



# GENERAL APTITUDE

# IMPORTANT FORMULAE

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**GATE**

**Formulas & Shortcuts for  
General Aptitude**

## TIME AND DISTANCE -> IMPORTANT FACTS AND FORMULAE

- Speed = [Distance/Time], Time=[Distance/Speed], Distance = (Speed\*Time)
- $x \text{ km/hr} = [x*5/18] \text{ m/sec}$ .
- If the ratio of the speeds of A and B is a:b, then the ratio of the times taken by them to cover the same distance is  $1/a : 1/b$  or  $b:a$ .
- $x \text{ m/sec} = [x*18/5] \text{ km/hr}$ .
- Suppose a man covers a certain distance at  $x \text{ km/hr}$  and an equal distance at  $y \text{ km/hr}$ . then, the average speed during the whole journey is  $[2xy/x+y] \text{ km/hr}$ .

## TIME AND WORK

- Work from Days: If A can do a piece of work in  $n$  days, work done by A in 1 day =  $1/n$
- Days from Work: If A does  $1/n$  work in a day, A can finish the work in  $n$  days.
- If  $M_1$  men can do  $W_1$  work in  $D_1$  days working  $H_1$  hours per day and  $M_2$  men can do  $W_2$  work in  $D_2$  days working  $H_2$  hours per day (where all men work at the same rate), then:  $M_1 D_1 H_1 / W_1 = M_2 D_2 H_2 / W_2$
- If one person A takes “ $x$ ” days to complete a work alone and another person B takes “ $y$ ” days to complete the same work alone, then the number days both A and B take working together is :  $xy / (x + y)$
- If three persons A, B and C take “ $x$ ”, “ $y$ ” and “ $z$ ” days respectively to complete a work working alone, then the number of days taken by all three working together is:  $xyz / (xy + yz + xz)$
- If A is thrice as good as B in work, then  
Ratio of work done by A and B =  $3 : 1$ , and  
Ratio of time taken to finish a work by A and B =  $1 : 3$
- To finish a same amount of work, if  $M_1$  men take  $D_1$  days and  $M_2$  men take  $D_2$  days, then:  $M_1 \times D_1 = M_2 \times D_2$
- To finish the same amount of work, if  $M_1$  men take  $D_1$  days working  $H_1$  hours a day, and  $M_2$  men take  $D_2$  days working  $H_2$  hours a day, then :  $M_1 \times D_1 \times H_1 = M_2 \times D_2 \times H_2$

### NOTE:

- Men is always inversely Proportional to Number of days.
- Men is always Directly Proportional to Work.

### AGE:

- If the present age is  $A$ , then  $n$  times the age is  $nA$ .
- If the present age is  $M$ , then age  $x$  years later /hence =  $M+x$
- If the current age is  $B$ , then age  $X$  year ago =  $B-X$
- Age in ratio  $X:Y$  will be  $XA$  and  $YA$
- If the present age is  $A$ , then  $1/n$  of the ages is  $A/n$ .

## PROFIT AND LOSS

- Cost Price : The price at which an article is purchased, is called its cost price, abbreviated as C.P.
- Selling Price : The price at which an article is sold, is called its selling price, abbreviated as S.P.
- Profit or Gain : If S.P. is greater than C.P., the seller is said to have some profit.
- Loss: If S.P. is less than C.P., the seller is said to have incurred a loss.
- Gain = (S.P.) - (C.P.)
- Loss or gain is always reckoned on C.P.
- $\text{gain}\% = [\text{Gain} \times 100 / \text{C.P.}]$
- Loss = (C.P.) - (S.P.)
- $\text{Loss}\% = [\text{Loss} \times 100 / \text{C.P.}]$
- $\text{S.P.} = (100 + \text{Gain}\%) / 100 * \text{C.P.}$
- $\text{S.P.} = (100 - \text{Loss}\%) / 100 * \text{C.P.}$
- $\text{C.P.} = 100 / (100 + \text{Gain}\%) * \text{S.P.}$
- $\text{C.P.} = 100 / (100 - \text{Loss}\%) * \text{S.P.}$
- If an article is sold at a gain of say, 35%, then S.P. = 135% of C.P.
- If an article is sold at a loss of say, 35%, then S.P. = 65% of C.P.

## BOATS AND STREAMS

- Stream: Moving water of the river is called stream.
- Still Water: If the water is not moving then it is called still water.
- In water, the direction along the stream is called downstream.
- The direction against the stream is called upstream.
- If the speed of a boat in still water is  $u$  km/hr and the speed of the stream is  $v$  km/hr, then : Speed downstream =  $(u + v)$  km/hr , and Speed upstream  $(u - v)$  km/hr.
- If the speed downstream is  $a$  km/hr and the speed upstream is  $b$  km/hr, then: Speed in still water =  $1/2 (a + b)$  km/hr , and Rate of stream =  $1/2 (a - b)$  km/hr.

## VOLUME AND SURFACE AREA

I. CUBOID : Let length =  $l$ , breadth =  $b$  and height =  $h$  units. Then,

- Volume =  $(l \times b \times h)$  cubic units.
- Surface area =  $2 (lb + bh + lh)$

II. CUBE : Let each edge of a cube be of length  $a$ . Then,

- Volume =  $a^3$  cubic units.
- Surface area =  $6a^2$  sq. units.
- Diagonal =  $\sqrt{3} a$  units.

III. CYLINDER: Let radius of base =  $r$  and Height (or length) =  $h$  Then,

- Volume =  $(\pi r^2 h)$  cubic units.
- Curved surface area =  $(2\pi r h)$  sq. units.
- Total surface area =  $(2\pi r h + 2\pi r^2)$  sq. units =  $2\pi r (h + r)$  sq. units.

IV. CONE: Let radius of base =  $r$  and Height =  $h$ . Then,

- Slant height,  $l = \sqrt{h^2 + r^2}$  units.
- Volume =  $[1/3 \pi r^2 h]$  cubic units.
- Total surface area =  $(\pi r l + \pi r^2)$  sq. units.

V. SPHERE: Let the radius of the sphere be  $r$ . Then,

- Volume =  $[4/3 \pi r^3]$  cubic units.
- Surface area =  $(4\pi r^2)$  sq. units.

VI. HEMISPHERE: Let the radius of a hemisphere be  $r$ . Then,

- Volume =  $[2/3 \pi r^3]$  cubic units.
- Curved surface area =  $(3\pi r^2)$  sq. units.
- Total surface area =  $(3\pi r^2)$  sq. units.

**SIMPLE INTEREST:**

- Principal: The money borrowed or lent out for a certain period is called the principal of the sum.
- Interest: Extra money paid for using other's money is called interest.
- Simple Interest (S.I.): If the interest on a sum borrowed for a certain period is reckoned uniformly, then it is called simple interest.

Let Principal = P, Rate = R% per annum (p.a.) and Time = T years, Then,

$$(i) \text{ S.I.} = [P * R * T / 100]$$

$$(ii) P = [100 * \text{S.I.} / R * T]$$

$$R = [100 * \text{S.I.} / P * T] \text{ and } T = [100 * \text{S.I.} / P * R]$$

**Numbers:**

- Natural Numbers : Counting numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5,..... are called natural numbers.
- Whole Numbers: All counting numbers together with zero form the set of whole numbers. Thus, (i) 0 is the only whole number which is not a natural number. (ii) Every natural number is a whole number.
- Integers: All natural numbers, 0 and negatives of counting numbers i.e., {..., - 3, - 2, - 1, 0, 1, 2, 3,...} together form the set of integers.
  - Positive Integers: {1, 2, 3, 4, ...} is the set of all positive integers.
  - Negative Integers: {- 1, - 2, - 3,...} is the set of all negative integers.
  - Non-Positive and Non-Negative Integers: 0 is neither positive nor negative. So, {0, 1, 2, 3,...} represents the set of non-negative integers, while {0, - 1, - 2, - 3,.....} represents the set of non-positive integers.
- Even Numbers: A number divisible by 2 is called an even number, e.g., 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, etc.
- Odd Numbers: A number not divisible by 2 is called an odd number. e.g., 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, etc.
- Prime Numbers: A number greater than 1 is called a prime number, if it has exactly two factors, namely 1 and the number itself.  
Prime numbers upto 100 are: 2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19, 23, 29, 31, 37, 41, 43, 47, 53, 59, 61, 67, 71, 73, 79, 83, 89, and 97.
- Composite Numbers: Numbers greater than 1 which are not prime are known as composite numbers, e.g., 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 12.  
Note:
  - 1 is neither prime nor composite.
  - 2 is the only even number which is prime.
  - There are 25 prime numbers between 1 and 100.
- Co-primes : Two numbers a and b are said to be co-primes, if their H.C.F. is 1. e.g., (2, 3), (4, 5), (7, 9), (8, 11), etc. are co-primes.
- $(1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n) = n(n + 1) / 2$
- $(1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + n^2) = n(n + 1)(2n + 1) / 6$
- $(1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + \dots + n^3) = n^2(n + 1)^2 / 4$

$$(a + b)(a - b) = (a^2 - b^2)$$

$$(a + b)^2 = (a^2 + b^2 + 2ab)$$

$$(a - b)^2 = (a^2 + b^2 - 2ab)$$

$$(a + b + c)^2 = a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + 2(ab + bc + ca)$$

$$(a^3 + b^3) = (a + b)(a^2 - ab + b^2)$$

$$(a^3 - b^3) = (a - b)(a^2 + ab + b^2)$$

$$(a^3 + b^3 + c^3 - 3abc) = (a + b + c)(a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - ab - bc - ac)$$

$$\text{When } a + b + c = 0, \text{ then } a^3 + b^3 + c^3 = 3abc.$$

## SURDS AND INDICES

### 1. LAWS OF INDICES:

- $a^m \cdot a^n = a^{m+n}$
- $a^m / a^n = a^{m-n}$
- $(a^m)^n = a^{mn}$
- $(ab)^n = a^n b^n$
- $(a/b)^n = a^n / b^n$
- $a^0 = 1$

2. SURDS : Let  $a$  be rational number and  $n$  be a positive integer such that  $a^{(1/n)} = n\sqrt{a}$

### 3 LAWS OF SURDS :

- $n\sqrt{a} = a^{(1/n)}$
- $n\sqrt{ab} = n\sqrt{a} \times n\sqrt{b}$
- $n\sqrt{a/b} = n\sqrt{a} / n\sqrt{b}$
- $(n\sqrt{a})^n = a$

## PROBLEMS ON TRAINS

- $a \text{ km/hr} = [a \cdot 5/18] \text{ m/s}$ .
- $a \text{ m/s} = [a \cdot 18/5] \text{ km/hr}$ .
- Time taken by a train of length  $l$  metres to pass a pole or a standing man or a signal post is equal to the time taken by the train to cover  $l$  metres.
- Time taken by a train of length  $l$  metres to pass a stationary object of length  $b$  metres is the time taken by the train to cover  $(l + b)$  metres.
- Suppose two trains or two bodies are moving in the same direction at  $u \text{ m/s}$  and  $v \text{ m/s}$ , where  $u > v$ , then their relative speed =  $(u - v) \text{ m/s}$ .
- Suppose two trains or two bodies are moving in opposite directions at  $u \text{ m/s}$  and  $v \text{ m/s}$ , then their relative speed is =  $(u + v) \text{ m/s}$
- If two trains of length  $a$  metres and  $b$  metres are moving in opposite directions at  $u$
- If two trains of length  $a$  metres and  $b$  metres are moving in the same direction at  $u \text{ m/s}$  and  $v \text{ m/s}$ , then the time taken by the faster train to cross the slower train =  $(a + b)/(u - v) \text{ sec}$ .
- If two trains (or bodies) start at the same time from points  $A$  and  $B$  towards each other and after crossing they take  $a$  and  $b$  sec in reaching  $B$  and  $A$  respectively, then  $(A's \text{ speed}) : (B's \text{ speed}) = (\sqrt{b} : \sqrt{a})$ .





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