

# NID DAT PRELIMS 2027

## B.Des Mock Test Series

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

|                                |                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Tests</b>                   | 30 mock tests (Test 1 to Test 30)                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Mode and time</b>           | Pen-and-paper style · 3 hours per test                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Total marks</b>             | 100 per test, no negative marking                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Section A (30 marks)</b>    | 22 objective questions: Q1-14 carry 1 mark each (14), Q15-22 carry 2 marks each (16)                                                                                                      |
| <b>Section B (70 marks)</b>    | 4 subjective drawing and design questions: Q23 (15), Q24 (20), Q25 (15), Q26 (20)                                                                                                         |
| <b>Topics</b>                  | Visualisation and spatial ability · logical and analytical reasoning · design awareness, colour, typography, craft and architecture · drawing, observation, design thinking, storytelling |
| <b>Included for every test</b> | 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](https://admissions.nid.edu) for the final pattern.

*These are original practice questions, not official NID papers.*

# MOCK TEST 9

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. Which Indian city is known as the 'Blue City'? [1 mark]

(1) Ajmer

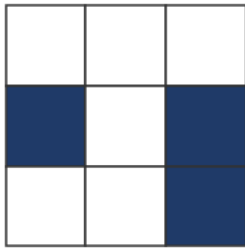
(2) Jaipur

(3) Bikaner

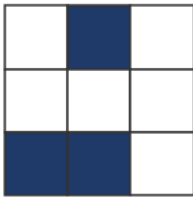
(4) Jodhpur

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

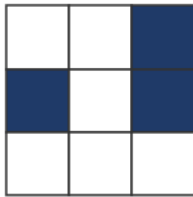
Given figure



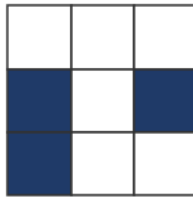
(1)



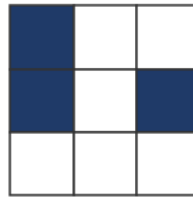
(2)



(3)



(4)



3. In a code, COLOUR is written as ZLILRO. How is FRAME written in the same code? [1 mark]

(1) DPYKC

(2) COXJB

(3) BNWIA

(4) IUDPH

4. In a code, LAYOUT is written as KZXNTS. How is SHAPE written in the same code? [1 mark]

(1) QFYNC

(2) TIBQF

(3) SHAPE

(4) RGZOD

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

(1)



(2)



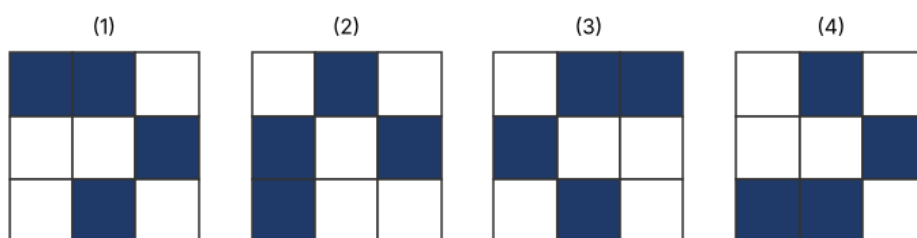
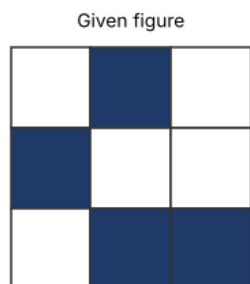
(3)



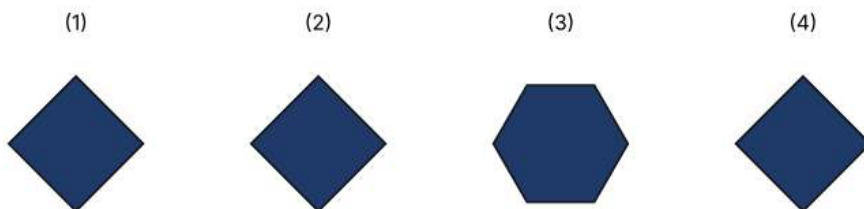
(4)



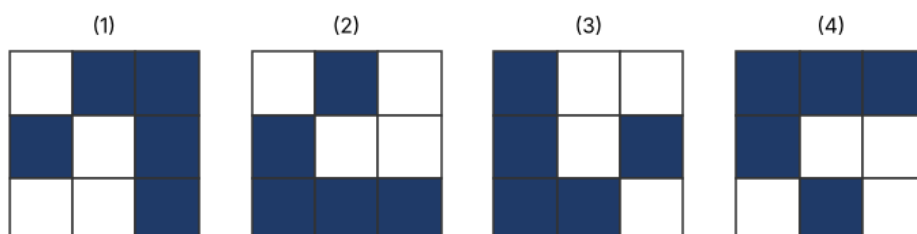
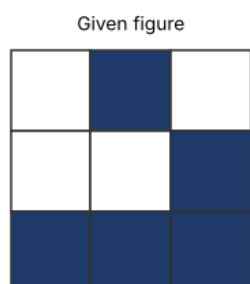
6. A mirror is placed on the right-hand side (a vertical mirror) of the figure. Which option shows the mirror image? [1 mark]



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



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



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

- (1) 90° only      (2) 60° and 30° only      (3) 120° to each other      (4) 45° to each other

10. The three primary colours of the traditional RYB (artist's) colour wheel are [1 mark]

- (1) Red, green and blue      (2) Red, yellow and blue  
(3) Cyan, magenta and yellow      (4) Orange, green and purple

**11.** The golden ratio is approximately [1 mark]

(1) 1.414

(2) 3.142

(3) 1.618

(4) 2.718

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

(1)



(2)



(3)



(4)



**13.** Shades are made by adding \_\_\_\_ to a pure hue. [1 mark]

(1) Black

(2) Red

(3) Grey

(4) White

**14.** In a code, CRAFT is written as ZOXCQ. How is POSTER written in the same code? [1 mark]

(1) SRVWHU

(2) MLPQBO

(3) NMQRCP

(4) LKOPAN

Questions 15 to 22 carry 2 marks each.

**15.** A designer walks 15 m north, turns right and walks 12 m, then turns right again and walks 10 m. How far is she from the starting point? [2 marks]

(1) 3 m

(2) 13 m

(3) 37 m

(4) 17 m

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

Top view: number of cubes  
in each stack

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 3 | 1 | 3 |
| 0 | 1 | 2 |

(1) 5

(2) 4

(3) 2

(4) 3

**17.** A product measuring 4000 mm is drawn to a scale of 1 : 50. Its length on the drawing is [2 marks]

(1) 80 mm

(2) 2000 mm

(3) 160 mm

(4) 40 mm

**18.** Find the figure that continues the series. [2 marks]



(1)



(2)



(3)



(4)



**19.** Find the figure that continues the series. [2 marks]

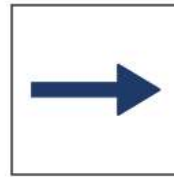


(1)

(2)

(3)

(4)



**20.** A product measuring 1000 mm is drawn to a scale of 1 : 4. Its length on the drawing is [2 marks]

(1) 40 mm

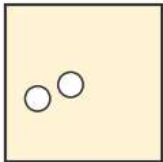
(2) 250 mm

(3) 125 mm

(4) 500 mm

**21.** A square sheet of paper is folded twice (in half, then in half again) 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) 8

(2) 7

(3) 4

(4) 9

**22.** Which of the following is a natural fibre? [2 marks]

(1) Cotton

(2) Nylon

(3) Polyester

(4) Acrylic

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

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

**24.** Design thinking. Redesign an everyday doorknob for a delivery rider. (a) Write 3 problems this user faces with the usual doorknob. [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 day at the market' 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 backpack and a pencil sharpener. (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 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 9

### SECTION A

**Q1. Answer: (4) - Jodhpur**

Many houses in old Jodhpur are painted blue.

**Q2. Answer: (3)**

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 (3). The remaining options are rotations or the opposite flip, which a mirror cannot produce.

**Q3. Answer: (2) - COXJB**

Compare C → Z: every letter moves 3 places back in the alphabet. Apply the same shift to FRAME: F R A M E → C O X J B.

**Q4. Answer: (4) - RGZOD**

Compare L → K: every letter moves 1 place back in the alphabet. Apply the same shift to SHAPE: S H A P E → R G Z O D.

**Q5. Answer: (3)**

Three figures are quadrilaterals (4 sides). Figure (3) has 5 sides, a pentagon, so it is the odd one out (rotation of a shape does not change its type).

**Q6. Answer: (4)**

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 (4). The remaining options are rotations or the opposite flip, which a mirror cannot produce.

**Q7. Answer: (3)**

Three figures are quadrilaterals (4 sides). Figure (3) has 6 sides, a hexagon, so it is the odd one out (rotation of a shape does not change its type).

**Q8. 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.

**Q9. Answer: (3) - 120° to each other**

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

**Q10. Answer: (2) - Red, yellow and blue**

Artists' RYB primaries are red, yellow and blue. Red-green-blue is the additive light model, and cyan-magenta-yellow is the print model.

**Q11. Answer: (3) - 1.618**

The golden ratio  $\phi = (1 + \sqrt{5})/2 \approx 1.618$ .  $\sqrt{2} \approx 1.414$ ,  $e \approx 2.718$ ,  $\pi \approx 3.142$ .

**Q12. Answer: (2)**

Three figures are triangles (3 sides). Figure (2) has 6 sides, a hexagon, so it is the odd one out (rotation of a shape does not change its type).

**Q13. Answer: (1) - Black**

Shade = hue + black.

**Q14. Answer: (2) - MLPQBO**

Compare C → Z: every letter moves 3 places back in the alphabet. Apply the same shift to POSTER: P O S T E R → M L P Q B O.

**Q15. Answer: (2) - 13 m**

Take the start as the origin. After the first leg (15 m) and the turns, the net movement along that line is  $15 - 10 = 5$  m, and the sideways movement is 12 m. Distance =  $\sqrt{5^2 + 12^2} = 13$  m.

**Q16. Answer: (4) - 3**

The largest number in the plan is 3.

**Q17. Answer: (1) - 80 mm**

At a scale of 1 : 50, drawing length = actual length ÷ 50 = 4000 ÷ 50 = 80 mm.

**Q18. Answer: (1)**

Compare consecutive boxes: the arrow turns 90° anticlockwise each time (the arrow angles, measured anticlockwise from the right, are 90°, 180°, 270°, 0°). The next angle is 0° + 90° = 90°, which is option (1).

**Q19. Answer: (3)**

Compare consecutive boxes: the arrow turns 45° anticlockwise each time (the arrow angles, measured anticlockwise from the right, are 0°, 45°, 90°, 135°). The next angle is 135° + 45° = 180°, which is option (3).

**Q20. Answer: (2) - 250 mm**

At a scale of 1 : 4, drawing length = actual length ÷ 4 = 1000 ÷ 4 = 250 mm.

**Q21. Answer: (1) - 8**

Each fold doubles the layers punched through. The sheet is folded twice (in half, then in half again), so 2 hole(s) in the folded sheet go through 4 layers. Unfolding gives 2 × 4 = 8 holes (each hole is mirrored across every crease).

**Q22. Answer: (1) - Cotton**

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

## 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 bus stop in the rain before drawing. For surprise, 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:**

Empathise: imagine a day in the life of a delivery rider using a doorknob. 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 day at the market' 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 backpack and of a pencil sharpener, 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     |