

Preparing for The CCAT: Question Types

The Criteria Cognitive Aptitude Test, or CCAT, measures your ability to problem solve, use new information, and think critically. Below you will find examples of the types of question you'll answer, as well as some examples for you to work through. Just below the example we'll show you the answer, so if you don't want to spoil it for yourself, don't read ahead too quickly!

Verbal Questions

Communication is important. We want to be sure that you'll be able to communicate clearly with both co-workers and customers, whether you're emailing members of your team, giving a presentation, talking on the phone, or helping clients. The CCAT's verbal questions evaluate how well you can figure out a word's precise meaning, how words relate to one another, and what role context plays in your word choice.

Example CCAT Verbal Question

Choose the word that is most nearly OPPOSITE to the word in capital letters. LENGTHEN

- A. abdicate
- B. truncate
- C. elongate
- D. stifle
- E. resist

Maths & Logic Questions

Your numerical reasoning skills and your number sense are directly related to your ability to think critically and solve problems. The CCAT tests your basic algebra skills, ability to determine proportions, and work your way through word problems. There's no need to panic or whip out your old trigonometry and calculus flashcards! None of the questions require a calculator to figure out - put those mental math skills to work. Our interviews are quite unique in the fact that our Hiring Manager's do not see your CV during the process. It is easy to forget that the person interviewing you doesn't know much about your background at all and therefore it is important to think about your previous experiences and how you have demonstrated what we are looking for previously. This allows you to bring these experiences to life much more than us reading them in black

Example CCAT Maths Question

A group of 3 numbers has an average of 17. The first two numbers are 12 and 19. What is the third number?

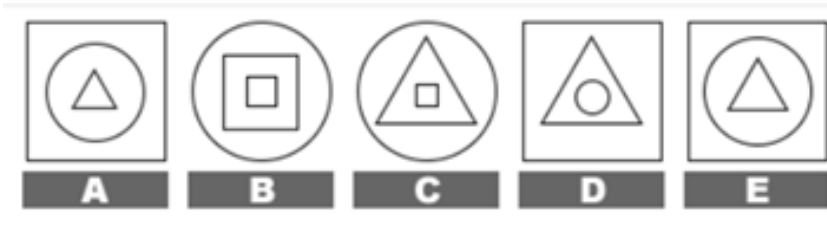
- A. 17
- B. 19
- C. 20
- D. 23
- E. 30

Spatial Reasoning Questions

While it may seem completely unrelated, spatial reasoning questions test your innate aptitude and how well you'll be able to learn, solve problems, and make use of new information correctly. Most jobs require some level of problem solving or critical thinking skills on a daily basis, so it makes sense that we are interested in assessing them. The CCAT will evaluate your spatial reasoning skills by having you rotate or flip images in your head, recognize patterns, and identify outliers.

Example CCAT Spatial Question

Which of the following does not belong?



Answers

Choose the word that is most nearly OPPOSITE to the word in capital letters. LENGTHEN

Correct Answer: B

Explanation: "Truncate" - which means to shorten or cut something off - is the best choice here as the opposite of "Lengthen." "Elongate" is a synonym of "Lengthen," and we're looking for antonyms. "Abdicate," "Stifle," and "Resist" all relate to stopping something in one way or another, but none of them refer to a physical dimension the way that both "Truncate" and "Elongate" do. Since you're looking for the opposite of lengthen, choose "Truncate."

A group of 3 numbers has an average of 17. The first two numbers are 12 and 19. What is the third number?

Correct Answer: C

Explanation: An average is the sum of all the numbers in a set, divided by the number of numbers in that set.

To figure this one out, set up a simple equation and solve for X:

$$(12 + 19 + X) \div 3 = 17$$

You want to isolate the X, so first multiply both sides by 3. $17 \times 3 = 51$, so the equation becomes:

$$(12 + 19 + X) = 51$$

Subtract both 12 and 19 from 51 to isolate the variable:

$$X = 20$$

Which of the following does not belong?

Correct Answer: B

Explanation: This is an outlier identification problem. To solve it, study all 5 options and see what they have in common. In this case, each choice has three shapes. What are those shapes? Each one contains a circle, a triangle, and a square. Except Choice B. Instead of a triangle, it has two squares. Since this is the only one that doubles up on shapes, it's the one that doesn't belong.