

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 16

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. Find the figure that continues the series. [1 mark]



(1)

(2)

(3)

(4)



2. In a queue, Meera is 19th from the front and 15th from the back. How many people are in the queue? [1 mark]

(1) 33

(2) 4

(3) 34

(4) 35

3. In a queue, Meera is 9th from the front and 14th from the back. How many people are in the queue? [1 mark]

(1) 23

(2) 22

(3) 5

(4) 24

4. Which figure is the odd one out? [1 mark]

(1)

(2)

(3)

(4)



5. Find the figure that continues the series. [1 mark]



(1)

(2)

(3)

(4)



6. Find the figure that continues the series. [1 mark]



(1)



(2)



(3)



(4)



7. Of 100 design students, 37 like sketching, 40 like clay modelling and 9 like both. How many like neither? [1 mark]

(1) 23

(2) 32

(3) 68

(4) 91

8. The 'rule of thirds' is a guideline used in [1 mark]

(1) Composition of images and layouts

(2) Choosing paper size

(3) Selecting fonts

(4) Mixing colours

9. Pattachitra is a traditional scroll painting of [1 mark]

(1) Odisha

(2) Himachal Pradesh

(3) Goa

(4) Karnataka

10. Which Indian city is known as the 'Pink City' for its architecture? [1 mark]

(1) Jaisalmer

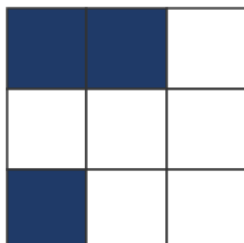
(2) Udaipur

(3) Jaipur

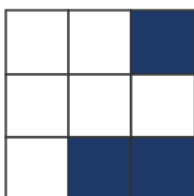
(4) Jodhpur

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

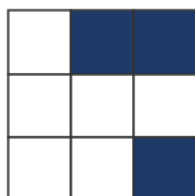
Given figure



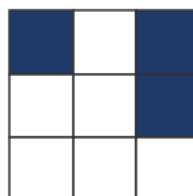
(1)



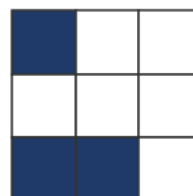
(2)



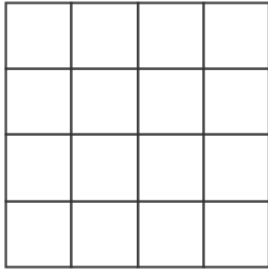
(3)



(4)



12. How many squares of all sizes can be found in the 4×4 grid shown? [1 mark]



- (1) 16 (2) 30 (3) 34 (4) 26

13. The term 'ergonomics' in design deals with [1 mark]

- (1) Pricing of products
(2) Choosing colours for logos
(3) Fitting products to human use and comfort
(4) Printing methods

14. Shades are made by adding ____ to a pure hue. [1 mark]

- (1) White (2) Red (3) Grey (4) Black

Questions 15 to 22 carry 2 marks each.

15. A poster is 6 cm by 10 cm. If its area is increased by 10%, the new area is [2 marks]

- (1) 70 cm^2 (2) 120 cm^2 (3) 76 cm^2 (4) 66 cm^2

16. Which of these is a warm colour? [2 marks]

- (1) Violet (2) Red (3) Green (4) Blue

17. A square sheet of paper is folded once (in half) and 1 hole is 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) 1 (3) 2 (4) 4

18. A product measuring 2500 mm is drawn to a scale of 1 : 20. Its length on the drawing is [2 marks]

- (1) 62 mm (2) 500 mm (3) 125 mm (4) 250 mm

Mock Test 14

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

Mock Test 15

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

Mock Test 16

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

Mock Test 17

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

Mock Test 18

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

Mock Test 19

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

Mock Test 20

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

Solutions - Mock Test 16

SECTION A

Q1. Answer: (3)

Compare consecutive boxes: the arrow turns 45° anticlockwise each time (the arrow angles, measured anticlockwise from the right, are 45° , 90° , 135° , 180°). The next angle is $180^\circ + 45^\circ = 225^\circ$, which is option (3).

Q2. Answer: (1) - 33

Total = (position from left) + (position from right) - 1 = $19 + 15 - 1 = 33$.

Q3. Answer: (2) - 22

Total = (position from left) + (position from right) - 1 = $9 + 14 - 1 = 22$.

Q4. Answer: (2)

Three figures are quadrilaterals (4 sides). Figure (2) has 8 sides, a octagon, so it is the odd one out (rotation of a shape does not change its type).

Q5. Answer: (3)

Compare consecutive boxes: the arrow turns 90° clockwise each time (the arrow angles, measured anticlockwise from the right, are 135° , 45° , 315° , 225°). The next angle is $225^\circ - 90^\circ = 135^\circ$, which is option (3).

Q6. Answer: (2)

Compare consecutive boxes: the arrow turns 45° anticlockwise each time (the arrow angles, measured anticlockwise from the right, are 135° , 180° , 225° , 270°). The next angle is $270^\circ + 45^\circ = 315^\circ$, which is option (2).

Q7. Answer: (2) - 32

Students who like at least one = $37 + 40 - 9 = 68$. Neither = $100 - 68 = 32$.

Q8. Answer: (1) - Composition of images and layouts

It divides a frame into a 3×3 grid; placing key elements on the lines or intersections makes the composition more balanced.

Q9. Answer: (1) - Odisha

Pattachitra (cloth-based scroll painting) is from Odisha and West Bengal.

Q10. Answer: (3) - Jaipur

Jaipur's old city was painted pink in 1876 to welcome the Prince of Wales.

Q11. 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.

Q12. Answer: (2) - 30

Count squares by size. In an 4×4 grid there are $(4-k+1)^2$ squares of side k: $16 + 9 + 4 + 1 = 30$.

Q13. Answer: (3) - Fitting products to human use and comfort

Ergonomics studies how people interact with products so they are comfortable, safe and efficient.

Q14. Answer: (4) - Black

Shade = hue + black.

Q15. Answer: (4) - 66 cm^2

Original area = $6 \times 10 = 60 \text{ cm}^2$. A 10% increase gives $60 \times 110/100 = 66 \text{ cm}^2$.

Q16. Answer: (2) - Red

Warm colours (red, orange, yellow) suggest energy and warmth. Blue, green and violet are cool.

Q17. Answer: (3) - 2

Each fold doubles the layers punched through. The sheet is folded once (in half), so 1 hole(s) in the folded sheet go through 2 layers. Unfolding gives $1 \times 2 = 2$ holes (each hole is mirrored across every crease).

Q18. Answer: (3) - 125 mm

At a scale of 1 : 20, drawing length = actual length $\div$ 20 = $2500 \div 20 = 125 \text{ mm}$.

Q19. Answer: (2)

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 (2) matches a pure 90° clockwise turn.

Q20. Answer: (2)

Compare consecutive boxes: the arrow turns 45° clockwise each time (the arrow angles, measured anticlockwise from the right, are 45°, 0°, 315°, 270°). The next angle is $270^\circ - 45^\circ = 225^\circ$, which is option (2).

Q21. Answer: (4) - 15 m

Take the start as the origin. After the first leg (15 m) and the turns, the net movement along that line is $15 - 6 = 9$ m, and the sideways movement is 12 m. Distance = $\sqrt{9^2 + 12^2} = 15$ m.

Q22. Answer: (1) - 4

The largest number in the plan is 4.

SECTION B - approach and marking rubric

Q23 (15 marks). Approach:

Start with light construction shapes (a cylinder, box or cone) to block in the teapot, check proportions by comparing parts (e.g. handle length against the body), then firm up the outline. For the top view imagine looking straight down and keep widths consistent with the front view. In the 3/4 view overlap forms to show depth. For the close-ups, enlarge a joint or surface and use hatching, dots or cross-lines to show texture. Label each material (e.g. steel, plastic, wood) and say why it suits the job.

Criterion	Marks
Accurate proportions and construction in the three views	5
Variety and clarity of viewpoints	4
Detail studies with texture and line quality	3
Labels showing material and function	3

Q24 (20 marks). Approach:

Think of the bicycle bell 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 (surprise). Use panel 1 as a wide shot to show a quiet pond, 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:

List the main functions and shapes of a mobile stand and of a lunch spoon, then look for an overlap (a shared shape or action) to join them naturally. Draw with arrows showing how it works. Name a real user group and the problem it solves. For the logo keep one simple shape and a short, memorable name.

Criterion	Marks
Originality and logic of the combined object	8
Drawing, colour and clarity of working	4
User and purpose reasoning	4
Name and logo	4