

NID DAT PRELIMS 2027

B.Des Mock Test Series

30 Full-Length Mock Tests · Answer Key · Worked Solutions

Tests	30 mock tests (Test 1 to Test 30)
Mode and time	Pen-and-paper style · 3 hours per test
Total marks	100 per test, no negative marking
Section A (30 marks)	22 objective questions: Q1-14 carry 1 mark each (14), Q15-22 carry 2 marks each (16)
Section B (70 marks)	4 subjective drawing and design questions: Q23 (15), Q24 (20), Q25 (15), Q26 (20)
Topics	Visualisation and spatial ability · logical and analytical reasoning · design awareness, colour, typography, craft and architecture · drawing, observation, design thinking, storytelling
Included for every test	Answer key for Section A, a worked solution for every question, and an approach plus marking rubric for each Section B question

About the pattern. NID has not published a detailed paper structure that I could confirm, and websites disagree. Reports agree on a 100-mark, 3-hour, pen-and-paper paper with no negative marking, an objective Section A worth roughly 20 to 30 marks (one site says 19 questions for 25 marks) and a subjective Section B worth roughly 70 to 80 marks. These mocks use 22 MCQs (30 marks) plus four subjective questions (70 marks). Others say the 2026 Prelims was drawing and design-thinking questions only, with the objective section removed, and that the objective section may or may not return. These mocks follow the first description because it covers both kinds of skill. If your paper turns out to be subjective only, use Section B of each test and ignore Section A. Prelims is a qualifier for shortlisting to Mains (Studio Sensitivity Test and In-Person Sensitivity Test), so it does not count in the final merit list as per current reports. Check the official NID Admissions Handbook 2027-28 at admissions.nid.edu for the final pattern.

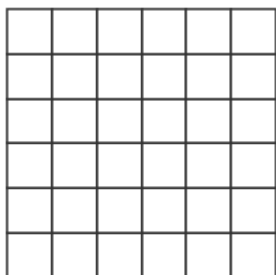
These are original practice questions, not official NID papers.

MOCK TEST 12

Time: 3 hours · Maximum marks: 100 · No negative marking

SECTION A - Objective (30 marks): Q1-14 carry 1 mark each, Q15-22 carry 2 marks each

1. How many squares of all sizes can be found in the 6×6 grid shown? [1 mark]



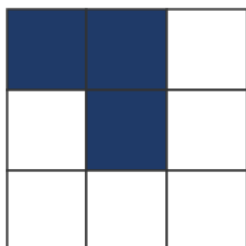
- (1) 97 (2) 85 (3) 91 (4) 36

2. Find the next term of the series: 12, 13, 17, 24, 34, ? [1 mark]

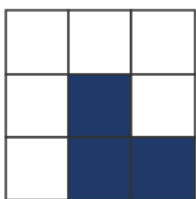
- (1) 47 (2) 46 (3) 49 (4) 48

3. A mirror is placed on the right-hand side (a vertical mirror) of the figure. Which option shows the mirror image? [1 mark]

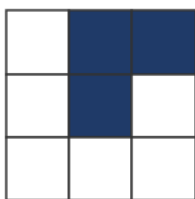
Given figure



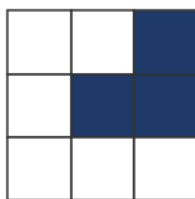
(1)



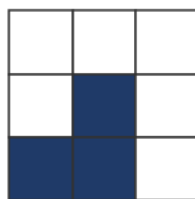
(2)



(3)



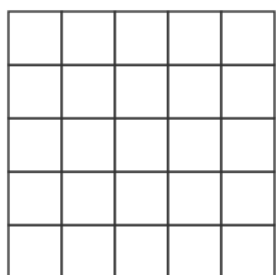
(4)



4. Phulkari, an embroidery tradition, is native to [1 mark]

- (1) Kerala (2) Punjab (3) Sikkim (4) Goa

5. How many squares of all sizes can be found in the 5×5 grid shown? [1 mark]



- (1) 50 (2) 25 (3) 60 (4) 55

6. 'Guernica' is a famous painting by [1 mark]

(1) Paul Cézanne

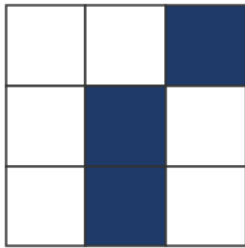
(2) Rembrandt

(3) Salvador Dalí

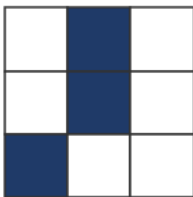
(4) Pablo Picasso

7. The figure shown is rotated 90° anticlockwise about its centre. Which option shows the result? [1 mark]

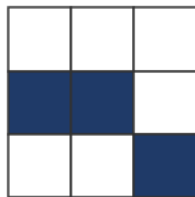
Given figure



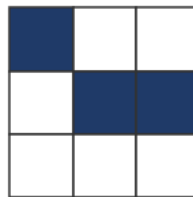
(1)



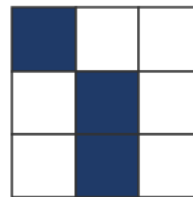
(2)



(3)



(4)



8. Dhokra is a traditional metal craft made using the [1 mark]

(1) Lost-wax casting technique

(2) Hot-rolling technique

(3) Die-stamping technique

(4) Sand-blasting technique

9. Find the next term of the series: 5, 10, 20, 40, 80, ? [1 mark]

(1) 162

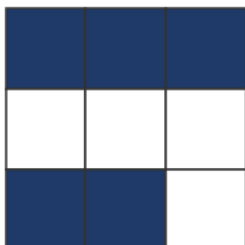
(2) 160

(3) 159

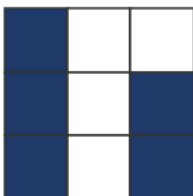
(4) 161

10. The figure shown is rotated 90° anticlockwise about its centre. Which option shows the result? [1 mark]

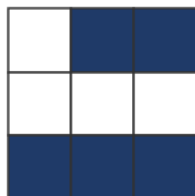
Given figure



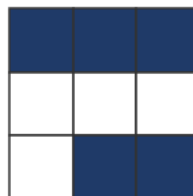
(1)



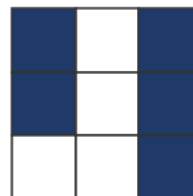
(2)



(3)



(4)



11. Tints are made by adding ____ to a pure hue. [1 mark]

(1) Yellow

(2) Black

(3) Grey

(4) White

12. A design in which both halves mirror each other shows [1 mark]

(1) Symmetrical balance

(2) Asymmetrical balance

(3) Radial balance only

(4) Random balance

13. In a code, MODEL is written as PRGHO. How is FRAME written in the same code? [1 mark]

(1) HTCOG

(2) IUDPH

(3) COXJB

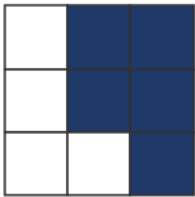
(4) JVEQI

14. The figure shown is rotated 90° clockwise about its centre. Which option shows the result? [1 mark]

Given figure



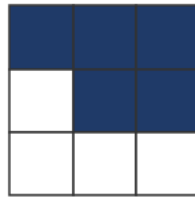
(1)



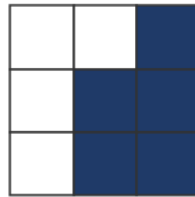
(2)



(3)



(4)



Questions 15 to 22 carry 2 marks each.

15. Find the figure that continues the series. [2 marks]



(1)



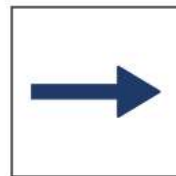
(2)



(3)



(4)



16. Which designer is known for the iconic Mumbai-linked 'Air India Maharajah' mascot? [2 marks]

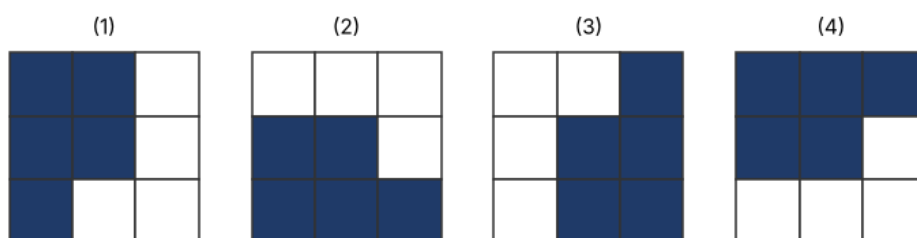
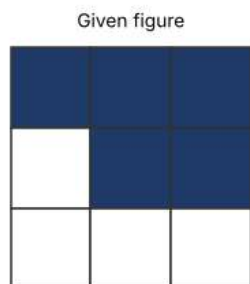
(1) Satyajit Ray

(2) R. K. Laxman

(3) Bobby Kooka and Umesh Rao

(4) Raghu Rai

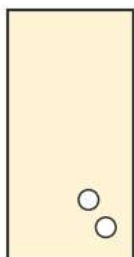
17. The figure shown is rotated 90° anticlockwise about its centre. Which option shows the result? [2 marks]



18. A poster is 10 cm by 11 cm. If its area is increased by 10%, the new area is [2 marks]
 (1) 132 cm^2 (2) 121 cm^2 (3) 220 cm^2 (4) 120 cm^2

19. A square sheet of paper is folded once (in half) and 2 holes are punched through all layers as shown. How many holes will the sheet have when fully unfolded? [2 marks]

Sheet after folding,
with punched holes



(1) 3 (2) 5 (3) 2 (4) 4

20. Looking at the solid from the bottom edge of the plan (front view), how many unit squares of the front elevation are visible? [2 marks]

Top view: number of cubes
in each stack

2	2	0
4	1	1
3	1	1

(1) 7 (2) 6 (3) 8 (4) 9

21. A poster is 18 cm by 11 cm. If its area is increased by 50%, the new area is [2 marks]
 (1) 308 cm^2 (2) 396 cm^2 (3) 297 cm^2 (4) 248 cm^2

22. A 80 cm strip of fabric is cut in the ratio 3 : 5. The longer piece measures [2 marks]

(1) 30 cm

(2) 60 cm

(3) 50 cm

(4) 41 cm

SECTION B - Subjective (70 marks): answer all four questions on separate sheets

23. Draw a quick scene of a village well. Include at least five different objects, three kinds of people or animals, and one detail that shows the feeling of pride. Use line quality and shading (no colour needed) to show depth: foreground, middle ground and background. [15 marks]

24. Problem solving. A single wall clock must be shared by many users in a public place (such as a railway station or a school). (a) List three ways it could be misused or damaged. [4 marks] (b) Sketch a design that prevents or reduces these problems. [10 marks] (c) Explain in 3 to 4 lines why your design is sustainable and who benefits. [6 marks]

25. Storyboard. In six panels (no words, or at most two words per panel), tell a short story set at a library after closing time that begins calmly and ends with curiosity. Number the panels and vary the viewpoint (close-up, wide shot, from above). [15 marks]

26. Poster. Create a poster on the theme 'Recycling' for a general audience on an A4-sized frame. Use at most three colours (green, pink and black). Include one strong central image, a short slogan (maximum 6 words) and a border or pattern. [20 marks]

Marks: Q23 = 15, Q24 = 20, Q25 = 15, Q26 = 20. Use A4 sheets for each answer.

Mock Test 7

Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans
1	1	5	4	9	1	13	2	17	4	21	3
2	2	6	3	10	2	14	2	18	4	22	3
3	2	7	4	11	2	15	3	19	4		
4	2	8	2	12	2	16	1	20	3		

Mock Test 8

Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans
1	4	5	2	9	3	13	4	17	2	21	3
2	2	6	2	10	4	14	2	18	1	22	1
3	2	7	1	11	2	15	2	19	4		
4	1	8	1	12	1	16	4	20	3		

Mock Test 9

Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans
1	4	5	3	9	3	13	1	17	1	21	1
2	3	6	4	10	2	14	2	18	1	22	1
3	2	7	3	11	3	15	2	19	3		
4	4	8	3	12	2	16	4	20	2		

Mock Test 10

Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans
1	4	5	1	9	3	13	3	17	2	21	2
2	2	6	1	10	4	14	4	18	4	22	3
3	1	7	4	11	3	15	4	19	2		
4	3	8	3	12	1	16	3	20	1		

Mock Test 11

Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans
1	2	5	3	9	1	13	3	17	1	21	1
2	4	6	4	10	3	14	1	18	1	22	1
3	1	7	3	11	4	15	2	19	1		
4	1	8	2	12	1	16	2	20	1		

Mock Test 12

Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans
1	3	5	4	9	2	13	2	17	1	21	3
2	1	6	4	10	1	14	3	18	2	22	3
3	2	7	3	11	4	15	4	19	4		
4	2	8	1	12	1	16	3	20	1		

Mock Test 13

Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans
1	1	5	1	9	4	13	4	17	4	21	1
2	3	6	3	10	3	14	1	18	4	22	1
3	3	7	1	11	2	15	1	19	2		
4	2	8	4	12	2	16	2	20	1		

Solutions - Mock Test 12

SECTION A

Q1. Answer: (3) - 91

Count squares by size. In an 6×6 grid there are $(6-k+1)^2$ squares of side k : $36 + 25 + 16 + 9 + 4 + 1 = 91$.

Q2. Answer: (1) - 47

Differences between terms: 1, 4, 7, 10 (each larger by 3). The next difference is 13, so the missing term is $34 + 13 = 47$.

Q3. Answer: (2)

A mirror placed along the right-hand side (a vertical mirror) reverses the figure left-to-right and leaves the other direction unchanged. Reverse each row of the grid to get option (2). The remaining options are rotations or the opposite flip, which a mirror cannot produce.

Q4. Answer: (2) - Punjab

Phulkari ('flower work') is Punjabi embroidery.

Q5. Answer: (4) - 55

Count squares by size. In an 5×5 grid there are $(5-k+1)^2$ squares of side k : $25 + 16 + 9 + 4 + 1 = 55$.

Q6. Answer: (4) - Pablo Picasso

Picasso painted Guernica (1937) in response to the bombing of the Spanish town.

Q7. Answer: (3)

Rotate the whole grid 90° anticlockwise: the top row moves to the left column, so every shaded square moves one quarter-turn about the centre. Rotating the other way, by 180° , or flipping (mirror) gives the other options. Only option (3) matches a pure 90° anticlockwise turn.

Q8. Answer: (1) - Lost-wax casting technique

Dhokra (Dokra) brass figures are made by lost-wax casting.

Q9. Answer: (2) - 160

Each term = previous $\times 2$. So the next term is $80 \times 2 = 160$.

Q10. Answer: (1)

Rotate the whole grid 90° anticlockwise: the top row moves to the left column, so every shaded square moves one quarter-turn about the centre. Rotating the other way, by 180° , or flipping (mirror) gives the other options. Only option (1) matches a pure 90° anticlockwise turn.

Q11. Answer: (4) - White

Tint = hue + white; shade = hue + black; tone = hue + grey.

Q12. Answer: (1) - Symmetrical balance

Mirror-image halves around an axis are symmetrical balance.

Q13. Answer: (2) - IUDPH

Compare $M \rightarrow P$: every letter moves 3 places forward in the alphabet. Apply the same shift to FRAME: F R A M E $\rightarrow$ I U D P H.

Q14. Answer: (3)

Rotate the whole grid 90° clockwise: the top row moves to the right column, so every shaded square moves one quarter-turn about the centre. Rotating the other way, by 180° , or flipping (mirror) gives the other options. Only option (3) matches a pure 90° clockwise turn.

Q15. Answer: (4)

Compare consecutive boxes: the arrow turns 90° clockwise each time (the arrow angles, measured anticlockwise from the right, are 0° , 270° , 180° , 90°). The next angle is $90^\circ - 90^\circ = 0^\circ$, which is option (4).

Q16. Answer: (3) - Bobby Kooka and Umesh Rao

The Maharajah mascot was created for Air India by Bobby Kooka with artist Umesh Rao in 1946.

Q17. Answer: (1)

Rotate the whole grid 90° anticlockwise: the top row moves to the left column, so every shaded square moves one quarter-turn about the centre. Rotating the other way, by 180° , or flipping (mirror) gives the other options. Only option (1) matches a pure 90° anticlockwise turn.

Q18. Answer: (2) - 121 cm²

Original area = $10 \times 11 = 110 \text{ cm}^2$. A 10% increase gives $110 \times 110/100 = 121 \text{ cm}^2$.

Q19. Answer: (4) - 4

Each fold doubles the layers punched through. The sheet is folded once (in half), so 2 hole(s) in the folded sheet go through 2 layers. Unfolding gives $2 \times 2 = 4$ holes (each hole is mirrored across every crease).

Q20. Answer: (1) - 7

In the front view, each column shows only its tallest stack: 4, 2, 1. Sum = 7.

Q21. Answer: (3) - 297 cm²

Original area = $18 \times 11 = 198 \text{ cm}^2$. A 50% increase gives $198 \times 150/100 = 297 \text{ cm}^2$.

Q22. Answer: (3) - 50 cm

Total parts = $3 + 5 = 8$. One part = $80 \div 8 = 10$. The larger share = $5 \times 10 = 50$.

SECTION B - approach and marking rubric

Q23 (15 marks). Approach:

Plan with three bands: put the largest, darkest elements in the foreground, medium-size items in the middle and small, light details in the background. List five objects typical of a village well before drawing. For pride, use posture, expression, light or empty space (e.g. a single figure and long shadows). Add texture with hatching and keep line weight thicker in front, thinner behind.

Criterion	Marks
Observation and completeness (objects, people/animals)	5
Depth through overlap, size change and shading	5
Expressing the stated feeling	3
Neatness and confident line	2

Q24 (20 marks). Approach:

Think of the wall clock in rough public use: heavy use, theft, weather, dirt, children. Pick materials and forms that resist these (durable, repairable, fixed down, easy to clean). Show your idea with a main sketch plus one detail view. For sustainability mention locally available materials, long life, repair rather than replacement and low cost, and say who gains (users, maintenance staff, the environment).

Criterion	Marks
Realistic misuse list	4
Design response that clearly addresses the list	10
Sustainability and benefits reasoning	4
Clarity of sketches and notes	2

Q25 (15 marks). Approach:

Plan the story in one line first: setup, a small surprise, a turning point and the result (curiosity). Use panel 1 as a wide shot to show a library after closing time, panel 3 or 4 as a close-up of a face or hand, and a high angle for the turning point. Keep one recognisable character (same clothes or shape) in every panel, and make each panel readable without text.

Criterion	Marks
Clear beginning, middle and end	5
Variety of viewpoints and framing	4
Character/expression clarity	3
Neat, consistent panels	3

Q26 (20 marks). Approach:

Brainstorm 5 quick thumbnails for 'Recycling' and pick the one with the simplest, boldest idea (a single symbol works better than a crowded scene). Place the image at the centre or on a rule-of-thirds point, and put the slogan in clear, large lettering above or below. Use green for the main shape, pink for emphasis and black for lettering and outlines. Finish with a repeating border or pattern that echoes the theme.

Criterion	Marks
Strong central concept linked to the theme	7
Composition and hierarchy (image, slogan, border)	5
Colour use within the limit	4
Lettering and finish	4