

CA Foundation — Quantitative Aptitude (QA)

Question Paper Analysis with Answers — May 2026 | 100 MCQs | 100 Marks | 2 Hours

Question-Wise Analysis Table

Q.	Chapter / Topic	Marks	Difficulty	Answer
1	Probability — Probability Density Function (PDF), continuous random variable	1	Hard	B (3)
2	Statistics — Arithmetic Mean, replacement of observation	1	Easy	A (16)
3	Statistics — Properties of Arithmetic Mean	1	Easy	C
4	Probability — Basic probability, complementary events	1	Easy	C (1)
5	Probability — Compound events, two dice, multiples	1	Moderate	B (1/3)
6	Logical Reasoning — Circular Arrangement (5 persons)	1	Moderate	D (E)
7	Logical Reasoning — Circular Arrangement (6 persons, facing outside)	1	Hard	B (2)
8	Logical Reasoning — Linear Arrangement (5 persons, bench)	1	Moderate	B (E)
9	Logical Reasoning — Linear Arrangement (6 friends, row)	1	Moderate	A (F)
10	Mathematics — Geometric Progression (GP), sum of infinite series	1	Moderate	B (5/6)
11	Mathematics — Arithmetic Progression (AP), given sum of terms	1	Moderate	C (60)
12	Mathematics — Permutations & Combinations, 5-digit even numbers	1	Moderate	C (1080)
13	Mathematics — Geometric Progression, first term exceeds second by 4	1	Moderate–Hard	B (4/5)
14	Mathematics — Arithmetic Progression, nth term from sum formula	1	Moderate	D (79)
15	Mathematics — Surds & Indices / Algebra	1	Easy–Moderate	B (6)
16	Mathematics — Logarithms	1	Moderate	B (24)
17	Mathematics — Ratio & Proportion	1	Easy–Moderate	B (84)
18	Mathematics — Indices & Surds, simplification	1	Hard	C (1)
19	Mathematics — Ratio & Proportion, algebraic expression	1	Easy	A (18/17)
20	Probability — Without replacement, different colours	1	Moderate	A (45/66)
21	Probability — At least once, two independent events	1	Moderate	D (122/143)
22	Probability — Addition theorem, King or Heart	1	Easy	C (4/13)
23	Probability — Poisson distribution, $P(X=0)$	1	Moderate	C (e^{-9})
24	Statistics — Data Collection, interview method	1	Easy	A (Primary data)
25	Logical Reasoning — Blood Relations (complex chain)	1	Moderate	B (Son-in-law)
26	Logical Reasoning — Blood Relations	1	Moderate	B (Son)
27	Logical Reasoning — Blood Relations	1	Moderate	D (Daughter-in-law)
28	Logical Reasoning — Blood Relations (complex)	1	Hard	B (T is P's Grand Mother)
29	Logical Reasoning — Blood Relations	1	Moderate	B (Father)
30	Mathematics — Limits, rational function as $x \rightarrow \infty$	1	Easy	A (1/3)
31	Mathematics — Functions, inverse function	1	Easy–Moderate	B (3)
32	Mathematics — Sets, union using inclusion-exclusion	1	Easy	D (80)
33	Mathematics — Relations, equivalence relation	1	Moderate	C (Equivalence relation)
34	Mathematics — Linear Inequalities / LPP, formulation	1	Easy–Moderate	C
35	Mathematics — Simultaneous Equations	1	Easy	B (3)
36	Mathematics — Quadratic Equations, roots properties	1	Moderate	B (24)

Q.	Chapter / Topic	Marks	Difficulty	Answer
37	Mathematics — Linear Inequalities, solution region	1	Moderate	A (Unbounded)
38	Mathematics — Linear Programming, feasible region property	1	Easy	C (Convex)
39	Statistics — Regression, arithmetic mean from regression equation	1	Moderate	D (2)
40	Probability — Binomial Distribution, find p given mean & variance	1	Moderate	B (0.4)
41	Statistics — Normal Distribution, third quartile	1	Hard	B (17.55)
42	Probability — Binomial Distribution, variance	1	Easy–Moderate	A (4.50)
43	Probability — Binomial Distribution, find n and p	1	Moderate	A (n=16, p=0.25)
44	Statistics — Correlation, standard deviation from covariance	1	Moderate	B (2)
45	Statistics — Classification of data, mutually exclusive class intervals	1	Easy	B
46	Statistics — Sampling, Standard Error definition	1	Easy	C
47	Statistics — Tabulation, parts of a table	1	Easy	A (Body)
48	Statistics — Classification, qualitative data	1	Easy	A (Qualitative data)
49	Statistics — Sampling Methods, judgment sampling	1	Moderate	C (Judgment Sampling)
50	Logical Reasoning — Number Series (next term)	1	Moderate	B (43)
51	Mathematics — Calculus / Differentiation, maxima of revenue function	1	Moderate	D (50)
52	Mathematics — Differentiation, implicit differentiation $x^y = y^x$	1	Hard	A
53	Mathematics — Differentiation, parametric differentiation dy/dx	1	Moderate	D (-1/m⁴)
54	Mathematics — Integration, integral of x^{25}/x^{26}	1	Easy	A (log x + C)
55	Mathematics — Simple Interest, find principal	1	Easy–Moderate	A (Rs 48,000)
56	Mathematics — Compound Interest / Annuity, future value	1	Moderate	A (Rs 26,465.71)
57	Mathematics — Simple Interest, algebraic derivation	1	Moderate	D (100/p)
58	Mathematics — Compound Interest, semi-annual compounding	1	Moderate	B (Rs 6,961.50)
59	Mathematics — Annuity / EMI, equated annual payment (loan)	1	Hard	A (Rs 55,628.61)
60	Statistics — Correlation, coefficient of correlation from regression coefficients	1	Moderate	C (0.82)
61	Statistics — Correlation, Spearman's rank correlation	1	Hard	A (10)
62	Statistics — Regression, slope b in regression equation	1	Moderate	D (2.0)
63	Statistics — Index Numbers, Factor Reversal Test	1	Easy–Moderate	B (Factor reversal test)
64	Statistics — Arithmetic Mean, find missing observations	1	Moderate	A (30 and 17)
65	Statistics — Sampling, reason for sampling error	1	Easy	C
66	Statistics — Sampling Methods, flexibility	1	Moderate	C (Multi-stage Sampling)
67	Statistics — Diagrammatic Representation, ogive	1	Easy	B (Cumulative Frequency Curve)
68	Statistics — Arithmetic Mean, find k from mean	1	Moderate	C (8)
69	Statistics — Measures of Dispersion, standard deviation = 0 condition	1	Easy	B (equal)
70	Logical Reasoning — Number Series (next term, complex pattern)	1	Hard	A (6996)
71	Logical Reasoning — Coding-Decoding	1	Moderate	D (OGPVKQP)
72	Logical Reasoning — Coding-Decoding (number coding)	1	Moderate–Hard	A (289765120)
73	Logical Reasoning — Coding-Decoding	1	Moderate	C (RACER)
74	Logical Reasoning — Direction Sense	1	Moderate	D (West)
75	Mathematics — Time Value of Money, effective interest rate	1	Moderate	C (12.55%)

Q.	Chapter / Topic	Marks	Difficulty	Answer
76	Mathematics — Compound Interest, quarterly compounding	1	Hard	C (Rs 1,648 & Rs 1,784)
77	Mathematics — Present Value, discounting	1	Moderate	B (Rs 68,300)
78	Mathematics — Compound vs Simple Interest, find principal	1	Moderate	B (Rs 39,475)
79	Mathematics — Annuity, future value	1	Moderate	B (Rs 5,750)
80	Mathematics — Depreciation, original cost (reducing balance)	1	Hard	B (Rs 15,488)
81	Statistics — Index Numbers, real wage calculation	1	Easy–Moderate	C (Rs 5,000)
82	Statistics — Index Numbers, Fisher's Index Number	1	Moderate	C (150)
83	Statistics — Index Numbers, base shifting	1	Moderate	B (66.67)
84	Statistics — Index Numbers, Fisher's Price Index formula	1	Easy	A
85	Statistics — Harmonic Mean, combined harmonic mean	1	Hard	B (35.71)
86	Statistics — AM, GM, HM relationship	1	Moderate–Hard	C (42)
87	Statistics — Measures of Dispersion, quartile deviation	1	Easy	B (21.25)
88	Statistics — Arithmetic Mean, frequency distribution	1	Moderate	C (4.10)
89	Statistics — Mean Deviation from mean	1	Moderate	B (2.33)
90	Logical Reasoning — Linear Arrangement (6 students, bench)	1	Moderate	B (B)
91	Logical Reasoning — Direction Sense (complex path, angle)	1	Hard	C (South-West)
92	Logical Reasoning — Direction Sense	1	Moderate	A (North)
93	Logical Reasoning — Direction Sense	1	Moderate	D (North-West)
94	Logical Reasoning — Direction Sense (symbolic directions)	1	Hard	B (South-East)
95	Mathematics — Permutations & Combinations, cards selection	1	Moderate	A (2304)
96	Mathematics — Permutations & Combinations, group selection	1	Easy	D (35)
97	Mathematics — Annuity / Loan Instalment, equated annual instalment	1	Moderate	D (Rs 40,212)
98	Mathematics — Compound Interest, time period using logarithm	1	Hard	D (5.6 years)
99	Mathematics — Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR)	1	Moderate	B (10%)
100	Mathematics — Permutations & Combinations, circular arrangement alternately	1	Hard	C (4! x 5!)

Note: All questions carry 1 mark each. Negative marking: 1/4 mark deducted per wrong answer.

Chapter-Wise Weightage Summary

Chapter / Subject	No. of Qs	Marks	Weightage (%)
Mathematics — Time Value of Money (SI, CI, Annuity, Present Value, Depreciation)	14	14	14%
Statistics — Measures of Central Tendency & Dispersion (AM, GM, HM, MD, SD, QD)	12	12	12%
Logical Reasoning — Seating Arrangement (Linear & Circular)	9	9	9%
Logical Reasoning — Direction Sense	6	6	6%
Probability — Basic, Compound, Conditional Probability	6	6	6%
Statistics — Index Numbers (Laspeyres, Paasche, Fisher)	6	6	6%
Mathematics — Permutations & Combinations	5	5	5%
Probability — Probability Distributions (Binomial, Poisson, Normal)	5	5	5%

Chapter / Subject	No. of Qs	Marks	Weightage (%)
Mathematics — Sequences & Series (AP, GP)	5	5	5%
Statistics — Correlation & Regression	5	5	5%
Logical Reasoning — Blood Relations	5	5	5%
Logical Reasoning — Coding-Decoding & Number Series	5	5	5%
Mathematics — Calculus (Limits, Differentiation, Integration)	5	5	5%
Mathematics — Algebra (Ratio, Indices, Logarithms, Equations)	6	6	6%
Statistics — Data Collection, Classification & Tabulation	5	5	5%
Mathematics — Sets, Relations & Functions	3	3	3%
Mathematics — Linear Inequalities & LPP	3	3	3%
Statistics — Sampling Theory	3	3	3%
TOTAL	100	100	100%

High Weightage Chapters — Priority Order for Study

Priority	Chapter	Qs	Key Topics That Appeared
1	Time Value of Money (~14%)	14	Simple Interest (principal), Compound Interest (semi-annual, quarterly), Annuity (future value, EMI, instalments), Present Value (discounting), CAGR, Effective Interest Rate, Depreciation (reducing balance), CI vs SI difference
2	Statistics — Central Tendency & Dispersion (~12%)	12	Arithmetic Mean (properties, replacement, missing observations, k from mean), Mean Deviation, Standard Deviation (zero condition), Quartile Deviation, Harmonic Mean (combined), AM-GM-HM relationship, Frequency distribution mean
3	LR — Seating Arrangement (~9%)	9	Circular arrangement 5 persons (facing centre), Circular 6 persons (facing outside), Linear bench 5 persons, Linear row 6 persons with north-facing, Linear bench 6 students
4	LR — Direction Sense (~6%)	6	Simple direction turns (East/West/North/South), Complex multi-turn paths, Path with 135-degree turn, Symbolic direction coding (AxB = south of B etc.)
5	Probability — Basic & Compound (~6%)	6	PDF of continuous random variable, Complementary events, Two dice multiples, Without replacement (different colours), At least once (independent events), Addition theorem (King or Heart)
6	Index Numbers (~6%)	6	Factor Reversal Test, Fisher's Index Number formula, Fisher's calculation, Base shifting, Real wage calculation, Paasche & Fisher combined
7	Algebra — Ratio, Logs, Indices, Equations (~6%)	6	Surds ($x+1/x$ value), Logarithms (change of base chain), Ratio & Proportion, Indices simplification, Simultaneous equations, Quadratic roots properties
8	Permutations & Combinations (~5%)	5	5-digit even numbers without repetition, Cards selection (1 Jack + 3 Aces), Group with no women, Circular arrangement of Indians & Americans alternately
9	Probability Distributions (~5%)	5	Binomial Distribution (mean & variance given, find p; find n and p; variance), Poisson Distribution $P(X=0)$ given SD, Normal Distribution (third quartile)
10	Sequences & Series (~5%)	5	GP sum to infinity, AP 6th term from 4th+8th sum, GP common ratio, AP nth term from S_n formula
11	Correlation & Regression (~5%)	5	AM from regression equation, Coefficient of correlation from regression coefficients, Spearman's rank correlation (find n), Regression slope b from summary stats
12	LR — Blood Relations (~5%)	5	Complex multi-step chains, Son-in-law, Grand Mother relationships

Priority	Chapter	Qs	Key Topics That Appeared
13	LR — Coding & Number Series (~5%)	5	Letter coding (SUBJECT→UWDLGEV), Number coding (DOCTOR, PATIENT→OPERATION), Word from number code, Complex number series next term
14	Calculus (~5%)	5	Limit of rational function as $x \rightarrow \infty$, Inverse function $f^{-1}(12)$, Maxima of revenue function $R(x)$, Implicit differentiation $x^y = y^x$, Parametric dy/dx , Integral of x^{25}/x^{26}
15	Data Collection, Classification & Tabulation (~5%)	5	Interview method (primary data), Mutually exclusive class intervals, Standard Error definition, Table parts (body shows units), Qualitative data, Ogive name

Key Observations

1. Mathematics dominates: Time Value of Money alone has 14 questions, making it the single most important topic. Combined with Sequences, P&C, Calculus, Algebra, LPP and Sets, Mathematics contributes approximately 53 questions. 2. Statistics is the second pillar: Descriptive statistics (measures of central tendency, dispersion), correlation-regression, index numbers, and sampling together contribute around 31 questions. 3. Logical Reasoning: Covers about 25 questions focused on seating arrangements, direction sense, blood relations, coding-decoding, and number series. Arrangement and direction sense alone account for 15 questions. 4. Probability: Roughly 11 questions spanning basic probability, conditional probability, and all three major distributions (Binomial, Poisson, Normal). 5. Strategy: A student securing 70+ in Mathematics (TVM, AP/GP, P&C, Calculus) and 25+ in Statistics can comfortably clear the 50-mark passing threshold even with average performance in reasoning.