Important Formulas for Quantitative Aptitude & Reasoning

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A comprehensive guide for Government Competitive Exams

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#### **Number System**

## **Basic Properties**

- Sum of first n natural numbers: n(n+1)/2
- Sum of first n odd numbers: n<sup>2</sup>
- **Sum of first n even numbers**: n(n+1)
- Sum of squares of first n natural numbers: n(n+1)(2n+1)/6
- Sum of cubes of first n natural numbers:  $[n(n+1)/2]^2$

## **Divisibility Rules**

- **Divisible by 2**: Last digit is even
- **Divisible by 3**: Sum of digits divisible by 3
- **Divisible by 4**: Last two digits divisible by 4
- **Divisible by 5**: Last digit is 0 or 5
- **Divisible by 8**: Last three digits divisible by 8
- **Divisible by 9**: Sum of digits divisible by 9
- **Divisible by 11**: Difference of sum of alternate digits divisible by 11

#### **HCF** and LCM

- For two numbers a and b:  $HCF \times LCM = a \times b$
- LCM of fractions: LCM of numerators / HCF of denominators
- **HCF of fractions**: HCF of numerators / LCM of denominators

#### **Percentage**

#### **Basic Formulas**

- **Percentage**: (Value/Total Value) × 100
- Value from percentage: (Percentage/100) × Total Value
- Percentage increase: [(New Value Original Value)/Original Value] × 100
- **Percentage decrease**: [(Original Value New Value)/Original Value] × 100

#### **Important Results**

- If A is x% more than B: B is  $[x/(100+x)] \times 100\%$  less than A
- If A is x% less than B: B is  $[x/(100-x)] \times 100\%$  more than A

• Successive percentage changes: If two successive changes of a% and b%, net change = a + b + (ab/100)%

#### **Ratio and Proportion**

#### **Basic Formulas**

- If  $\mathbf{a}:\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{c}:\mathbf{d}$ : Then  $\mathbf{a}/\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{c}/\mathbf{d}$  (Cross multiplication:  $\mathbf{ad} = \mathbf{bc}$ )
- **Mean proportional**: If a:b = b:c, then  $b^2 = ac$ , b is mean proportional
- Third proportional: If a:b = b:c, then c is third proportional to a and b

## **Properties**

- **Componendo**: If a/b = c/d, then (a+b)/b = (c+d)/d
- **Dividendo**: If a/b = c/d, then (a-b)/b = (c-d)/d
- Componendo-Dividendo: If a/b = c/d, then (a+b)/(a-b) = (c+d)/(c-d)

#### **Partition**

- **Direct proportion**: If quantity Q is divided in ratio a:b:c, then parts are  $(a/(a+b+c))\times Q$ ,  $(b/(a+b+c))\times Q$ ,  $(c/(a+b+c))\times Q$
- **Inverse proportion**: If three quantities are in inverse ratio a:b:c, they are distributed in ratio 1/a:1/b:1/c

#### Average

#### **Basic Formula**

- **Average**: Sum of all observations / Number of observations
- Weighted average:  $(w_1x_1 + w_2x_2 + ... + w_nx_n)/(w_1 + w_2 + ... + w_n)$

#### **Important Results**

- Average of first n natural numbers: (n+1)/2
- Average of first n odd numbers: n
- Average of first n even numbers: n+1
- Average of consecutive numbers: (First + Last)/2

## Age Problems

- **Present average age**: If average age of n people is A years, total age = nA
- After k years: Average age = A + k
- **k years ago**: Average age = A k

## **Simple Interest & Compound Interest**

## Simple Interest (SI)

- $SI = (P \times R \times T)/100$
- Amount = P + SI
- P = Principal, R = Rate%, T = Time

## Compound Interest (CI)

- Amount =  $P(1 + R/100)^T$
- **CI** = **Amount Principal**
- For half-yearly compounding:  $A = P(1 + R/200)^{2T}$
- For quarterly compounding:  $A = P(1 + R/400)^{4T}$

## **Important Results**

- Difference between CI and SI for 2 years: PR<sup>2</sup>/10000
- Difference between CI and SI for 3 years:  $PR^2(300 + R)/1000000$

### **Profit and Loss**

## **Basic Formulas**

- Profit = SP CP
- Loss = CP SP
- $Profit\% = (Profit/CP) \times 100$
- $Loss\% = (Loss/CP) \times 100$
- SP = CP(100 + Profit%)/100
- SP = CP(100 Loss%)/100
- $CP = SP \times 100/(100 + Profit\%)$
- $CP = SP \times 100/(100 Loss\%)$

#### Discount

- Discount = MP SP
- Discount% = (Discount/MP)  $\times$  100
- SP = MP(100 Discount%)/100

## **Partnership**

- Profit sharing ratio = Investment ratio × Time ratio
- **For equal time**: Profit ratio = Investment ratio
- **For equal investment**: Profit ratio = Time ratio

#### **Time and Work**

#### **Basic Formulas**

- Work = Rate  $\times$  Time
- If A can do work in 'a' days: A's 1 day work = 1/a
- If A and B together can do work in 'd' days: (A+B)'s 1 day work = 1/d
- Combined work: 1/a + 1/b = 1/d, where d = ab/(a+b)

## **Pipes and Cisterns**

- **Filling pipes**: Add the rates
- **Emptying pipes**: Subtract the rates
- Net rate = Inflow rate Outflow rate

## Wages

- Wages ratio = Work ratio = Efficiency ratio
- If efficiency ratio is a:b, time ratio = b:a

## Time, Speed and Distance

#### **Basic Formulas**

• Distance = Speed  $\times$  Time

- Speed = Distance/Time
- Time = Distance/Speed
- Average Speed = Total Distance/Total Time

#### **Unit Conversions**

km/hr to m/s: Multiply by 5/18
m/s to km/hr: Multiply by 18/5

### **Relative Speed**

• Same direction: Relative speed =  $|S_1 - S_2|$ 

• **Opposite direction**: Relative speed =  $S_1 + S_2$ 

#### Trains

- Time to cross a pole/man: Length of train/Speed of train
- Time to cross a platform: (Length of train + Length of platform)/Speed of train
- Time for two trains to cross each other:  $(L_1 + L_2)/(S_1 + S_2)$  [opposite direction]

### **Boats and Streams**

- Downstream speed = Boat speed + Stream speed
- Upstream speed = Boat speed Stream speed
- Boat speed = (Downstream + Upstream)/2
- Stream speed = (Downstream Upstream)/2

### Mensuration

#### 2D Shapes

### Rectangle

- Perimeter = 2(l + b)
- Area =  $1 \times b$
- Diagonal =  $\sqrt{(l^2 + b^2)}$

## **Square**

- Perimeter = 4a
- Area =  $a^2$
- Diagonal =  $a\sqrt{2}$

#### Circle

- Circumference =  $2\pi r$
- Area =  $\pi r^2$
- Arc length =  $(\theta/360^\circ) \times 2\pi r$
- Sector area =  $(\theta/360^\circ) \times \pi r^2$

## Triangle

- Area =  $(1/2) \times base \times height$
- Area =  $\sqrt{[s(s-a)(s-b)(s-c)]}$  (Heron's formula)
- s = (a+b+c)/2 (semi-perimeter)

#### **Rhombus**

- Area =  $(1/2) \times d_1 \times d_2$  (d<sub>1</sub>, d<sub>2</sub> are diagonals)
- Area = base  $\times$  height

## Trapezium

• Area =  $(1/2) \times (\text{sum of parallel sides}) \times \text{height}$ 

### 3D Shapes

### Cube

- Volume =  $a^3$
- Surface area = 6a<sup>2</sup>
- Diagonal =  $a\sqrt{3}$

## Cuboid

- Volume =  $\mathbf{l} \times \mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{h}$
- Surface area = 2(lb + bh + hl)
- Diagonal =  $\sqrt{(l^2 + b^2 + h^2)}$

## Cylinder

- Volume =  $\pi r^2 h$
- Curved surface area =  $2\pi rh$
- Total surface area =  $2\pi r(r + h)$

#### Cone

- Volume =  $(1/3)\pi r^2 h$
- Curved surface area =  $\pi$ rl (1 = slant height)
- Total surface area =  $\pi r(r + l)$
- Slant height =  $\sqrt{(r^2 + h^2)}$

## **Sphere**

- Volume =  $(4/3)\pi r^3$
- Surface area =  $4\pi r^2$

## Algebra

### **Basic Identities**

- $(a + b)^2 = a^2 + 2ab + b^2$
- $(a b)^2 = a^2 2ab + b^2$
- $a^2 b^2 = (a + b)(a b)$
- $(a + b)^3 = a^3 + 3a^2b + 3ab^2 + b^3$
- $(a b)^3 = a^3 3a^2b + 3ab^2 b^3$
- $a^3 + b^3 = (a + b)(a^2 ab + b^2)$
- $a^3 b^3 = (a b)(a^2 + ab + b^2)$

## **Quadratic Equations**

- $\bullet \quad ax^2 + bx + c = 0$
- Discriminant (D) =  $b^2$  4ac
- Roots =  $[-b \pm \sqrt{(b^2 4ac)}]/2a$
- Sum of roots = -b/a
- Product of roots = c/a

## Arithmetic Progression (AP)

- nth term:  $a_n = a + (n-1)d$
- Sum of n terms: S = n/2[2a + (n-1)d]

• Sum of n terms: S = n/2(first term + last term)

## Geometric Progression (GP)

• nth term:  $a_n = ar^{\wedge}(n-1)$ 

• Sum of n terms:  $S = a(r^n - 1)/(r - 1) [r \neq 1]$ 

• Sum to infinity: S = a/(1-r) [|r| < 1]

## **Trigonometry**

#### **Basic Ratios**

•  $\sin \theta = \text{opposite/hypotenuse}$ 

•  $\cos \theta = \text{adjacent/hypotenuse}$ 

•  $\tan \theta = \text{opposite/adjacent} = \sin \theta / \cos \theta$ 

•  $\cot \theta = 1/\tan \theta$ 

•  $\sec \theta = 1/\cos \theta$ 

•  $\csc \theta = 1/\sin \theta$ 

### **Fundamental Identities**

•  $\sin^2\theta + \cos^2\theta = 1$ 

•  $1 + \tan^2\theta = \sec^2\theta$ 

•  $1 + \cot^2\theta = \csc^2\theta$ 

## **Standard Values**

Angle	0°	30°	45°	60°	90°
sin θ	0	1/2	1/√2	√3/2	1
cos θ	1	√3/2	1/√2	1/2	0
tan θ	0	1/√3	1	√3	∞

## **Statistics**

## **Measures of Central Tendency**

- Mean =  $\Sigma x/n$
- Median: Middle value when arranged in order
- Mode: Most frequently occurring value

### **Measures of Dispersion**

- Range = Maximum value Minimum value
- Mean deviation =  $\Sigma |x mean|/n$
- Standard deviation  $(\sigma) = \sqrt{(\Sigma(x mean)^2/n)}$
- Variance =  $\sigma^2$

### **Probability**

#### **Basic Formulas**

- P(E) = Number of favorable outcomes/Total number of outcomes
- P(E) + P(E') = 1 (E' is complement of E)
- $P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) P(A \cap B)$
- $P(A \cap B) = P(A) \times P(B)$  [for independent events]

## **Conditional Probability**

•  $P(A|B) = P(A \cap B)/P(B)$ 

### **Permutation and Combination**

## **Basic Formulas**

- $\mathbf{nPr} = \mathbf{n!}/(\mathbf{n-r})!$  (Permutation)
- nCr = n!/(r!(n-r)!) (Combination)
- nC0 = 1, nCn = 1
- nCr = nC(n-r)
- nCr + nC(r-1) = (n+1)Cr

## **Special Cases**

- Circular permutation of n objects = (n-1)!
- Arrangement of n objects with r identical = n!/r!

#### **Reasoning Formulas**

#### **Number Series**

- **Arithmetic series**: a, a+d, a+2d, ... (common difference)
- **Geometric series**: a, ar, ar<sup>2</sup>, ... (common ratio)
- **Square series**: 1<sup>2</sup>, 2<sup>2</sup>, 3<sup>2</sup>, ... or perfect squares
- Cube series: 1<sup>3</sup>, 2<sup>3</sup>, 3<sup>3</sup>, ... or perfect cubes

## **Coding-Decoding**

- Letter position in alphabet: A=1, B=2, C=3, ..., Z=26
- Reverse position: A=26, B=25, C=24, ..., Z=1

#### **Direction and Distance**

- Pythagoras theorem for displacement:  $d = \sqrt{(x^2 + y^2)}$
- North/South cancels out East/West components

## **Age Relations**

- If A is x years older than B: A's age = B's age + x
- After n years: Everyone's age increases by n
- **Before n years**: Everyone's age decreases by n

### **Clock Problems**

- Hour hand moves  $360^{\circ}$  in 12 hours =  $30^{\circ}$  per hour =  $0.5^{\circ}$  per minute
- Minute hand moves  $360^{\circ}$  in 60 minutes =  $6^{\circ}$  per minute
- Relative speed =  $6^{\circ}$   $0.5^{\circ}$  =  $5.5^{\circ}$  per minute
- Hands coincide every 12/11 hours
- Hands are perpendicular 44 times in 24 hours

## Calendar

- Leap year: Divisible by 4 (except century years, which must be divisible by 400)
- **Days in months**: 31 days (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Aug, Oct, Dec), 30 days (Apr, Jun, Sep, Nov), 28/29 days (Feb)
- **Day of week calculation**: Use remainder when divided by 7

## **Quick Reference - Important Values**

## **Mathematical Constants**

- $\pi \approx 3.14159 \text{ or } 22/7$
- $e \approx 2.718$
- $\sqrt{2} \approx 1.414$
- $\sqrt{3} \approx 1.732$
- $\sqrt{5} \approx 2.236$

## Perfect Squares (1-30)

1, 4, 9, 16, 25, 36, 49, 64, 81, 100, 121, 144, 169, 196, 225, 256, 289, 324, 361, 400, 441, 484, 529, 576, 625, 676, 729, 784, 841, 900

## Perfect Cubes (1-20)

1, 8, 27, 64, 125, 216, 343, 512, 729, 1000, 1331, 1728, 2197, 2744, 3375, 4096, 4913, 5832, 6859, 8000

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**Note**: Practice these formulas regularly and understand their applications. Remember, consistent practice is the key to mastering quantitative aptitude and reasoning sections in competitive exams.