

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 5

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. In a code, POSTER is written as RQUVGT. How is DESIGN written in the same code? [1 mark]

- (1) GHVLJQ (2) FGUKIP (3) BCQGEL (4) EFTJHO

2. Find the next term of the series: 3, 8, 18, 38, 78, ? [1 mark]

- (1) 160 (2) 159 (3) 158 (4) 157

3. Which colour is the complement of blue on the traditional RYB colour wheel? [1 mark]

- (1) Green (2) Purple (3) Yellow (4) Orange

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



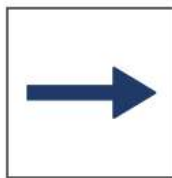
(1)



(2)



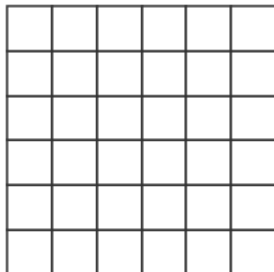
(3)



(4)



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



(1) 97

(2) 36

(3) 91

(4) 85

6. Which of the following is a natural fibre? [1 mark]

- (1) Acrylic (2) Polyester (3) Cotton (4) Nylon

7. Of 100 design students, 28 like sketching, 30 like clay modelling and 14 like both. How many like neither? [1 mark]

- (1) 42 (2) 56 (3) 86 (4) 44

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

(1)



(2)



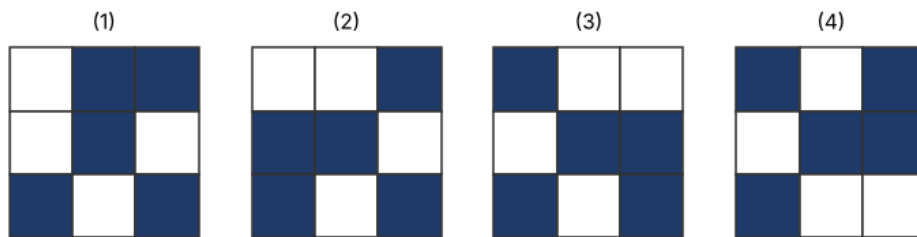
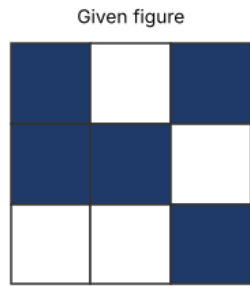
(3)



(4)



9. A mirror is placed on the bottom (a horizontal mirror) of the figure. Which option shows the mirror image? [1 mark]



10. A solid is built by stacking unit cubes as per the top-view plan shown. How many cubes are used in all? [1 mark]

Top view: number of cubes in each stack

4	1	2
1	3	2
1	4	0

- (1) 19 (2) 17 (3) 20 (4) 18

11. Bandhani, a tie-and-dye textile craft, is most famous in [1 mark]

- (1) Gujarat and Rajasthan (2) Bihar and Jharkhand
(3) Assam and Nagaland (4) Kerala and Tamil Nadu

12. Black and white are called neutral colours because they [1 mark]

- (1) Are primary colours (2) Cannot be printed
(3) Do not appear on the colour wheel (4) Are the brightest colours

13. In a perspective drawing, lines that appear to meet at a single point on the horizon converge at the [1 mark]

- (1) Picture plane (2) Ground line (3) Vanishing point (4) Focal length

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



(1)

(2)

(3)

(4)



Questions 15 to 22 carry 2 marks each.

15. Find the next term of the series: 16, 25, 36, 49, 64, ? [2 marks]

(1) 83

(2) 80

(3) 81

(4) 82

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



(1)

(2)

(3)

(4)



17. A product measuring 2000 mm is drawn to a scale of 1 : 50. Its length on the drawing is [2 marks]

(1) 20 mm

(2) 40 mm

(3) 1000 mm

(4) 80 mm

18. What is the height (in cubes) of the tallest stack in the solid? [2 marks]

Top view: number of cubes
in each stack

1	2	2
1	3	4
3	2	0

(1) 5

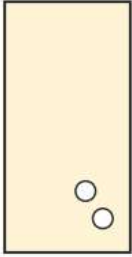
(2) 3

(3) 4

(4) 6

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) 5

(2) 3

(3) 2

(4) 4

20. A 'mood board' is used by designers to [2 marks]

- (1) Collect images, colours and textures that express a theme
- (2) Calculate costs
- (3) Print final designs
- (4) Measure room size

21. A 70 cm strip of fabric is cut in the ratio 2 : 5. The longer piece measures [2 marks]

(1) 60 cm

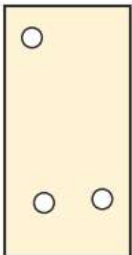
(2) 50 cm

(3) 20 cm

(4) 36 cm

22. A square sheet of paper is folded once (in half) 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) 7

(2) 5

(3) 3

(4) 6

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

23. Using only a circle, a triangle and a square (you may repeat, resize or overlap them), build three different characters or objects that could belong in a scene of a street food stall. Add simple lines, patterns or textures to finish each. Give each one a one-line caption. [15 marks]

24. Design thinking. Redesign an everyday chair for a delivery rider. (a) Write 3 problems this user faces with the usual chair. [4 marks] (b) Sketch three different design ideas with short notes. [8 marks] (c) Choose one and draw a final, annotated sketch showing materials, size and how it is used. [8 marks]

25. Visual metaphor. Create a 4-frame sequence (like a flip-book) that shows the idea 'A village fair' changing from beginning to end. Use only simple shapes and lines. Below the frames, write one sentence saying what your sequence means. [15 marks]

26. Imagination. Imagine a new object that combines a table lamp and a umbrella. (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.

WORKED SOLUTIONS

Section A solutions give the correct option and the reasoning. Section B gives an approach and a marking rubric.

Solutions - Mock Test 5

SECTION A

Q1. Answer: (2) - FGUKIP

Compare P → R: every letter moves 2 places forward in the alphabet. Apply the same shift to DESIGN: D E S I G
N → F G U K I P.

Q2. Answer: (3) - 158

Each term = previous $\times 2 + 2$. So the next term is $78 \times 2 + 2 = 158$.

Q3. Answer: (4) - Orange

Complementary colours sit opposite each other. Opposite blue is orange.

Q4. Answer: (3)

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 (3).

Q5. Answer: (3) - 91

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

Q6. Answer: (3) - Cotton

Cotton is plant-based. Nylon, polyester and acrylic are synthetic.

Q7. Answer: (2) - 56

Students who like at least one = $28 + 30 - 14 = 44$. Neither = $100 - 44 = 56$.

Q8. Answer: (2)

Three figures are pentagons (5 sides). Figure (2) has 8 sides, a octagon, so it is the odd one out (rotation of a shape does not change its type).

Q9. Answer: (2)

A mirror placed along the bottom (a horizontal mirror) reverses the figure top-to-bottom and leaves the other direction unchanged. Reverse each column of the grid to get option (2). The remaining options are rotations or the opposite flip, which a mirror cannot produce.

Q10. Answer: (4) - 18

Add the numbers in all cells of the plan: $4 + 1 + 2 + 1 + 3 + 2 + 1 + 4 = 18$.

Q11. Answer: (1) - Gujarat and Rajasthan

Bandhani (bandhej) is a tie-dye tradition of Gujarat and Rajasthan.

Q12. Answer: (3) - Do not appear on the colour wheel

Neutrals (black, white, grey) are not hues on the colour wheel.

Q13. Answer: (3) - Vanishing point

Parallel lines receding from the viewer appear to meet at the vanishing point on the horizon line.

Q14. Answer: (3)

Compare consecutive boxes: the arrow turns 135° anticlockwise each time (the arrow angles, measured anticlockwise from the right, are 180° , 315° , 90° , 225°). The next angle is $225^\circ + 135^\circ = 0^\circ$, which is option (3).

Q15. Answer: (3) - 81

The terms are the squares 16, 25, 36, 49, 64. The next square is $81 = 9^2$.

Q16. Answer: (3)

Compare consecutive boxes: the arrow turns 135° clockwise each time (the arrow angles, measured anticlockwise from the right, are 45° , 270° , 135° , 0°). The next angle is $0^\circ - 135^\circ = 225^\circ$, which is option (3).

Q17. Answer: (2) - 40 mm

At a scale of 1 : 50, drawing length = actual length $\div 50 = 2000 \div 50 = 40$ mm.

Q18. Answer: (3) - 4

The largest number in the plan is 4.

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) - Collect images, colours and textures that express a theme

A mood board gathers visual inspiration to communicate the feel of a project.

Q21. Answer: (2) - 50 cm

Total parts = $2 + 5 = 7$. One part = $70 \div 7 = 10$. The larger share = $5 \times 10 = 50$.

Q22. Answer: (4) - 6

Each fold doubles the layers punched through. The sheet is folded once (in half), so 3 hole(s) in the folded sheet go through 2 layers. Unfolding gives $3 \times 2 = 6$ holes (each hole is mirrored across every crease).

SECTION B - approach and marking rubric

Q23 (15 marks). Approach:

Look for hidden objects inside the shapes: a circle can become a head, wheel, sun or fruit; a triangle can be a body, roof or box; a square can be a hat, flag or beak. Combine them so each drawing reads clearly at a glance. Keep all three drawings in the setting of a street food stall (e.g. a figure holding an umbrella, a bus, a lamp-post). Fill with patterns (dots, stripes, scales) rather than adding new shapes.

Criterion	Marks
Creative, recognisable use of the given shapes only	6
Variety across the three drawings	4
Detail, pattern and texture	3
Captions linked to the scene	2

Q24 (20 marks). Approach:

Empathise: imagine a day in the life of a delivery rider using a chair. Note real problems (weight, grip, reach, safety, cost, storage). Ideate: push for variety, e.g. change the form, the material, and the way it is held or used. Select with a quick check against the problems you listed. Final sketch: show at least two views, a dimension or two (e.g. 'handle 30 mm thick'), the materials and one feature that directly solves a stated problem.

Criterion	Marks
Insightful user problems (empathy)	4
Three clearly different ideas	8
Final design: logic, annotation, materials and size	6
Drawing quality and presentation	2

Q25 (15 marks). Approach:

Pick one object that can transform, e.g. for 'A village fair' a tap, a seed, a bulb or a bird. Frame 1: the starting situation; frames 2 and 3: gradual changes (size, position, number); frame 4: the end state. Keep the background fixed so that the viewer sees only the change. Write a sentence that names the message (for example, 'small steps make a big change').

Criterion	Marks
Clear idea of change across frames	6
Smart, simple use of shapes/lines	4
Consistency of style	3
Explanatory sentence	2

Q26 (20 marks). Approach:

List the main functions and shapes of a table lamp and of an umbrella, 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

ANSWER KEY – SECTION A

Each entry is the number of the correct option, (1) to (4). Section B has no fixed answer key; see the approach and rubric in the solutions.

Mock Test 1

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

Mock Test 2

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

Mock Test 3

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

Mock Test 4

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

Mock Test 5

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

Mock Test 6

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