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SNAP 2009 Analysis

Overview:

Number of Questions	150
Number of Sections	4
Number of Options	4
Time	120 minutes
Marks Per Question	1 mark (120 Qs), 2 marks (30 Qs)
Negative Marking	25%

The pattern of SNAP 2009 was similar to that of SNAP 2007 with the distribution of questions as shown above. The sections were General English (40 Questions), Quantitative & Data Interpretation & Data Sufficiency (40 Questions), General Awareness: General Knowledge, Current Affairs, Business Scenario (40 Questions) and Analytical & Logical Reasoning (30 Questions).

Overall, the level of difficulty of the paper was less compared to last year. The paper was also small enough to complete in the allotted two hours.

There were no surprises as far as the types of questions are concerned. There were questions with ambiguity and no option that was correct. There were 4 Question Paper variants called J, K, L and M. The section order was different across all variants but the order of questions inside a section was same.

Section	Category	Total Questions	Ideal Attempts	Expected Cut-offs	Level of Difficulty
1	General English	40	30-32	23	Moderate
2	Quantitative & Data Interpretation & Data Sufficiency	40	30	18	Easy to Moderate
3	General Awareness: General Knowledge, Current Affairs, Business Scenario	40	Minimum 8	7	Moderate to Difficult
4	Analytical & Logical Reasoning	30	25	34	Easy to Moderate
	Total	**150**	**95**	**95+**	**Moderate**

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General English – 40 Questions

Learning Objectives	No of Questions	Topics	No of Questions
Noun and Pronoun Errors	1	Errors in Usage	13
Prepositional Errors	2		
Tense Errors	1		
Correct Incorrect Sentences	4		
Mark the Error	2		
Sentence Completion	2		
Faulty Construction	1		
Punctuation	2	Grammar	5
Parts of Speech	2		
Phrases and Clauses	1		
Word Usage	7	Vocabulary	12
Synonyms	3		
Antonyms	1		
Odd man Out	1		
Fill in the blanks	4	Verbal Reasoning	5
Jumbled Sentences	1		
Elimination Techniques	3	Reading Comprehension	3
Figures of Speech	2	Other verbal concepts	2
Total	40		40

The General English section was on the Easy to Moderate side. There were a few tricky questions that were best avoided in order to maximize the score. There were a lot of grammar questions which were asked in different ways – Fill in the Blanks, Match the Columns, Correct / Incorrect Sentences, etc. Compared to last years' SNAP's, which had a number of RC passages with reasonably long passages, there was only one short RC passage with 3 questions.

In general, a good time allocation for this section would have been 25 minutes and one could attempt at least 30 questions.

Quantitative & Data Interpretation & Data Sufficiency – 40 Questions

The question distribution was as follows.

Learning Objectives	No of Questions	Topics	No of Questions
Number Theory	1	Algebra	2
Number Systems	1		
Mixtures and Alligations	3	Arithmetic	12
Ratio and Proportion	1		
Percentages	4		
Interest and Growth Rates	1		
Time and Distance	1		
Time and Work	2		
Circles	1	Geometry	3
Mensuration	1		
Quadrilaterals and Other polygons	1		
Probability	2	Modern Maths	8
Sequences, Progressions and Series	1		
Permutations and Combinations	3		
Tables and Caselets	3	Data Interpretation	8
Charts and Diagrams	5		
Numerical Logic	3	Logical Reasoning	6
Venn Diagrams	2		
Miscellaneous	1		
Probability Distribution and Statistics	2	Other Topics	1
Visual Reasoning	1		
Total	**40**		**40**

Almost all the questions in this section were solvable in comparatively less time. There was no question that was difficult or unsolvable in the given time.

There were two questions which did not have the correct options. They were "*speed of boat upstream and downstream*" and the one on "*pass percentage of a class consisting of boy students and girl students*".

In general, a good time allocation for this section would have been 35 minutes and one could attempt around 30 questions.

General Awareness: General Knowledge, Current Affairs, Business Scenario - 40 Questions

This section was relatively easier as compared to previous years. It comprised 40 questions with questions from diverse topics.

One could attempt a minimum of 10-12 questions without guessing. A good time allocation for this section would have been 10-15 minutes. The questions were not amenable to easy elimination.

Analytical & Logical Reasoning - 30 Questions

The LR section was the most important section with the highest marks. Some of the questions on critical reasoning were more difficult (due to the fact that they quite involved and time consuming) as compared to other sections. Keeping in mind the marking scheme one should have devoted more time to this section. *Data Interpretation and Verbal Ability questions were also included in this section.*

The breakup of questions was as follows.

Learning Objectives	No of Questions	Topics	No of Questions
Charts and Diagram	7	Data Interpretation	11
Tables and Caselets	4		
Numeric Logic	3	Logical Reasoning	9
Miscellaneous	4		
Logical Conditions & Grouping	2		
Critical Reasoning	4	Critical Reasoning	4
Analogies	4	Verbal Reasoning	4
Visual Reasoning	2	Other Topics	2
Total	**30**		**30**

Many questions were solvable by looking at the options rather than working with the calculations. The caselets were easy and should have been solved on priority as the questions were easy. Once you spent time on understanding the data given, you could solve the entire set very quickly.

The caselet on *Airtel* was trickier compared to the other caselets. The single logical reasoning questions were also time consuming.

In general, a good time allocation for this section would have been 40 minutes and you should have attempted all the 30 questions.