

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 22

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. A 'thumbnail sketch' is [1 mark]

(1) A photograph

(3) A small, quick rough sketch

(2) A finished oil painting

(4) A 3D printed model

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



(1)

(2)

(3)

(4)



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

(1)

(2)

(3)

(4)



4. In a queue, Meera is 16th from the front and 11th from the back. How many people are in the queue? [1 mark]

(1) 28

(2) 27

(3) 5

(4) 26

5. Of 100 design students, 30 like sketching, 28 like clay modelling and 16 like both. How many like neither? [1 mark]

(1) 58

(2) 84

(3) 59

(4) 42

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



(1)

(2)

(3)

(4)



7. Which tool is used to draw perfect circles? [1 mark]

(1) Compass

(2) French curve

(3) Set square

(4) Protractor

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



(1)

(2)

(3)

(4)



9. The Bauhaus school was founded by [1 mark]

(1) Charles Eames

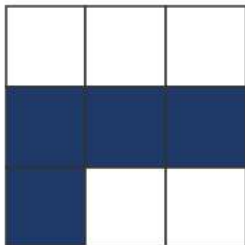
(2) Frank Lloyd Wright

(3) Le Corbusier

(4) Walter Gropius

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

Given figure

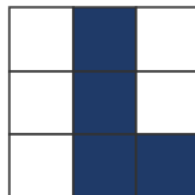
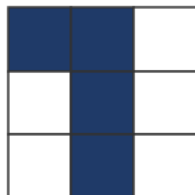
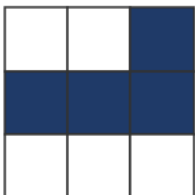


(1)

(2)

(3)

(4)



11. An 'isometric' drawing shows an object with axes drawn at [1 mark]

(1) 120° to each other

(2) 90° only

(3) 60° and 30° only

(4) 45° to each other

12. The Bauhaus school of design was founded in 1919 in [1 mark]

(1) London, England

(2) Paris, France

(3) Weimar, Germany

(4) Milan, Italy

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



(1)

(2)

(3)

(4)



14. A designer walks 14 m north, turns right and walks 8 m, then turns right again and walks 8 m. How far is she from the starting point? [1 mark]

(1) 30 m

(2) 10 m

(3) 6 m

(4) 14 m

Questions 15 to 22 carry 2 marks each.

15. The CMYK colour model is mainly used for [2 marks]

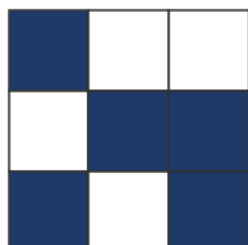
- (1) Screen display (2) Sound design (3) Photography lenses (4) Printing

16. A 90 cm strip of fabric is cut in the ratio 4 : 5. The longer piece measures [2 marks]

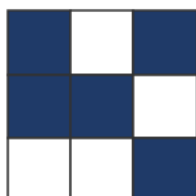
- (1) 46 cm (2) 50 cm (3) 40 cm (4) 60 cm

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

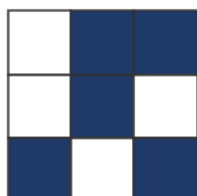
Given figure



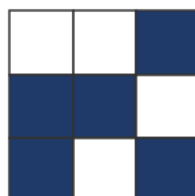
(1)



(2)



(3)

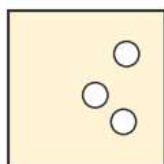


(4)



18. A square sheet of paper is folded twice (in half, then in half again) and 3 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) 11

(2) 13

(3) 6

(4) 12

19. A designer walks 5 m north, turns right and walks 4 m, then turns right again and walks 2 m. How far is she from the starting point? [2 marks]

(1) 11 m

(2) 5 m

(3) 7 m

(4) 1 m

20. A poster is 16 cm by 15 cm. If its area is increased by 25%, the new area is [2 marks]

(1) 315 cm²

(2) 300 cm²

(3) 265 cm²

(4) 480 cm²

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



(1)

(2)

(3)

(4)



22. A solid is built by stacking unit cubes as per the top-view plan shown. How many cubes are used in all? [2 marks]

Top view: number of cubes
in each stack

2	4	1
4	1	3
3	4	0

(1) 21

(2) 22

(3) 24

(4) 23

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

23. Observe a table lamp carefully (from memory or from a real one near you). (a) Draw it from three different viewpoints: front, top and a 3/4 view. [9 marks] (b) Show two close-up details (e.g. a joint, handle, texture or pattern) and label what material you think each part is made of. [6 marks]

24. Problem solving. A single dustbin 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 busy bazaar that begins calmly and ends with curiosity. Number the panels and vary the viewpoint (close-up, wide shot, from above). [15 marks]

26. Imagination. Imagine a new object that combines an extension board and a teapot. (a) Draw it in colour, showing how it works. [10 marks] (b) Write three lines about who would use it and why. [4 marks] (c) Design a simple logo and name for it. [6 marks]

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

Mock Test 21

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

Mock Test 22

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

Mock Test 23

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

Mock Test 24

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

Mock Test 25

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

Mock Test 26

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

Mock Test 27

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

Solutions - Mock Test 22

SECTION A

Q1. Answer: (3) - A small, quick rough sketch

Thumbnails are small rapid sketches for exploring layout ideas.

Q2. Answer: (1)

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 (1).

Q3. Answer: (4)

Three figures are pentagons (5 sides). Figure (4) has 6 sides, a hexagon, so it is the odd one out (rotation of a shape does not change its type).

Q4. Answer: (4) - 26

Total = (position from left) + (position from right) - 1 = $16 + 11 - 1 = 26$.

Q5. Answer: (1) - 58

Students who like at least one = $30 + 28 - 16 = 42$. Neither = $100 - 42 = 58$.

Q6. Answer: (1)

Compare consecutive boxes: the arrow turns 45° clockwise each time (the arrow angles, measured anticlockwise from the right, are 90° , 45° , 0° , 315°). The next angle is $315^\circ - 45^\circ = 270^\circ$, which is option (1).

Q7. Answer: (1) - Compass

A compass draws circles and arcs. A protractor measures angles.

Q8. Answer: (3)

Compare consecutive boxes: the arrow turns 45° clockwise each time (the arrow angles, measured anticlockwise from the right, are 135° , 90° , 45° , 0°). The next angle is $0^\circ - 45^\circ = 315^\circ$, which is option (3).

Q9. Answer: (4) - Walter Gropius

Walter Gropius founded the Bauhaus in 1919.

Q10. 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.

Q11. Answer: (1) - 120° to each other

In isometric projection the three axes are 120° apart, with equal foreshortening on each.

Q12. Answer: (3) - Weimar, Germany

Walter Gropius founded the Bauhaus in Weimar in 1919.

Q13. Answer: (2)

Compare consecutive boxes: the arrow turns 90° anticlockwise each time (the arrow angles, measured anticlockwise from the right, are 0° , 90° , 180° , 270°). The next angle is $270^\circ + 90^\circ = 0^\circ$, which is option (2).

Q14. Answer: (2) - 10 m

Take the start as the origin. After the first leg (14 m) and the turns, the net movement along that line is $14 - 8 = 6$ m, and the sideways movement is 8 m. Distance = $\sqrt{6^2 + 8^2} = 10$ m.

Q15. Answer: (4) - Printing

CMYK (cyan, magenta, yellow, key/black) is the subtractive ink model used in printing; RGB is used for screens.

Q16. Answer: (2) - 50 cm

Total parts = $4 + 5 = 9$. One part = $90 \div 9 = 10$. The larger share = $5 \times 10 = 50$.

Q17. Answer: (4)

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 (4) matches a pure 90° clockwise turn.

Q18. Answer: (4) - 12

Each fold doubles the layers punched through. The sheet is folded twice (in half, then in half again), so 3 hole(s) in the folded sheet go through 4 layers. Unfolding gives $3 \times 4 = 12$ holes (each hole is mirrored across every crease).

Q19. Answer: (2) - 5 m

Take the start as the origin. After the first leg (5 m) and the turns, the net movement along that line is $5 - 2 = 3$ m, and the sideways movement is 4 m. Distance = $\sqrt{3^2 + 4^2} = 5$ m.

Q20. Answer: (2) - 300 cm²

Original area = $16 \times 15 = 240$ cm². A 25% increase gives $240 \times 125/100 = 300$ cm².

Q21. Answer: (2)

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

Q22. Answer: (2) - 22

Add the numbers in all cells of the plan: $2 + 4 + 1 + 4 + 1 + 3 + 3 + 4 = 22$.

SECTION B - approach and marking rubric

Q23 (15 marks). Approach:

Start with light construction shapes (a cylinder, box or cone) to block in the table lamp, 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 dustbin 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 busy bazaar, 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 extension board and of a teapot, 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