



SBI Clerk Prelims

Reasoning Ability Most Expected Questions

Q.No.	Chapter / Topic	Question Type	Difficulty
1–5	Floor/Stack Arrangement	8 books arrangement	Moderate
6–10	Linear Seating Arrangement	7-person seating puzzle	Moderate
11–13	Blood Relation	Family tree + relation	Moderate
14	Coding-Decoding	Word coding	Moderate
15	Direction & Distance	Movement & distance	Easy–Moderate
16	Alphabet/Letter Series	Odd one out	Easy
17–21	Number-Based Reasoning	Digit manipulation	Easy–Moderate
22	Alphabet Pair	Alphabetical positions	Moderate
23	Word Arrangement	Vowels/consonants arrangement	Moderate
24	Alphanumeric Series	Missing element	Moderate
25–28	Inequality	Statement & conclusions	Moderate
29–30	Order & Ranking	Salary arrangement	Moderate
31–35	Date & Month Puzzle	Birth-date arrangement	Moderate–Hard
36–40	Circular Seating Arrangement	8-person circular puzzle	Moderate–Hard
41–45	Order/Sequence Arrangement	Purchase sequence	Moderate
46–49	Coded Language	Common-word coding	Easy–Moderate
50–51	Direction & Distance	Multi-point direction	Moderate
52–56	Number Operations	Digit manipulation	Easy–Moderate
57–59	Alphabet/Word Based Reasoning	Letter selection & pairs	Moderate
60–65	Inequality + Logical Conclusions	Conclusions	Moderate
66–70	Designation/Hierarchy Puzzle	Ranking/designation	Moderate
71–80	Syllogism	Possibility + “Only a few”	Moderate–Hard
81–90	Syllogism	2-statement conclusions	Moderate
91–100	Syllogism	3/4-statement conclusions	Moderate–Hard



Q1–Q5 — Floor/Stack Arrangement

Topic: Floor/Stack Arrangement

Why important?

One arrangement generates **five different questions**, covering:

- Fixed position
- Relative position
- Gap-based arrangement
- Adjacency
- Odd/even position

Difficulty: Moderate

Q6–Q10 — Linear Seating Arrangement

Topic: Linear Seating

Seven people E, P, Q, R, S, T and U are sitting in a row facing north.

Important conditions include:

- The person whose name is a vowel cannot sit at an even-numbered position.
- Two people sit between U and T.
- P does not sit at an extreme end.
- R sits immediately to the right of T.
- Two people sit between R and S.
- E is not immediately next to T or Q.
- P is not immediately next to R or E.

Difficulty: Moderate

Q11–Q13 — Blood Relations

Topic: Blood Relation

The family contains 10 members with multiple relationships such as sister, brother, husband, children, paternal aunt and brother-in-law.



Important questions:

- **Q11:** Find the odd member.
- **Q12:** How is D related to F?
- **Q13:** Find the person having the same relationship pattern.

Difficulty: Moderate

Q14 — Coding-Decoding

RIVER and WATER are given in coded form, and the code for VITA has to be determined.

Topic: Coding-Decoding

Important concept

Identify **common letters** → **common codes**.

Difficulty: Moderate

Q15 — Direction & Distance

Two friends start from a common point. One moves north and the other east, and both subsequently turn left and move 6 km. Their final distance is asked.

Topic: Direction & Distance

Important concept:

Draw the direction diagram and calculate the final positions.

Difficulty: Easy–Moderate

Q16 — Odd One Out

Topic: Alphabet/Letter-Based Reasoning



Why is it important?

It tests the ability to identify a **pattern in alphabet positions** among groups of letters:

- BDF
- EJR
- CFI
- ABC
- DHL

Difficulty: Easy

Q17–Q21 — Number-Based Reasoning

The numbers are:

374, 562, 847, 583, 247

Different operations are performed:

Q.	Concept
Q17	Interchange first and second digits
Q18	Digit sum
Q19	Increase/decrease specific digits
Q20	Compare middle digits
Q21	Arrange digits in descending order

Difficulty: Easy–Moderate

Q22 — Alphabet Pair

Word: **VULGARIZED**

The question asks for pairs of letters having the same number of letters between them in the word and in the English alphabet.

Topic: Alphabetical Position/Pairs

Difficulty: Moderate



Q23 — Word Arrangement

Word: **KEYBOARD**

- Vowels are arranged alphabetically.
- Consonants are arranged in reverse alphabetical order.
- The position of letters is then examined.

Topic: Word Arrangement

Difficulty: Moderate

Q24 — Series

Given series:

TRPNLJHFDTPNLJHFTPLJHTP_

The next element has to be identified.

Topic: Alphabet/Alphanumeric Series

Difficulty: Moderate

Q25–Q28 — Inequality

These four questions are highly important.

Q25

$P > E = N \geq C \geq I = L$

Q26

$J < K = L > M; R < S < J; L > F > S$

Q27



$P = K \geq G > H \leq Q; H > S \leq R = T$

Q28

$S > T > A = Y; F \geq L \geq Y; F \geq A \geq N$

Key concepts:

- Direct comparison
- Indirect comparison
- $\geq / \leq$
- Either/or conclusions
- Possibility-based conclusions

Difficulty: Moderate

Q29–Q30 — Order & Ranking

Seven people are arranged according to salary.

Important information includes:

- N earns more than L, D and A.
- A earns more than L.
- K earns less than L but more than D.
- C earns ₹18,000.
- Second highest salary is ₹35,000.
- Third lowest salary is ₹23,000.

Q29

Who earns more than ₹23,000 but less than ₹35,000?

Q30

Who may earn ₹21,000?

Difficulty: Moderate



Q31–Q35 — Date & Month Puzzle

Eight people are born on different dates in 1995.

Possible months:

January, April, June, November

Possible dates:

12th or 23rd

Important conditions involve:

- Odd/even dates
- Number of days in months
- Same month
- Same date
- Relative positions
- Number of people between two persons

Questions:

- **Q31:** Who is born on 12th November?
- **Q32:** Who is born on 12th January?
- **Q33:** Who is born in the same month as V?
- **Q34:** Who is born in the same month as T?
- **Q35:** Who is elder than P?

Difficulty: Moderate–Hard

Q36–Q40 — Circular Seating Arrangement

Eight people A, B, C, D, E, F, G and H sit around a circular table facing the centre.

Conditions involve:

- Two persons between A and B.
- A is second to the left of C.
- Equal number of people between A–C and C–D.
- F and C are not immediate neighbours of H.
- H is second to the right of G.



Questions:

- Q36 → Immediate neighbour of C
- Q37 → Person opposite H
- Q38 → Position of D with respect to A
- Q39 → Number of people between E and F
- Q40 → Person sitting third to the right of H

Difficulty: Moderate–Hard

Q41–Q45 — Ordering/Sequence

Eight people purchase an item at different times.

Conditions include:

- Four people between A and C.
- A is the first purchaser.
- Three people between A and Q.
- Two people between P and Q.
- B immediately before P.
- One person between D and R.
- D purchases before R.

Questions:

- Q41 → Last purchaser
- Q42 → Number of people before B
- Q43 → Person immediately after D
- Q44 → Position of R
- Q45 → Second purchaser

Difficulty: Moderate

Q46–Q49 — Coded Language

Four statements are given with codes for words such as **club, lake, near, boat, in and view**.

Questions:



- Q46 → Code for boat
- Q47 → Code for club
- Q48 → Code for near
- Q49 → Code for “boat in view”

Difficulty: Easy–Moderate

Q50–Q51 — Direction & Distance

Multiple points are positioned relative to one another using north, south, east and west directions.

Q50

Find the distance between K and G after placing K 55 m west of E.

Q51

Find the direction of B with respect to S.

Difficulty: Moderate

Q52–Q56 — Number Operations

Why Important?

Tests quick calculation, digit manipulation, rearrangement, and application of basic number rules. These are generally **easy and time-saving questions**, making them useful for improving speed and accuracy.

Difficulty: Easy–Moderate

Q57–Q59 — Alphabet/Word Reasoning

Q57 — Word Formation

Letters are selected from **INHERITANCE** and arranged to form a meaningful word.

Q58 — Letter Transformation



Vowels and consonants in **IMPORTED** are replaced according to alphabetic rules and then rearranged.

Q59 — Alphabetical Pairs

Pairs are identified in **OBJECTS** based on their order in the English alphabet.

Difficulty: Moderate

Q60–Q65 — Logical Conclusions

This section tests conclusion-based reasoning.

Q60

Some fires are cars.
Some buses are fires.
All buses are cars.

Q61

Only a few stars are cups.
No cup is a bag.
No star is a bag.

Q62

Only a few pastries are bananas.
Only a few apples are bananas.

Q63

$G > E \leq F \geq B$

Q64

$P < Q > R > S$

Q65

$S \geq T < U > P$



Difficulty: Moderate

Q66–Q70 — Designation/Hierarchy Puzzle

Questions are based on different organizational designations.

They ask:

- Q66 → Who is the AGM?
- Q67 → How many persons have designations below E?
- Q68 → Who has the immediately higher designation than G?
- Q69 → What is B's designation?
- Q70 → Find the odd pair.

Difficulty: Moderate

Q71–Q80 — Advanced Syllogism

These questions repeatedly test:

- **Only a few**
- **Some**
- **All**
- **No**
- **Possibility**
- **Definite conclusions**
- Multiple-set relationships

For example, Q71 uses:

Only a few potteries are clay. All clay are metals.

Q75 uses:

Only a few hockey is soccer. Some soccer is rugby. No rugby is tennis.

Q76 creates a chain:

Only a few shouts are screams → All screams are squeals → Only a few squeals are shrieks.

Difficulty: Moderate–Hard



Q81–Q90 — Syllogism

These questions focus more on direct conclusion testing.

Especially important:

- **Q83:** All → All → No
- **Q84:** All → Some → All
- **Q85:** All → Some → All
- **Q86:** Three-level All chain
- **Q89:** All → No → Some

The actual statements and conclusions are given in the file.

Difficulty: Moderate

Q91–Q100 — Advanced Syllogism

This final group contains longer chains and multiple conclusions.

Q91

Some ships are yens → All yens are cats → All cats are oranges → No orange is a shirt.

Q92

Some books are onions → Some onions are gems → No gem is a mark → All marks are blocks.

Q93

Some clocks are wallets → Some wallets are trucks → All trucks are sails → All sails are cooks.

Q94

All grapes are rugs → All rugs are facts → All facts are heads → No head is a jaw.

Q95

Some lakes are bags → All bags are hacks → All hacks are beans → No bean is a cav.



Q96–Q100

These continue testing combinations of **Some, All, No** and **possibility-based conclusions**.

Difficulty: Moderate–Hard

