DeducePuzzles

Number series questions with answers

15 exam-shaped questions with full worked solutions.
For IBPS · SBI · RRB · SSC reasoning.

Free, share it forward. Every question in this set was generated and verified by the DeducePuzzles engine — the same one behind the free daily puzzle round at **deducepuzzles.com**.

The questions

Work them on paper first. Full solutions start after question 15 — the numbering matches.

QUESTION 1

What number replaces the question mark?

3, 6, ?, 24, 48

A. 11
B. 12
C. 14
D. 10
E. 13

QUESTION 2

What number replaces the question mark?

6, 18, 54, 162, 486, ?

A. 1456
B. 1460
C. 1459
D. 1457
E. 1458

QUESTION 3

Find the wrong number in the series.

4, 12, 42, 132, 402, 1212

A. 4
B. 12
C. 42
D. 132
E. 402

QUESTION 4

Find the wrong number in the series.

8, 13, 20, 30, 40, 53

A. 8
B. 20
C. 30
D. 40
E. 53

QUESTION 5

Find the wrong number in the series.

7, 9, 10, 16, 21, 27

A. 7
B. 10
C. 16
D. 21
E. 27

QUESTION 6

What number replaces the question mark?

5, 7, ?, 13, 17, 19

A. 13
B. 12
C. 10
D. 11
E. 9

QUESTION 7

What number replaces the question mark?

3, 12, 21, ?, 39, 48

A. 32
B. 31
C. 30
D. 29
E. 28

QUESTION 8

What number replaces the question mark?

4, 9, 16, 25, 36, ?

A. 51
B. 50
C. 49
D. 48
E. 47

QUESTION 9

What number replaces the question mark?

33, 46, 61, ?, 97, 118

A. 78
B. 76
C. 79
D. 77
E. 80

QUESTION 10

Find the wrong number in the series.

4, 18, 60, 186, 566, 1698, 5100

A. 18
B. 60
C. 186
D. 566
E. 5100

QUESTION 11

What number replaces the question mark?

4, 8, 13, 19, 26, 34, ?

A. 43
B. 45
C. 44
D. 41
E. 42

QUESTION 12

Find the wrong number in the series.

3, 4, 7, 12, 18, 29

A. 3
B. 4
C. 12
D. 18
E. 29

QUESTION 13

What number replaces the question mark?

6, 24, 96, 384, 1536, ?

A. 6144
B. 6142
C. 6143
D. 6146
E. 6145

QUESTION 14

What number replaces the question mark?

16, ?, 36, 49, 64, 81

A. 27
B. 25
C. 26
D. 23
E. 24

QUESTION 15

Find the wrong number in the series.

13, 20, 29, 38, 53, 68

A. 20

B. 29

C. 38

D. 53

E. 68

Answers and worked solutions

Each walkthrough is the engine's own elimination order, step for step — not a reconstruction written after the fact.

SOLUTION 1

Answer: **12**

1. The rule is: geometric (constant ratio).
2. Consecutive ratios are constant: 6/3=2, 12/6=2, 24/12=2, 48/24=2.
3. Applying the rule, the value at the "?" is 12.

SOLUTION 2

Answer: **1458**

1. The rule is: geometric (constant ratio).
2. Consecutive ratios are constant: 18/6=3, 54/18=3, 162/54=3, 486/162=3, 1458/486=3.
3. Applying the rule, the value at the "?" is 1458.

SOLUTION 3

Answer: **4**

1. The rule is: ×k then +c (multiply then add).
2. Each term comes from the previous term by the same multiply-then-add operation.
3. Every term fits that rule except the 1st term: the rule gives 2 there, but the series shows 4.
4. So the wrong number is 4; it should be 2.

SOLUTION 4

Answer: **30**

1. The rule is: increasing differences (differences in arithmetic progression).
2. Consecutive differences are 5, 7, 9, 11, 13; those differences themselves follow an arithmetic pattern.
3. Every term fits that rule except the 4th term: the rule gives 29 there, but the series shows 30.
4. So the wrong number is 30; it should be 29.

SOLUTION 5

Answer: **10**

1. The rule is: increasing differences (differences in arithmetic progression).
2. Consecutive differences are 2, 3, 4, 5, 6; those differences themselves follow an arithmetic pattern.
3. Every term fits that rule except the 3rd term: the rule gives 12 there, but the series shows 10.
4. So the wrong number is 10; it should be 12.

SOLUTION 6

Answer: **11**

1. The rule is: consecutive prime numbers.
2. The terms are consecutive prime numbers in order.
3. Applying the rule, the value at the "?" is 11.

SOLUTION 7

Answer: **30**

1. The rule is: arithmetic (constant difference).
2. Consecutive differences are constant: 9, 9, 9, 9, 9.
3. Applying the rule, the value at the "?" is 30.

SOLUTION 8

Answer: **49**

1. The rule is: consecutive perfect squares.
2. The terms are consecutive perfect squares.
3. Applying the rule, the value at the "?" is 49.

SOLUTION 9

Answer: **78**

1. The rule is: perfect squares (with constant offset).
2. Compare the terms with consecutive perfect squares; the same constant offset is applied throughout.
3. Applying the rule, the value at the "?" is 78.

SOLUTION 10

Answer: **566**

1. The rule is: ×k then +c (multiply then add).
2. Each term comes from the previous term by the same multiply-then-add operation.
3. Every term fits that rule except the 5th term: the rule gives 564 there, but the series shows 566.
4. So the wrong number is 566; it should be 564.

SOLUTION 11

Answer: **43**

1. The rule is: increasing differences (differences in arithmetic progression).
2. Consecutive differences are 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9; those differences themselves follow an arithmetic pattern.
3. Applying the rule, the value at the "?" is 43.

SOLUTION 12

Answer: **12**

1. The rule is: Fibonacci-like (each term is the sum of the previous two).
2. From the third term onward, each term equals the sum of the previous two terms.
3. Every term fits that rule except the 4th term: the rule gives 11 there, but the series shows 12.
4. So the wrong number is 12; it should be 11.

SOLUTION 13

Answer: **6144**

1. The rule is: geometric (constant ratio).
2. Consecutive ratios are constant: 24/6=4, 96/24=4, 384/96=4, 1536/384=4, 6144/1536=4.
3. Applying the rule, the value at the "?" is 6144.

SOLUTION 14

Answer: **25**

1. The rule is: consecutive perfect squares.
2. The terms are consecutive perfect squares.
3. Applying the rule, the value at the "?" is 25.

SOLUTION 15

Answer: **38**

1. The rule is: perfect squares (with constant offset).
2. Compare the terms with consecutive perfect squares; the same constant offset is applied throughout.
3. Every term fits that rule except the 4th term: the rule gives 40 there, but the series shows 38.
4. So the wrong number is 38; it should be 40.

One round a day beats one set a month.

A worked set teaches the shape; a clock teaches the speed. DeducePuzzles serves a free timed round every day, with a streak, a leaderboard and the full walkthrough after every round.

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