

Numerical Ability - Data Interpretation 1

The ability to interpret data presented in tables, graphs and charts is a common requirement in many management and professional jobs. If you are applying for a job which involves analysis of or decision-making based on numerical data then you can expect to have to answer data interpretation questions.

Data Interpretation		Operatives	Supervisory	Management
Craft & Technical				Y
Clerical & Administrative				Y
Police, Fire, Military etc.				
Management Trainee	Y			
Graduate & Professional	Y			

Data interpretation problems usually require two basic steps. First, you have to read a chart or graph in order to obtain certain information. Then you have to apply or manipulate the information in order to obtain an answer. These questions often use very specific illustrations, for example the question may present financial data. However, an understanding of finance will not be needed to answer the question.

Data Interpretation questions are very widely used to assessing candidates for graduate and management level jobs. Many people who have been out of the education system for a while or who don't use interpret graphs, pie charts, scatter diagrams and tables of data on a day-to-day basis may feel overawed by these types of question. The important thing to remember is that you don't need to have studied mathematics to a high level to succeed. These questions are primarily tests of interpretation and the math needed is invariably straightforward.

You will usually be allowed to use a calculator for these types of question and investing in one which can handle fractions and percentages is a good idea. You should also try to work through a few numerical computation practice papers to get back into swing of these types of calculation.

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25 Questions

Instructions: Answer as many questions as you can in 20 minutes. Circle the letter on the right which corresponds to the correct answer. You can use a calculator.

Motorcycle Sales (Model TT950)

Country	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Total
Germany	34	47	45	54	56	60	296
UK	40	44	36	47	47	46	260
France	37	32	32	32	34	33	200
Belgium	14	14	14	16	17	14	89
Spain	29	29	28	31	29	31	177
Italy	22	24	24	26	25	23	144
Total	176	190	179	206	208	207	1166

The table above shows the unit sales of the TT950 motorcycle in six European countries over a six month period. These motorcycles are imported into each country by a main dealer. Use this information to answer the following questions.

- 1) What percentage of the overall total was sold to the German importer?

A	B	C	D	E
22.0	25.4	25.8	24.1	24.6

A B C D E

- 2) What percentage of the overall total was sold in May?

A	B	C	D	E
24.1	25.6	27.1	17.9	20.3

A B C D E

- 3) Which month showed the biggest increase in total sales from the previous month?

A	B	C	D	E
Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun

A B C D E

- 4) What percentage of the monthly total was sold to the biggest importer in February?

A	B	C	D	E
24.7	23.1	36.5	51.1	15.1

A B C D E

- 5) What is the average number of units per month imported into Italy over the first four months of the year?

A	B	C	D	E
22	23	24	25	26

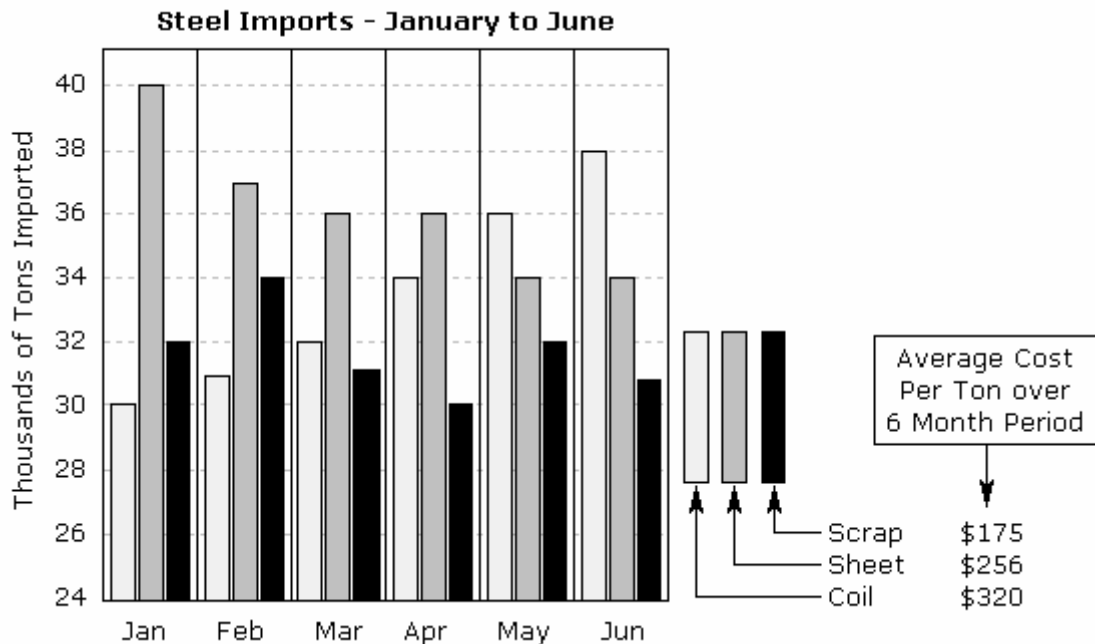
A B C D E

- 6) What percentage of total imports is accounted for by the three smallest importers?

A	B	C	D	E
37.1	14.8	40.0	36.6	35.1

A B C D E

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The table above shows imports for three types of steel over a six month period. Use this information to answer the following questions.

- 7) Which month showed the largest decrease in total imports over the previous month?

A	B	C	D	E
Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun

A B C D E

- 8) What was the total value of sheet steel (in \$) imported over the 6 month period?

A	B	C	D	E
56,750	75,300	55,550	42,370	44,750

A B C D E

- 9) What was the percentage of scrap steel imported in the 6 month period?

A	B	C	D	E
37.5	35.2	36.1	31.2	38.3

A B C D E

- 10) What was the difference (in thousands of tons) between coil steel and sheet steel imports in the first 3 months of the year?

A	B	C	D	E
10	16	18	19	20

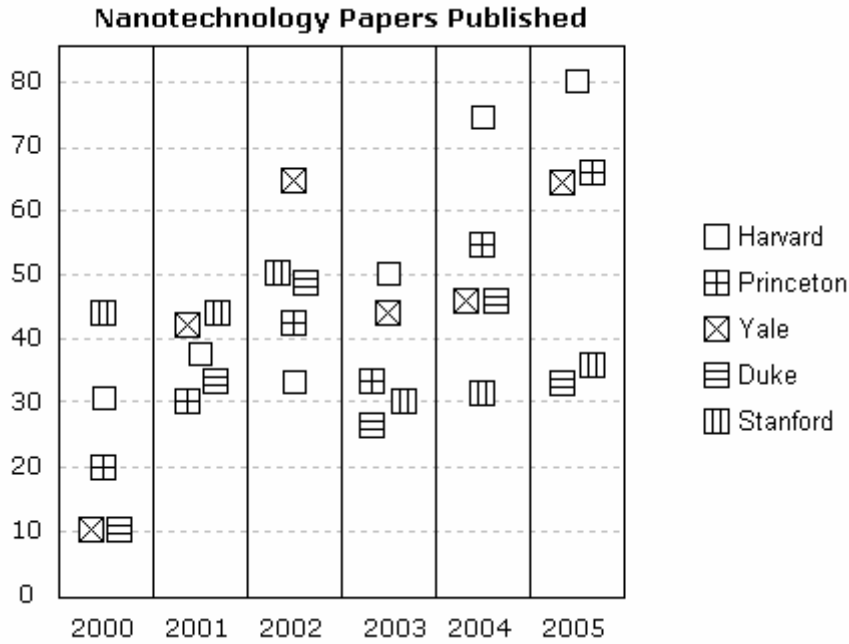
A B C D E

- 11) What was the approximate ratio of sheet steel and coil steel imports in the first 3 months of the year?

A	B	C	D	E
11:9	8:9	7:11	3:8	7:4

A B C D E

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The table above shows the number of nanotechnology papers published by leading US universities over a six year period. Use this information to answer the following questions.

- 12) How many papers were published by researchers at Yale in 2002?

A	B	C	D	E
50	55	60	65	70

A B C D E

- 13) In what year did researchers at Stanford publish most papers?

A	B	C	D	E
2000	2001	2002	2003	2004

A B C D E

- 14) In what year did researchers at Duke and Yale first publish the same number of papers?

A	B	C	D	E
2000	2001	2002	2003	2004

A B C D E

- 15) In what year did researchers at Princeton publish more papers than those at Harvard?

A	B	C	D	E
2000	2001	2002	2003	2004

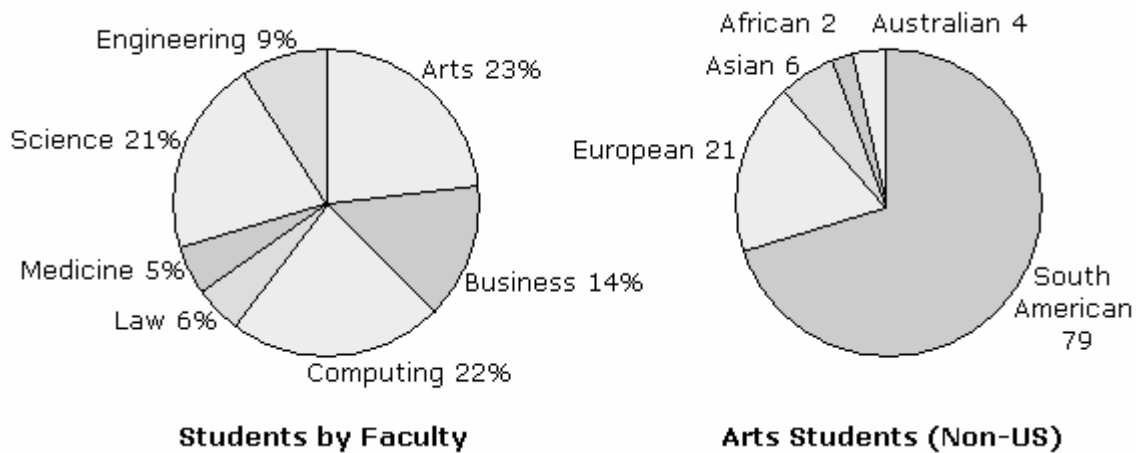
A B C D E

- 16) Which university published the second highest number of papers over the period?

A	B	C	D	E
Harv.	Prince	Yale	Duke	Stan.

A B C D E

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The pie charts above show the percentage of students in each faculty at North West University and the number of non-US students in the Arts faculty. These percentages have been rounded to the nearest whole number. There are a total of 1049 students in the Arts faculty. Use this information to answer the following questions.

17) What percentage of students in the Arts faculty are non-US students?

A	B	C	D	E
14%	9%	30%	11%	15%

A B C D E

18) How many students are there in the Engineering faculty?

A	B	C	D	E
420	410	390	440	400

A B C D E

19) How many students are there at the university?

A	B	C	D	E
4650	4560	4640	4450	4460

A B C D E

20) If six percent of Science students are Asian. How many Asian students are there studying Science?

A	B	C	D	E
48	66	120	57	43

A B C D E

21) There are 34 European medical students. What percentage of the faculty does this represent?

A	B	C	D	E
14%	18%	12%	16%	15%

A B C D E

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Age	15-20	21-30	31+
Classical	6	4	17
Pop	7	5	5
Rock	6	12	14
Jazz	1	4	11
Blues	2	3	15
Hip-Hop	9	3	4
Ambient	2	2	2
	33	33	68

The table above shows the number of people who responded to a survey about their favourite style of music. Use this information to answer the following questions to the nearest whole percentage.

- 22) What percentage of respondents under 31, indicated that Blues is their favourite style of music?

A	B	C	D	E
7.1	7.6	8.3	14.1	7.2

A B C D E

- 23) What percentage of respondents aged 21-30 indicated a favourite style other than Rock music?

A	B	C	D	E
64%	60%	75%	36%	46%

A B C D E

- 24) What percentage of the total sample indicated that Jazz is their favourite style of music?

A	B	C	D	E
6%	8%	22%	4%	11%

A B C D E

- 25) What percentage of the total sample were aged 21-30?

A	B	C	D	E
31%	23%	25%	14%	30%

A B C D E

End of Numerical Ability - Data Interpretation Test 1

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Answers

- | | | | | | |
|-----|----------|-----|----------|-----|----------|
| 1) | B | 11) | A | 21) | E |
| 2) | D | 12) | D | 22) | B |
| 3) | C | 13) | C | 23) | A |
| 4) | A | 14) | A | 24) | E |
| 5) | C | 15) | C | 25) | C |
| 6) | E | 16) | C | | |
| 7) | B | 17) | D | | |
| 8) | C | 18) | B | | |
| 9) | D | 19) | B | | |
| 10) | E | 20) | D | | |