ACCENTURE

Cognitive & Technical Assessment

Questions and Answers | Practice Bank

Compiled from the Payilagam blog. These are practice questions written in the style candidates report; they are not actual Accenture exam questions.

Source: https://payilagam.com/blogs/accenture-cognitive-and-technical-questions/

1. Cognitive Assessment

1. A sequence shows ★, ▲, ●, ■, ★, ▲. Which symbol appears immediately after the first triangle?

A. ★
B. ●
C. ■
D. ▲
Answer: B. ●

2. A number is multiplied by 4 and then reduced by 6. If the original number is 8, what is the final value?

A. 24
B. 26
C. 28
D. 32
Answer: 26. (8 × 4 = 32; 32 – 6 = 26). The source's answer letter is inconsistent with its options; 26 is option B.

3. Find the next number in the sequence: 3, 6, 12, 24, ?

A. 36
B. 42
C. 48
D. 54
Answer: C. 48

4. A person moves two steps north, one step east, and then two steps south. Where is the person compared with the starting point?

A. One step west
B. One step east
C. Two steps north
D. Two steps south
Answer: B. One step east

5. Which option is different from the others?

A. ABX29
B. ABX29
C. ABX92
D. ABX29
Answer: C. ABX92

6. You are given several pieces of information, but only one directly answers the problem. What should you do first?

A. Select the longest option
B. Choose an answer immediately
C. Identify the information relevant to the problem
D. Ignore the instructions
Answer: C. Identify the information relevant to the problem

7. Find the next number: 2, 5, 10, 17, 26?

A. 35
B. 36
C. 37
D. 38
Answer: C. 37. Differences are 3, 5, 7, 9; the next difference is 11.

8. Find the next pair: AZ, BY, CX, ?

A. DW
B. DV
C. EW
D. CW
Answer: A. DW. The first letter moves forward and the second moves backward.

9. All analysts attend the Monday review. Ravi attends the Monday review. Which statement is correct?

A. Ravi is an analyst
B. Ravi may or may not be an analyst
C. Ravi is not an analyst
D. Only Ravi attends the review
Answer: B. Ravi may or may not be an analyst. Attending the review does not prove someone is an analyst.

2. Logical Reasoning

1. A project guideline states that reports must be reviewed before submission. A team member submits a report without review. What is the main logical issue?

A. The report format may be incorrect
B. The review step was skipped
C. The deadline was unclear
D. The task was unnecessary
Answer: B. The review step was skipped

2. During an assessment, a candidate reads a question quickly and selects an answer without checking all options. Which cognitive skill is missing?

A. Memory
B. Speed
C. Attention to detail
D. Calculation
Answer: C. Attention to detail

3. A company rule allows system access only after approval. An employee tries to access the system without approval. What should logically happen?

A. Access should be granted temporarily
B. Access should be denied
C. Access should depend on seniority
D. Access should be reviewed later
Answer: B. Access should be denied

4. Two tasks must be completed in sequence. Task B depends on Task A. What happens if Task B is started first?

A. Work becomes faster
B. No impact on the outcome
C. Errors are likely to occur
D. Task A becomes optional
Answer: C. Errors are likely to occur

5. A candidate finishes a test very quickly but has low accuracy. What does this indicate?

A. Strong subject knowledge
B. Poor time management
C. Guess-based answering
D. High confidence level
Answer: C. Guess-based answering

6. Instructions mention that only updated data should be used. A candidate answers using old data. What reasoning mistake was made?

A. Calculation error
B. Ignoring instructions
C. Lack of subject knowledge
D. Overthinking
Answer: B. Ignoring instructions

3. Networking

1. Which OSI layer is responsible for routing packets between networks?

A. Data link
B. Network
C. Transport
D. Application
Answer: B. Network (Layer 3)

2. Which service translates a domain name such as payilagam.com into an IP address?

A. DHCP
B. FTP
C. DNS
D. SMTP
Answer: C. DNS

3. What is the default port for HTTPS?

A. 21
B. 80
C. 443
D. 8080
Answer: C. 443

4. Which protocol is connectionless?

A. TCP
B. UDP
C. HTTP
D. FTP
Answer: B. UDP

5. How many bits are in an IPv4 address?

A. 16
B. 32
C. 64
D. 128
Answer: B. 32

4. Cloud Computing

1. Which cloud service model gives you virtual machines and storage that you manage yourself?

A. SaaS
B. PaaS
C. IaaS
D. DaaS
Answer: C. IaaS

2. Gmail is an example of which model?

A. IaaS
B. PaaS
C. SaaS
D. On-premises
Answer: C. SaaS

3. A company runs some systems in its own data centre and others on a public cloud. This is called:

A. Public cloud
B. Hybrid cloud
C. Community cloud
D. Local cloud
Answer: B. Hybrid cloud

4. Which cloud feature lets resources scale up or down automatically with demand?

A. Elasticity
B. Encryption
C. Replication
D. Virtualisation only
Answer: A. Elasticity

5. Security / Cybersecurity

1. An email that pretends to be your bank and asks for your password is an example of:

A. Phishing
B. Spooling
C. Caching
D. Routing
Answer: A. Phishing

2. Which is the strongest account-protection practice?

A. One password for all sites
B. A long unique password plus multi-factor authentication
C. A short password changed daily
D. Sharing passwords with the team
Answer: B. A long unique password plus multi-factor authentication

3. What does a firewall do?

A. Speeds up the internet
B. Monitors and filters network traffic using rules
C. Stores backups
D. Compresses files
Answer: B. Monitors and filters network traffic using rules

4. In an SQL injection attack, an attacker:

A. Floods a server with traffic
B. Inserts malicious SQL through an input field
C. Steals a phone
D. Guesses a Wi-Fi password
Answer: B. Inserts malicious SQL through an input field

6. MS Office

1. Which Excel function adds the values in a range?

A. COUNT
B. SUM
C. MAX
D. AVERAGE
Answer: B. SUM

2. Which Excel function looks up a value in the first column of a table and returns a value from another column?

A. VLOOKUP
B. SUMIF
C. CONCAT
D. ROUND
Answer: A. VLOOKUP

3. Which Word feature creates a list of headings with page numbers automatically?

A. Mail merge
B. Table of contents
C. Track changes
D. Spell check
Answer: B. Table of contents

4. Which shortcut undoes the last action in Word and Excel?

A. Ctrl + Y
B. Ctrl + Z
C. Ctrl + S
D. Ctrl + P
Answer: B. Ctrl + Z

7. Quantitative Aptitude

1. If the price of a product is 20% higher than its cost price, what is the selling price when the cost price is ■500?

A. ■550
B. ■600
C. ■520
D. ■480
Answer: B. ■600

2. A student scores 45 marks out of 60. What is the percentage obtained?

A. 65%
B. 70%
C. 75%
D. 80%
Answer: C. 75%

3. If a number is increased by 10 and becomes 35, what is the original number?

A. 15
B. 20
C. 25
D. 30
Answer: C. 25

4. The average of 4 numbers is 30. What is the total of these numbers?

A. 100
B. 110
C. 120
D. 130
Answer: C. 120

5. A worker completes a task in 5 days. How much work does the worker complete in one day?

A. 1/2
B. 1/3
C. 1/4
D. 1/5
Answer: D. 1/5

6. If the ratio of boys to girls in a class is 3:2 and there are 30 students in total, how many girls are there?

A. 10
B. 12
C. 15
D. 18
Answer: B. 12

8. Technical Assessment – Programming Fundamentals

1. Select the main purpose of a loop in programming.

A. To store data
B. To repeat a set of instructions
C. To compare values
D. To stop program execution
Answer: B. To repeat a set of instructions

2. Which of the following best describes a variable?

A. A fixed value
B. A condition
C. A storage location for data
D. A program error
Answer: C. A storage location for data

3. What is the use of a conditional statement in a program?

A. Runs code again and again
B. Stores multiple values
C. Makes decisions based on conditions
D. Ends the program
Answer: C. Makes decisions based on conditions

4. Which symbol is commonly used to assign a value to a variable?

A. ==
B. !=
C. =
D. >=
Answer: C. =

5. What is the purpose of pseudocode?

A. To write final program code
B. To explain logic in simple language
C. To test software performance
D. To find system errors
Answer: B. To explain logic in simple language

6. Which skill is most important while solving technical questions in the assessment?

A. Memorising syntax
B. Writing long code
C. Clear logical thinking
D. Fast typing speed
Answer: C. Clear logical thinking

7. Which situation best shows correct technical understanding?

A. Writing code without testing
B. Understanding why an error occurs
C. Memorising syntax only
D. Skipping logic to save time
Answer: B. Understanding why an error occurs

8. What is the main reason companies include technical assessment questions?

A. To test typing speed
B. To check use of shortcuts
C. To evaluate problem-solving ability
D. To test memory power
Answer: C. To evaluate problem-solving ability

9. Which skill is most important when answering technical questions?

A. Guessing quickly
B. Copying known solutions
C. Clear understanding of basics
D. Writing long explanations
Answer: C. Clear understanding of basics

10. If a system behaves unexpectedly, what should be the first technical step?

A. Ignore the issue
B. Restart immediately
C. Identify the cause
D. Change the requirement
Answer: C. Identify the cause

11. What does a programmer mainly look for when reading someone else's code?

A. Number of lines
B. Variable names only
C. Logic and flow
D. Speed of execution
Answer: C. Logic and flow

12. If a program produces incorrect output, what should be checked first?

A. Output format
B. Logic used in conditions
C. Comments in code
D. Program length
Answer: B. Logic used in conditions

13. Why is breaking a problem into smaller steps helpful while coding?

A. It increases code size
B. It avoids testing
C. It makes logic easier to manage
D. It removes errors automatically
Answer: C. It makes logic easier to manage

14. What does consistent output from a program usually indicate?

A. The input is ignored
B. The logic is stable
C. The program is incomplete
D. The code is outdated
Answer: B. The logic is stable

9. Pseudocode / Output Questions

1. What is the output?

```
x = 5
y = 3
x = x + y
y = x - y
x = x - y
print x, y
```

A. 5 3
B. 3 5
C. 8 3
D. 8 5
Answer: B. 3 5. The values are swapped without a third variable.

2. What is the output?

```
sum = 0
for i = 1 to 5
    if i mod 2 == 0
        sum = sum + i
print sum
```

A. 6
B. 9
C. 10
D. 15
Answer: A. 6 (2 + 4).

3. What is the output?

```
n = 5
fact = 1
while n > 1
    fact = fact * n
    n = n - 1
print fact
```

A. 24
B. 60
C. 120
D. 720

Answer: C. 120.

4. Using integer division, what is the output?

```
a = 17
b = 5
print a / b
print a mod b
```

A. 3 and 2
B. 3 and 3
C. 3.4 and 2
D. 2 and 3

Answer: A. 3 and 2.

5. What is the output?

```
count = 0
for i = 1 to 4
    for j = 1 to i
        count = count + 1
print count
```

A. 4
B. 8
C. 10
D. 16

Answer: C. 10 (1 + 2 + 3 + 4).

6. What is the output? (Array index starts at 0)

```
arr = [4, 9, 2, 7]
max = arr[0]
for i = 1 to 3
    if arr[i] > max
        max = arr[i]
print max
```

A. 4
B. 7
C. 9
D. 2

Answer: C. 9.

7. What is the output?

```
s = 'CODE'
result = ''
for i = length(s) - 1 down to 0
    result = result + s[i]
print result
```

A. CODE
B. EDOC
C. DOCE
D. EOCD

Answer: B. EDOC.

8. What does f(5) return?

```
function f(n)
    if n <= 1
        return 1
```

```
    return f(n - 1) + f(n - 2)
```

A. 5
B. 8
C. 10
D. 13
Answer: B. 8. f(2)=2, f(3)=3, f(4)=5, f(5)=8.

10. Java Questions

1. In a Java program, which situation can cause the program to stop unexpectedly?

A. Declaring a variable
B. Dividing a number by zero
C. Printing a message
D. Using comments
Answer: B. Dividing a number by zero

2. Why is Java considered platform independent?

A. It runs only on Windows
B. It uses machine-specific code
C. It runs using the Java Virtual Machine
D. It does not need compilation
Answer: C. It runs using the Java Virtual Machine

3. What happens if a Java variable is declared but not used?

A. Program crashes
B. Program gives an error
C. Program runs normally
D. Compilation stops
Answer: C. Program runs normally

11. Python Questions

1. What will Python do if indentation is incorrect in a program?

A. Ignore indentation
B. Automatically fix it
C. Show an error
D. Run the program slowly
Answer: C. Show an error

2. Why is Python easy for beginners?

A. It uses complex symbols
B. It avoids logical structure
C. It has readable and simple syntax
D. It does not support logic
Answer: C. It has readable and simple syntax

3. What is the purpose of comments in Python code?

A. To change output
B. To improve execution speed
C. To explain code for understanding
D. To remove errors
Answer: C. To explain code for understanding

12. Coding Questions with Answers

1. Palindrome check

Given a string, return true if it reads the same forwards and backwards, ignoring case, spaces and punctuation. Examples: 'Madam' → true; 'A man, a plan, a canal: Panama' → true; 'Payilagam' → false.

```
def is_palindrome(s):
    t = ''.join(ch.lower() for ch in s if ch.isalnum())
```

```
    return t == t[::-1]
```

Answer: Answer: The function returns True for a palindrome and False otherwise.

2. First non-repeating character

Given a string, return the first character that appears only once, or -1 if there is none. Examples: 'swiss' → 'w'; 'aabb' → -1.

```
from collections import Counter

def first_non_repeating(s):
    count = Counter(s)
    for ch in s:
        if count[ch] == 1:
            return ch
    return -1
```

Answer: Answer: Returns the first character with a frequency of one; returns -1 if no such character exists.

3. Second largest distinct number

Given an array, return the second largest distinct value, or -1 if it does not exist. Examples: [12, 35, 1, 10, 34, 1] → 34; [5, 5] → -1.

```
def second_largest(arr):
    unique = sorted(set(arr))
    return unique[-2] if len(unique) >= 2 else -1
```

Answer: Answer: Returns the second largest distinct number, or -1 when fewer than two distinct values exist.

13. Previous-Year Style Questions

1. Why do many candidates review previous Accenture assessment papers?

A. To memorise exact questions
B. To understand the exam structure
C. To skip preparation
D. To predict interview results
Answer: B. To understand the exam structure

2. From previous Accenture assessments, which section has appeared consistently?

A. Essay writing
B. Logical and aptitude-based questions
C. Advanced system design
D. Hardware troubleshooting
Answer: B. Logical and aptitude-based questions

3. What do previous Accenture exams suggest about the difficulty level?

A. Always very difficult
B. Always very easy
C. Mostly moderate and manageable
D. Completely unpredictable
Answer: C. Mostly moderate and manageable

4. What is the safest way to use questions from previous Accenture exams?

A. Memorise answers
B. Ignore current syllabus
C. Understand the type of questions asked
D. Focus only on technical topics
Answer: C. Understand the type of questions asked

5. Based on past exams, what skill does Accenture mainly test through aptitude questions?

A. Formula memorisation
B. Speed typing
C. Basic numerical understanding
D. Advanced mathematics
Answer: C. Basic numerical understanding

6. Why should candidates not depend fully on previous exam questions?

A. They are confidential
B. Exact repetition is uncommon
C. They are too difficult
D. The exam has no pattern
Answer: B. Exact repetition is uncommon

14. Mock Test Questions

1. What is the main benefit of taking an Accenture mock test?

A. Learning new programming languages
B. Experiencing the real exam environment
C. Skipping syllabus topics
D. Reducing preparation time
Answer: B. Experiencing the real exam environment

2. When should a candidate ideally start taking mock tests?

A. Only one day before the exam
B. After completing basic preparation
C. Without studying any topic
D. After the interview round
Answer: B. After completing basic preparation

3. What does a mock test help identify most effectively?

A. College ranking
B. Weak and strong areas
C. Final selection result
D. Interview questions
Answer: B. Weak and strong areas

4. How is a test series different from a single mock test?

A. It includes only technical questions
B. It offers repeated practice over time
C. It replaces the actual exam
D. It removes time limits
Answer: B. It offers repeated practice over time

5. What improvement does a well-planned test series bring?

A. Faster guessing
B. Better time management
C. Fewer syllabus topics
D. Automatic selection
Answer: B. Better time management

6. Why should candidates review mock test results carefully?

A. To compare scores with others
B. To memorise answers
C. To understand mistakes and improve
D. To skip difficult sections
Answer: C. To understand mistakes and improve

15. SQL Questions

Use the Employees table:

emp_id	name	dept	salary
1	Anu	IT	50000
2	Ravi	IT	65000
3	Meena	HR	40000

4	Karthik	HR	45000
5	Divya	Finance	70000
6	Suresh	IT	65000

SQL 1: Find the highest salary in each department.

```
SELECT dept, MAX(salary) AS highest_salary
FROM Employees
GROUP BY dept;
```

Answer / Result: Finance – 70000; HR – 45000; IT – 65000.

SQL 2: Find the second highest salary.

```
SELECT MAX(salary) AS second_highest
FROM Employees
WHERE salary < (SELECT MAX(salary) FROM Employees);
```

Answer / Result: 65000.

16. Behavioral Assessment – Practice Scenarios

1. A teammate misses a deadline and your work depends on it.

Answer: Talk to the teammate early, offer help, and inform your lead if the delay could affect delivery.

2. You receive unclear instructions.

Answer: Ask a clarifying question before starting, so you do not build the wrong thing.

3. You disagree with a team decision.

Answer: Share your reasoning calmly with evidence, then support the final decision.

4. You have several urgent tasks.

Answer: Prioritise by impact and deadline, and tell the people affected what you will do first.

Note

These questions are practice material from the Payilagam article, not actual Accenture exam questions. The assessment pattern, question count and timing may vary by role and hiring drive. Follow the instructions in your assessment invitation.

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