraper : Cottage (2) Urban : Uncultured (3) Ride : Walk
 (4) Lawyers: Farmers (5) Epidermis : Agile
- 53) Journalist : Typewriter**
 (1) Surgeon : Scalpel (2) Carpenter : Lumber (3) Ride : Walk
 (4) Lawyers: Farmers (5) Modesty : Rude
- 54) Body : Water**
 (1) Throat : Thirst (2) Cell : Plasma (3) Stomach : Food
 (4) Ear : Drums (5) Rural : unban
- 55) Insipid : Piquant**
 (1) Tasty : Bland (2) Relish : Spice (3) Sweet : Dessert
 (4) Flat : Spicy (5) Drip : Faddy
- 56) Coffee : Bean**
 (1) Cocoa : Malt (2) Cashew : Root (3) Tobacco : Leaf
 (4) Tea : Garden (5) Friendliness : Crumple
- 57) X-axis : Y-axis**
 (1) Degrees : Isobar (2) Longitude : Latitude (3) Longitude : Lassitude
 (4) Runway : Airport (5) Guff : Inconsolable
- 58) Fish : Bird**
 (1) Canoe : Motorcar (2) Ship : Hovercraft (3) Submarine : Aeroplane
 (4) Reptile : Ornithology (5) Law : Make

- 59) Foresight : Farsightedness**
 (1) Long : Lengthy (2) Further : Farther (3) Short : Tall
 (4) Thinker : Visionary (5) Nip : pet
- 60) Crime : Accomplice**
 (1) Legislation : Parliament (2) Repair : Mechanic (3) Journey : Train
 (4) Textbook : Co-author (5) Rogue : Sheet
- 61) Obsolete : Contemporary**
 (1) Past : Future (2) Old-fashioned : Stylish (3) Past : Present
 (4) Future : Present (5) Harangue : Grim
- 62) Kindness : Hostility**
 (1) Deception : Confidence (2) Poor : Misery (3) Dissent : Commotion
 (4) Giant : Pygmy (5) Grope : Nasty
- 63) Frugal : Parsimonious**
 (1) Joy : Ecstasy (2) Walking : Running (3) Love : Hate
 (4) Rich : Poor (5) Tipsy : Fringe
- 64) Automobile : Petrol**
 (1) Fire : Fuel (2) Plane : Propeller (3) Diesel : Gas
 (4) Man : Food (5) Calice : feet
- 65) Red : Yellow**
 (1) Warm : Cool (2) Blue : Orange (3) Prohibition : Warning
 (4) Danger : Prohibition (5) Espy : Drive
- 66) Romantic : Realistic**
 (1) Dramatic : Prosaic (2) Fanciful : Actual (3) Thought : Idea
 (4) Poet : Dramatist (5) Diagonal : Lavy
- 67) Incipient : Fruition**
 (1) Callow : Maturity (2) Young : Senile (3) Spoiled : Pure
 (4) Teenage : Youth (5) Niggardly : Nobble
- 68) Message : Code**
 (1) Word : Charade (2) Phrase : Act (3) Chart : Graph
 (4) Fun : Frolic (5) Please : Renounce
- 69) Epidermis : Mammal**
 (1) Blanket : Bed (2) Bread : Sandwich (3) Bark : Conifer
 (4) Topsoil : Farm (5) Squint : Spur
- 70) Fearful : Courageous**
 (1) Beautiful : Attractive (2) Flower : Fragrance (3) Dunce : Clever
 (4) Worry : Poor (5) Uncertain : Final
- 71) Tipsy : Drunken**
 (1) Intelligent : Dumb (2) Generous : Cheerful (3) Sensible : Lively
 (4) Pleased : Thrilled (5) Voyage : Travel

- 72) Arc : Curve**
 (1) Triangle : Base (2) Rectangle : Square (3) Revolution : distance
 (4) Square : Polygon (5) Vote : Elect
- 73) Opaque : Translucent**
 (1) Glass : Jug (2) Transparent: Translucent (3) Spontaneous : Studied
 (4) Dark : Light (5) Wild : Beast
- 74) Parody : Imitation**
 (1) Farce : Laughter (2) Mask : Disguise (3) Caricature : Likeness
 (4) Deviation : Similarity (5) Threatening : Free
- 75) Speech : Slander**
 (1) Magazine : Book (2) Book : Movie (3) Scribble : Note
 (4) Writing : Libel (5) Thumb : Throat
- 76) Agile : Acrobat**
 (1) Fast : Quick (2) Speak : Sing (3) Eloquent : Orator
 (4) Clown : Fun (5) Skimp : long
- 77) Bulky : Volume**
 (1) Straight : Curvature (2) Hefty : Weight (3) Hollow : Vastness
 (4) Grisly : Appearance (5) Restrict : Enlighten
- 78) Modesty : Arrogance**
 (1) Obese : Fat (2) Solider : Army (3) Debility : Strength
 (4) Pride : Grief (5) Property : Legacy
- 79) Urban : Rustic**
 (1) Metropolitan : Bucolic (2) Rose : Flower (3) Sit : Relax
 (4) Examine : Rusticate (5) Precursor : Final
- 80) Cat : Feline**
 (1) Eagle : Lyre (2) Sparrow : Nest (3) Chair : Furniture
 (4) Horse : Equine (5) Permission : Perish
- 81) Chop : Mince**
 (1) Cut : Cake (2) Whip : Whisk (3) Grate : Cheese
 (4) Fry : Bake (5) Opposed : Mean
- 82) Maxim : Terse**
 (1) Drama : Play (2) Satire : Comedy (3) Cliché : Commonplace
 (4) Speech : Capable (5) Measure : Hub
- 83) Assault : Impregnable**
 (1) Insult : Invulnerable (2) Attack : Defend (3) Defame : Destroy
 (4) Succeed : Capable (5) Heat : icing
- 84) Abominate : Abhor**
 (1) Write : Read (2) Love : Hate (3) Wail : Weep
 (4) Dislike : Hurt (5) Enigma : Devoid

- 85) Condone : Offence**
 (1) Punish : Criminal (2) Ignore : Judgment (3) Law : Police
 (4) Overlook : Aberration (5) Day : Night
- 86) Money : Squander**
 (1) Food: Eat (2) Electricity : Generate (3) Energy : Dissipate
 (4) Wealth : Waste (5) Clumsy : Devoid
- 87) Pat : Slap**
 (1) Winter : Summer (2) Tepid : Hot (3) Pink : Blue
 (4) Rust : Steel (5) Bulb : Light
- 88) Paper : Blackboard**
 (1) Filter : Air (2) Pencil : Pen (3) Eraser : Chalk
 (4) Polish : Shoe (5) Train : speed
- 89) Fame : Modesty**
 (1) Haughtiness : Arrogant (2) Celebrity : Star (3) Honesty : Hypocrisy
 (4) Look : See (5) You : Me
- 90) Large : Enormous**
 (1) Warm : Cold (2) Speed : Half (3) Plump : Fat
 (4) Tight : Slight (5) Mutton : Chicken
- 91) Deprive : Supply**
 (1) Gain : Succeed (2) Restrict : Encourage (3) Detain : Deny
 (4) Speech : Silence (5) Dictate: White
- 92) Debate : Soliloquy**
 (1) Group : Solo (2) Royal : Regal (3) Prose : Drama
 (4) Speech : Silence (5) Building : Design
- 93) Pale : Tale**
 (1) Custom : Solemn (2) Habit : Old (3) Foil : Toil
 (4) Story : Epic (5) Traffic : mob
- 94) Die : Dice**
 (1) Data : Data (2) Mouse : Mice (3) Monkey : Monkeys
 (4) Dates : Datum (5) Profane : Fragrance
- 95) Stone: Bomb**
 (1) Plane : Jet (2) Archaic : Modern (3) Sword : Scabbard
 (4) Pen : Knife (5) Terrible : Clock
- 96) Inane : Trite**
 (1) Copy : Original (2) Limited : Full (3) Sad : Manic
 (4) Empty : Hackneyed (5) Water : mud
- 97) Mellifluous : Cacophony**
 (1) Honey : Vinegar (2) Sad : Discordant (3) Plentiful : Rare
 (4) Colour : Hue (5) Big : Boot
- 98) Dislike : Hatred**
 (1) Zero : Infinity (2) Large : Immense (3) Mauled : Battered
 (4) Quest : Voyage (5) Pen : lead

99) Haggard : Obese

(1) Lonesome : Pathetic

(4) Defiant : Belligerent

(2) Jocund : Gay

(5) Cupboard : Shoes

(3) Gaunt : Corpulent

100) Day : Week

(1) Week : Year

(4) Week : Month

(2) Second : Time

(5) Line : circle

(3) Time : Duration

Answer Key :**Practice Exercise -1**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
(1)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(1)	(2)	(4)	(4)	(1)

Practice Exercise -2

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
(3)	(2)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(3)	(4)	(4)	(2)	(1)	(4)	(1)	(3)	(2)
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
(2)	(2)	(2)	(1)	(1)	(3)	(2)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(4)	(3)	(2)	(2)	(1)
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45
(3)	(1)	(2)	(2)	(3)	(2)	(1)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(3)	(4)	(3)	(2)	(4)
46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
(2)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(1)	(2)	(4)	(3)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(4)
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75
(3)	(1)	(1)	(4)	(3)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(3)	(3)	(4)	(4)	(3)	(3)	(4)
76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
(3)	(2)	(3)	(1)	(4)	(2)	(3)	(1)	(3)	(4)	(3)	(2)	(3)	(3)	(3)
91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100					
(2)	(1)	(3)	(2)	(2)	(4)	(3)	(2)	(3)	(4)					