SBI SCO Recruitment 2026 Form: Last Date 10 Dec

Comprehensive revision pack for SBI SCO 2026 IT Officer exam. Covers core CS/IT topics, professional knowledge, ...

1. EXAM / NOTIFICATION KEY FACTS & DATES

Conducting Body	Institute of Banking Personnel Selection (IBPS)
Post / Course Name	Specialist Cadre Officer
Minimum Qualification	B.E./B.Tech
Application Start Date	20 Nov 2026
Last Date to Apply	10 Dec 2026
Selection Process	Online Written Test / Shortlisting followed by Personal Interview
Exam Mode & Duration	Online CBT Mode, 120 to 150 Minutes total duration
Key Subjects	Professional Knowledge (IT/CS), Reasoning, Quantitative Aptitude, English
Negative Marking	0.25 marks deducted per wrong answer in objective paper

2. 4-STEP SMART PREPARATION PLAN

1. Phase 1: Master core CS concepts including DBMS, Computer Networks, OS, Data Structures, and Software Engineering thoroughly.
2. Phase 2: Memorize golden formulas, network subnetting shortcuts, SQL syntax rules, and quantitative aptitude tricks.
3. Phase 3: Solve professional knowledge domain-specific previous year questions (PYQs) under timed examination conditions.
4. Phase 4: Attempt full-length mock tests, analyze weak technical areas, and revise high-weightage IT topics before deadline.

3. SAMPLE GOLDEN SHORTCUTS & FORMULAS

* Shortcut 1 (IPv4 Host Count): Usable hosts per subnet = 2^(32 - Subnet_CIDR) - 2.
* Shortcut 2 (Tree Traversal): Inorder traversal of any Binary Search Tree (BST) is ALWAYS sorted in strictly ascending order.
* Shortcut 3 (Handshake / Complete Graph Edges): Total edges in complete graph K_n or total handshakes among n people = n * (n - 1) / 2.
* Shortcut 4 (Page Table Size Formula): Page Table Size = (Virtual Address Space / Page Size) * Page Table Entry (PTE) size.

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4. TOP 10 HIGH-WEIGHTAGE SYLLABUS TOPICS (QUICK SUMMARY)

1. Database Management Systems (DBMS & SQL)
Weightage: High (6-8 Qs)

DBMS core concepts carry major weightage in SBI SCO exams. Focus on ER diagrams, Relational Algebra, and Normalization up to BCNF and 4NF. Understand ACID properties, transaction concurrency control, protocols like Tw...

2. Computer Networks & IP Addressing
Weightage: High (6-8 Qs)

Computer Networks is essential for IT Officer positions. Master the OSI 7-layer model and TCP/IP protocol suite along with functions of each layer. Calculate IPv4 subnetting, classful/classless IP addresses, CIDR nota...

3. Operating Systems & Process Synchronization
Weightage: High (5-7 Qs)

Focus heavily on process state transitions, thread models, and CPU scheduling algorithms such as FCFS, SJF, Round Robin, and Priority Scheduling. Study process synchronization mechanisms including Semaphores, Mutex lo...

4. Data Structures & Algorithms
Weightage: High (5-7 Qs)

Core programming logic is tested through Data Structures. Revise Arrays, Stacks, Queues, Linked Lists, Binary Trees, Binary Search Trees (BST), AVL Trees, and Heaps. Master tree traversals (Inorder, Preorder, Postorde...

5. Software Engineering & Agile Methodology
Weightage: Medium (4-5 Qs)

Software engineering models like Waterfall, Spiral, V-Model, and Agile (Scrum framework) appear frequently in banking IT exams. Revise Software Requirement Specification (SRS), Requirement Engineering, Function Point ...

6. Object-Oriented Programming (C++ & Java)
Weightage: Medium (4-5 Qs)

OOP principles form the backbone of modern development roles. Focus on Encapsulation, Abstraction, Inheritance (Single, Multiple, Multilevel, Hierarchical), and Polymorphism (Compile-time function overloading vs Run-t...

7. Cyber Security & Cryptography
Weightage: High (5-6 Qs)

Given banking security standards, Cyber Security is heavily tested. Understand Symmetric Encryption (AES, DES) and Asymmetric Encryption (RSA algorithm, Diffie-Hellman key exchange). Study Hashing algorithms (MD5, SHA...

8. Web Technologies & Cloud Computing
Weightage: Medium (3-4 Qs)

Covers HTML5, CSS3, JavaScript basics, DOM manipulation, JSON, and XML structures. Study HTTP request methods (GET, POST, PUT, DELETE) and standard HTTP status codes (200 OK, 301 Moved, 404 Not Found, 500 Server Error...

9. System Software & Compiler Design
Weightage: Medium (3-4 Qs)

Focus on phases of a compiler: Lexical Analysis, Syntax Analysis (Parsing), Semantic Analysis, Intermediate Code Generation, Code Optimization, and Code Generation. Understand Lexical Analyzer tokens, Regular Expressi...

10. Data Warehousing & Big Data Concepts
Weightage: Low (2-3 Qs)

Data Architecture questions often feature in banking IT papers. Revise Data Warehouse architecture, OLTP vs OLAP operations, Star Schema, Snowflake Schema, and Fact Constellation Schema. Understand ETL process (Extrac...

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5. 10 SAMPLE EXAM-STYLE PRACTICE MCQS (WITH ANSWERS)

Q1. In a relational database, if functional dependencies are A -> B and B -> C, which normal form is violated if C is a non-prime attribute and A is the candidate key?
(A) First Normal Form (1NF) (B) Second Normal Form (2NF) (C) Third Normal Form (3NF) (D) Boyce-Codd Normal Form (BCNF)
Ans: (C) | A -> B and B -> C implies transitive dependency A -> C. A relation with non-prime attribute C transitively dependent on candidate key A violates 3NF.

Q2. What is the broadcast address for an IP address 192.168.10.35 with a subnet mask of 255.255.255.224 (/27)?
(A) 192.168.10.31 (B) 192.168.10.63 (C) 192.168.10.255 (D) 192.168.10.127
Ans: (B) | Subnet size is 2^(32-27) = 32. Subnet ranges are 0-31, 32-63. For IP 35, it falls in block 32-63. Broadcast address is the last IP in block = 192.168.10.63.

Q3. Which CPU scheduling algorithm may suffer from the Convoy Effect?
(A) Round Robin (B) First-Come, First-Served (FCFS) (C) Shortest Remaining Time First (SRTF) (D) Priority Scheduling (Preemptive)
Ans: (B) | FCFS suffers from Convoy Effect where smaller processes wait for a long CPU-bound process to release CPU.

Q4. What is the worst-case time complexity of Quick Sort algorithm?
(A) O(N log N) (B) O(N) (C) O(N^2) (D) O(log N)
Ans: (C) | When the array is already sorted and pivot selected is smallest/largest, Quick Sort degrades to O(N^2) complexity.

Q5. In Software Engineering, which testing technique evaluates internal code structures, paths, and logic flow?
(A) Black Box Testing (B) White Box Testing (C) Acceptance Testing (D) System Testing
Ans: (B) | White Box Testing inspects internal code structure, control flow, and branch path coverage.

Q6. Which OOP concept allows a function or operator to act differently based on the data types of arguments provided?
(A) Encapsulation (B) Polymorphism (C) Inheritance (D) Abstraction
Ans: (B) | Polymorphism (specifically function overloading) permits a single method name to behave differently according to argument types.

Q7. In asymmetric cryptography using the RSA algorithm, if p = 3 and q = 11, what is the value of Euler's totient function phi(n)?
(A) 33 (B) 20 (C) 30 (D) 24
Ans: (B) | Euler totient phi(n) = (p - 1) * (q - 1) = (3 - 1) * (11 - 1) = 2 * 10 = 20.

Q8. Which of the following SQL commands is classified as a Data Definition Language (DDL) command?
(A) UPDATE (B) DELETE (C) TRUNCATE (D) SELECT
Ans: (C) | TRUNCATE removes all rows and resets storage layout, acting as a DDL command, whereas UPDATE and DELETE are DML.

Q9. Which layer of the OSI model is responsible for end-to-end communication and flow control using port numbers?
(A) Network Layer (B) Data Link Layer (C) Transport Layer (D) Session Layer
Ans: (C) | Transport Layer (TCP/UDP) handles process-to-process delivery, end-to-end reliability, and uses port numbers.

Q10. A system has 4 processes and 7 units of a single resource type. If each process needs maximum 2 units, can a deadlock occur?
(A) Yes, always (B) No, deadlock cannot occur (C) Yes, if processes run concurrently (D) Cannot be determined
Ans: (B) | Condition for deadlock-free: Total Resources >= Sum(Max_i - 1) + 1. Here Sum = 4 * (2 - 1) + 1 = 5. Since 7 >= 5, deadlock will NEVER occur.

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