Mixtures and Alligations

Tip 1

- The topic mixtures and alligations is basically an application of averages concept in CAT.
- The theory involved in this topic is very limited and students should be comfortable with the some basic formulas and concepts.
- This pdf covers all the important formulas and concepts related to mixtures and alligations.

A mixture is created when two or more substances are mixed in a certain ratio.

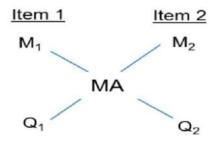
Types of mixtures

1. Simple mixture: A simple mixture is formed by the mixture of two or more different substances.

Example: Water and Wine mixture.

2. Compound mixture: A Compound mixture is formed by the mixture of two or more simple mixtures. (Example: one part of 'water and wine' mixture mixed with two parts of 'water and milk' mixture, etc.)

• If M₁ and M₂ are the values and Q₁ and Q₂ are the quantities of item 1 and item 2 respectively, and M_A is the weighted average of the two items, then



$$\frac{Q_1}{Q_2} = \frac{M_2 - M_A}{M_A - M_1}$$

• Weighted average M_A can be calculated by:

$$M_A = \frac{Q_1 M_1 + Q_2 M_2}{Q_1 + Q_2}$$

The alligation rule can be applied when cheaper substance is mixed with expensive substance

$$\frac{\text{Quantity of cheaper}}{\text{Quantity of dearer}} = \frac{\text{Price of dearer-Mean price}}{\text{Mean price-Price of cheaper}}$$

If two mixtures M_1 and M_2 , having substances S_1 and S_2 in the ratio a:b and p:q respectively are mixed, then in the final mixture,

$$\frac{\text{Quantity of S}_1}{\text{Quantity of S}_2} = \frac{M_1 \left[\frac{a}{a+b}\right] + M_2 \left[\frac{p}{p+q}\right]}{M_1 \left[\frac{b}{a+b}\right] + M_2 \left[\frac{q}{p+q}\right]}$$

If there is a container with 'a' liters of liquid A and if 'b' liters are withdrawn and equal amount is replaced by another liquid B and if the operation is repeated for 'n' times

After nth operation,

• Liquid A in the container = $\left[\frac{a-b}{a}\right]^n \times \text{Initial quantity of A in the container}$

Liquid A after nth operation
$$= \frac{\left[\frac{a-b}{a}\right]^n}{\text{Liquid B after nth operation}} = \frac{\left[\frac{a-b}{a}\right]^n}{1 - \left[\frac{a-b}{a}\right]^n}$$