SSC CGL Tier 1 Answer Key 2026 Out: Download Response Sheet

This comprehensive E-Book provides high-yield revision topics, shortcut formulas, and previous year solved quest...

1. EXAM / NOTIFICATION KEY FACTS & DATES

Post / Course Name	SSC Combined Graduate Level (CGL) Tier-I Posts
Minimum Qualification	Graduate
Exam Date	30 Sep 2026
Selection Process	Tier-1 (Computer Based Test - Qualifying) followed by Tier-2 (Merit Selecti...
Exam Mode & Duration	Online CBT Mode, Total Duration 60 Minutes (100 Objective Questions, 200 To...
Key Subjects	Quantitative Aptitude, General Intelligence & Reasoning, English Comprehens...
Negative Marking	0.50 marks deducted for every incorrect response in the Tier-1 examination.

2. 4-STEP SMART PREPARATION PLAN

1. Phase 1: Master core concepts in Quantitative Aptitude, English Grammar, Reasoning patterns, and GS static topics.
2. Phase 2: Solve chapter-wise SSC CGL Previous Year Questions (PYQs) from 2020 to 2025 to spot repeating patterns.
3. Phase 3: Attempt full-length Tier-1 mock tests within 60 minutes to optimize question selection and time management.
4. Phase 4: Perform error analysis, review quick revision cheat sheets, and memorize formulas and daily current affairs.

3. SAMPLE GOLDEN SHORTCUTS & FORMULAS

* Shortcut 1: Net Percentage Change for successive changes a% and b% = a + b + (a * b) / 100.
* Shortcut 2: Simple Interest & Compound Interest difference for 2 years: D = P * (R / 100)^2.
* Shortcut 3: Time and Work chain rule formula: (M1 * D1 * H1) / W1 = (M2 * D2 * H2) / W2.
* Shortcut 4: Relative speed when moving in opposite directions = S1 + S2; same direction = |S1 - S2|.

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

1. Percentage, Profit & Loss and Discount
Weightage: High (4-5 Qs)

Percentage and Profit-Loss form the core of SSC CGL Quantitative Aptitude. Key concepts include cost price, marked price, selling price, and effective discount calculations. Master the formula Net Discount = A + B - (...

2. Ratio, Proportion & Mixture-Alligation
Weightage: High (3-4 Qs)

Ratio concepts apply directly across arithmetic modules including ages, partnerships, and mixtures. Learn the mean proportional formula sqrt(a*b) and third proportional formula b^2/a. Alligation rule is crucial: (Chea...

3. Time, Speed, Distance & Work
Weightage: High (4-5 Qs)

Time, Work, and Speed are high-scoring topics in Tier-1. Understand efficiency relations where Work = Efficiency * Time. Use the chain rule formula M1 * D1 * H1 / W1 = M2 * D2 * H2 / W2. In relative speed, add speeds ...

4. Geometry & Mensuration 2D/3D
Weightage: High (4-5 Qs)

Geometry checks properties of triangles, circles, tangents, and chords. Memorize the Incenter, Circumcenter, Centroid, and Orthocenter properties. Key circle theorems include: angle subtended at center is twice the an...

5. Algebra & Trigonometry
Weightage: High (4-5 Qs)

Algebra requires mastering symmetric algebraic identities. Remember if x + 1/x = a, then x^2 + 1/x^2 = a^2 - 2, and x^3 + 1/x^3 = a^3 - 3a. If a + b + c = 0, then a^3 + b^3 + c^3 = 3abc. Trigonometry focuses on standa...

6. Coding-Decoding & Analogy
Weightage: High (5-6 Qs)

General Intelligence heavily features letter coding, number coding, and direct analogy patterns. Learn alphabetical positions forward (A=1 to Z=26) and backward using EJOTY (5, 10, 15, 20, 25) and reverse sum = 27 rul...

7. Syllogism & Logical Deduction
Weightage: Medium (2-3 Qs)

Syllogisms must be solved strictly using standard Venn diagram techniques or 100-50 rules. Understand statements like 'All A are B', 'Some A are B', 'No A is B', and 'Some A are not B'. Never assume real-world facts; ...

8. Non-Verbal Reasoning & Figure Counting
Weightage: High (4-5 Qs)

Non-verbal reasoning includes paper folding, paper cutting, mirror images, water images, and embedded figures. For mirror images, left and right flip while top and bottom stay constant. For water images, top and botto...

9. English Error Spotting & Sentence Improvement
Weightage: High (5-6 Qs)

Grammar rules dictate error spotting and sentence improvement. Focus on Subject-Verb Agreement: singular subjects take singular verbs, and sentences with 'Neither...nor' take verbs agreeing with the nearest subject. M...

10. Cloze Test & Reading Comprehension
Weightage: High (5 Qs)

Cloze tests evaluate vocabulary, grammar, and contextual understanding in a single passage. Read the entire passage once without filling blanks to get the overarching context and tone (positive, negative, analytical)....

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

Q1. If the price of petrol increases by 25%, by what percentage must a motorist reduce petrol consumption so that expenditure remains unchanged?
(A) 20% (B) 25% (C) 15% (D) 16.66%
Ans: (A) | Reduction % = [r / (100 + r)] * 100 = [25 / (100 + 25)] * 100 = (25 / 125) * 100 = 20%.

Q2. The difference between simple interest and compound interest on a sum of money for 2 years at 10% per annum is Rs. 50. Find the sum.
(A) Rs. 4,000 (B) Rs. 5,000 (C) Rs. 6,000 (D) Rs. 5,500
Ans: (B) | Difference D = P * (R/100)^2 => 50 = P * (10/100)^2 => 50 = P * 1/100 => P = Rs. 5,000.

Q3. A and B working together can complete a piece of work in 12 days. A alone can complete it in 20 days. How many days will B alone take?
(A) 25 days (B) 30 days (C) 24 days (D) 36 days
Ans: (B) | B's 1 day work = (1/12) - (1/20) = (5 - 3)/60 = 2/60 = 1/30. So B takes 30 days alone.

Q4. If x + 1/x = 4, find the value of x^3 + 1/x^3.
(A) 52 (B) 64 (C) 48 (D) 56
Ans: (A) | x^3 + 1/x^3 = k^3 - 3k = 4^3 - 3(4) = 64 - 12 = 52.

Q5. The length of two parallel chords of a circle of radius 5 cm are 6 cm and 8 cm. If chords are on opposite sides of center, find distance between them.
(A) 7 cm (B) 8 cm (C) 5 cm (D) 6 cm
Ans: (A) | Distance from center to 6 cm chord = sqrt(5^2 - 3^2) = 4 cm. Distance to 8 cm chord = sqrt(5^2 - 4^2) = 3 cm. Total distance = 4 + 3 = 7 cm.

Q6. If sin theta + cos theta = sqrt(2) cos theta, then what is the value of cos theta - sin theta?
(A) sqrt(2) sin theta (B) sqrt(2) cos theta (C) sin theta (D) 1/sqrt(2)
Ans: (A) | Squaring both sides: 1 + 2 sin theta cos theta = 2 cos^2 theta. Rearranging gives (cos theta - sin theta)^2 = 2 sin^2 theta => cos theta - sin theta = sqrt(2) sin theta.

Q7. In a certain code language, 'FLOWER' is written as 'EKNVDQ'. How is 'GARDEN' written in that language?
(A) FZQCDM (B) FYQCDM (C) HBSEFO (D) FZQBCM
Ans: (A) | Each letter is shifted back by 1 position (-1): F->E, L->K, O->N, W->V, E->D, R->Q. Similarly, G->F, A->Z, R->Q, D->C, E->D, N->M -> FZQCDM.

Q8. Select the option that is related to the third term in the same way as the second term is related to the first term: Thermometer : Temperature :: Barometer : ?
(A) Humidity (B) Pressure (C) Wind Speed (D) Earthquake
Ans: (B) | Thermometer is an instrument used to measure Temperature. Similarly, Barometer is used to measure Atmospheric Pressure.

Q9. Statements: (1) All dogs are cats. (2) All cats are animals. Conclusions: I. All dogs are animals. II. Some animals are dogs.
(A) Only conclusion I follows (B) Only conclusion II follows (C) Both conclusions I and II follow (D) Neither conclusion I nor II follows
Ans: (C) | Dogs are inside Cats, and Cats are inside Animals. Therefore, all Dogs are Animals (I) and some Animals are Dogs (II) both hold true.

Q10. Find the missing number in the series: 7, 10, 16, 28, 52, ?
(A) 100 (B) 96 (C) 84 (D) 104
Ans: (A) | Differences between consecutive terms are 3, 6, 12, 24 (doubling each time). Next difference is 48. So missing number = 52 + 48 = 100.

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