

ORDERING SENTENCES IN A PARAGRAPH

15 Minutes 20 Questions

DIRECTIONS: In the following questions, there are six sentences marked S₁, S₆, P, Q, R, S. The position of S₁ and S₆ are fixed. You are required to choose one of the four alternatives given below every passage which would be the most logical sequence of the sentences in the passage

Mark your response on the Answer Sheet at the appropriate space.

1. S₁ : One day Phatik lost his lesson-book.
S₆ : Even his cousins were ashamed to own him.
P: His condition became miserable.
Q: Even with the help of books he had found it difficult to prepare his lesson.
R: The teacher would cane him mercilessly.
S: Now, it was impossible.

The proper sequence should be :

- | | |
|-------------|-------------|
| (a) P S R Q | (b) P R Q S |
| (c) Q S R P | (d) Q P R S |

2. S₁ : One day he stole a piece of gold.
S₆ : His father read the confession and then tore up the paper without saying a word.
P: Stealing was a great sin.
Q: He wrote a confession of his crime and handed
R: He decided never in his life to steal again.
S: He knew that he had committed a great crime.

The proper sequence should be :

- | | |
|-------------|-------------|
| (a) P R S Q | (b) P S R Q |
| (c) R Q S P | (d) R Q P S |

3. S₁ : A superstition is a belief people hold which is not based on reason.
S₆ : In this way; they feel they will avoid bad luck.
P: People believe that they can bring themselves good luck by acting in certain ways.
Q: When some people spill salt they immediately take some of it and throw it over their left shoulder.
R: These beliefs often go against the laws of nature as we know them.
S: An example of this involves salt.

The proper sequence should be :

- | | |
|-------------|-------------|
| (a) R S Q P | (b) P R S Q |
| (c) R P S Q | (d) P S Q R |

4. S₁ : There is a widespread assumption that work gets harder after 40.
S₆ : But you must have done the right things before that milestone birthday.
P: The responsibilities may be heavier but now you are judged for your experience.
Q: But in most places work gets dramatically easier after 40.
R: Most of the major rewards of success tend to accumulate after the age of 40.
S: Of course, a few things do get harder, like getting up in the morning without any pain or ache.

The proper sequence should be :

- | | |
|-------------|-------------|
| (a) P S R Q | (b) S Q P R |
| (c) S P Q R | (d) P R Q S |

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5. S₁ : I stood staring into the pit
S₆ : At the sound of birds overhead, I looked up at the huge Fighting Machine that would fight no more.
P: Across on the other side of the pit, huge and strange, lay a great Flying Machine.
Q: The huge engines, so great and wonderful in their power, so unearthly in their shapes, rose out of the shadows.
R: They must have been experimenting with this when decay and death stopped them.
S: A crowd of dogs fought over the bodies that lay in depth of the pit, far below me.

The proper sequence should be :

- | | |
|-------------|-------------|
| (a) Q S P R | (b) Q R S P |
| (c) P Q S R | (d) P R Q S |

6. S₁: It was at the beginning of the war.
S₆: "Where is all this going to end?" he said.
P: I remember one of them, a lank faced pale man.
Q: I was in a corner with three other men.
R: There was a smell of stuffiness and doom.
S: Nobody knew where everything was going to end.

The proper sequence should be

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| (a) RSPQ | (b) RSQP |
| (c) QRSP | (d) QPRS |

7. S₁: The similarity between the human body and a machine is rather superficial.
S₆: The points of difference far outweigh the points of resemblance.
P: Beyond that, comparison fails.
Q: No machine grows in size; no machine sees, hears or feels.
R: It starts from the ground of particular observation
S: No machine thinks

The proper sequence should be

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| (a) RPQS | (b) QSPR |
| (c) RPSQ | (d) SQPR |

8. S₁: The true method of discovery is like the flight of an aeroplane.
S₆: Then only we reach the stage of rational interpretation.
P: It makes a flight into thin air of imaginative generalization
Q: The generalization based on observation is subjected to further scrutiny.
R: it starts from the ground of particular observations.
S: It again lands for a renewed observations.

The proper sequence should be

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| (a) PSRQ | (b) RQPS |
| (c) RPSQ | (d) PQSR |

9. S₁: One of the most dangerous insects pests is the locust.
S₆: At this stage, they gather in huge numbers and rise from the ground on their powerful wings in clouds.
P: At first they look just like ordinary grass-hoppers, which are harmless and unable to fly very far.
Q: Until about thirty years ago, no one knew where locusts came from or why they appeared in the different countries they attacked.
R: Then they change in appearance and develop wings which enable them to fly along distances.
S: Then it was discovered that there are two stages in the life of locusts.

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The proper sequence should be

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|-----|------|-----|------|
| (a) | QSRP | (b) | QSPR |
| (c) | PSRQ | (d) | PSQR |

10. S₁: Speech was the first means of conveying information.
S₆: Therefore computer is hailed as the fourth information revolution.
P: Thirdly printing helped in dissemination of knowledge in a permanent form.
Q: Then writing as a means of introduced a capacity for storing information.
R: Computer is the only medium that can not only store but analyze information to make decisions.
S: However, all these were passive media.

The proper sequence should be

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|-----|------|-----|------|
| (a) | QPRS | (b) | PQSR |
| (c) | QPSR | (d) | QRPS |

11. S₁: We do not know whether the machines are the masters or we are.
S₆: And if they don't get their meals when they expect them, they will just refuse to work.
P: They must be given or rather 'fed' with coal and given petrol to drink from time to time.
Q: Already man spends most of his time looking after and waiting upon them.
R: Yet he has grown so dependent on them that they have almost become the masters now.
S: It is very true that they were made for the sole purpose of being man's servants.

The proper sequence should be:

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|-----|------|-----|------|
| (a) | RSQP | (b) | RSPQ |
| (c) | SPQR | (d) | SRQP |

12. S₁: The 'age of computers' is considered to have begun in 1946.
S₆: And now it is difficult to find a field where computers are not used.
P: Those early computers were huge and heavy affairs, with problems of speed and size.
Q: It was only with the introduction of electronics that the computers really came of age.
R: But computers were in use long before that.
S: They had several rotating shafts and gears which almost always doomed them to slow operation.

The proper sequence should be:

- | | | | |
|-----|------|-----|------|
| (a) | RPQS | (b) | PRSQ |
| (c) | RPSQ | (D) | PRQS |

13. S₁: Plastic containers are being used more and more to package soft drinks, milk, oil, fruit juices, ketchup, etc.
S₆: Yet as plastics do not decompose by bacteria or naturally in the air, they are a big threat to the environment.
P: Most people think that this is the right thing to do, as it is economical.
Q: Plastic containers are cheap and light.
R: It is easier to transport materials packaged in them than in glass bottles.
S: They also involve the least transport costs.

The proper sequence should be:

- | | | | |
|-----|------|-----|------|
| (a) | PQRS | (b) | PQSR |
| (c) | QRSP | (d) | QSPR |

14. S₁: A farmer was taking the grist to the mill in sacks.
S₆: But the farmer saw that he was none other than the nobleman.
P: It was too heavy for him to lift.

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- Q: On the way the horse stumbled, and one of the sacks fell to the ground.
R: Presently he saw a rider coming towards him.
S: He stood waiting till he found some body to help him.
The proper sequence should be:
(a) QPRS (b) PQRS
(c) PSQR (d) QPSR
15. S₁: He could not rise.
S₆: It was colder than usual.
P: All at once, in the distance, he heard an elephant trumpet.
Q: He tried again with all his might, but to no use.
R: The next moment he was on his feet.
S: He stepped into the river.
The proper sequence should be:
(a) QPRS (b) PQSR
(c) QPSR (d) PRQS
16. S₁: The earliest reference to the playing card has been found in China, as long as the tenth century.
S₆: The current pack of 52 cards was only regulated in the seventeenth century.
P: They appeared in Italy around 1320.
Q: Long before that the Chinese used paper money which was similar in design to the playing cards.
R: It is believed that perhaps traveling gypsies introduced them to Europe.
S: In older days cards were used both for telling fortune and playing games.
The proper sequence should be:
(a) RSQP (b) QRSP
(c) QSRP (d) RQSP
17. S₁: Helen Keller has an ageless quality about her in keeping with her amazing life story.
S₆: She believes the blind should live and work like their fellows, with full responsibility.
P: Although warmed by this human reaction, she has no wish to be set aside from the rest of mankind.
Q: She is an inspiration to both blind and the seeing every where.
R: When she visited Japan after World War II, boys and girls from remote villages ran to her, crying, "Helen Keller".
S: Blind, deaf and mute from early childhood, she rose above her triple handicap to become one of the best known characters in the modern world.
The proper sequence should be:
(a) SQRP (b) RSQP
(c) SRQP (d) RSPQ
18. S₁: You might say that all through history there have been wars and that mankind has survived in spite of them.

S₆: Man has now discovered how to release the colossal forces locked up in the atom.
P: Now, if his purposes are those of destruction, each fresh advance in his mastery of nature only increases the danger from war, as men learn to destroy one another in ever great numbers, from ever great distances, and in ever more varied and ingenious ways.
Q: He has learnt to tap the hidden forces of our planet and use them for his purposes.
R: It has even developed and became civilized in spite of them.
S: This is true, but unfortunately as part of his development man has enormously increased his power over nature.
The proper sequence should be:
(a) RSQP (b) PQSR
(c) QPRS (d) PRQS

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19. S₁: It was early 1943 and the war in the East was going disastrously.
S₆: Boarding Party, James Leasor's latest best-seller is a record of this tale of heroics tinged with irony and humour.
P: How this unlikely bunch of middle-aged civilians accomplished their mission makes fascinating reading.
Q: To stop the sinkings a spy ring had to be broken, a German ship assaulted, and a secret radio transmitter silenced.
R: U-boats were torpedoing Allied ships in the Indian Ocean faster than they could be replaced.
S: And the only people who could do the job were a handful of British businessmen in Calcutta – all men not called out for active service.
The proper sequence should be:
(a) PRSQ (b) QSRP
(c) RQSP (d) SQPR
20. S₁: The domestic cat is a contradiction in itself.
S₆: Hence has it won such a reputation for obedience and loyalty.
P: But the adult pet dog also sees its human family as the dominant members of the pack.
Q: Nursed in kitten hood it develops extraordinary intimacy with mankind.
R: The dog, like the pet cat, sees its owners as pseudo-parents.
S: At the same time, however, the cat continues to retain its independence.
The proper sequence should be:
(a) QSPR (b) SQPR
(c) SQRP (d) QSRP

A N S W E R

1. (a)
2. (b)
3. (b)
4. (c)
5. (c)
6. (b)
7. (a)
8. (c)
9. (b)
10. (c)
11. (d)
12. (c)
13. (b)
14. (d)
15. (a)
16. (b)
17. (a)
18. (a)
19. (c)
20. (d)