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# IBM Placement Papers 2026

27 MCQs with answer key · Free download

## Exam pattern

IBM ASE-style: Programming Logic MCQs for DSA themes plus English Language items. Live OA is coding-first. Practice set — not an official IBM paper.

## Questions

### Programming Logic

Q1. Reverse a linked list iteratively uses how many pointers typically?

A) 3 (prev,curr,next)
B) 1 only
C) 0
D) 10

Q2. BFS uses which structure?

A) Queue
B) Stack only
C) Priority queue always
D) Hash only

Q3. DFS recursion depth risk on skewed tree of n:

A) O(n) stack
B) O(1)
C) O(log n) always
D) O(n^2)

Q4. Find missing number 1..n with XOR approach is:

A) O(n) time O(1) space
B) O(n^2)
C) Needs sort always
D) Impossible

Q5. Kadane's algorithm finds:

A) Max subarray sum
B) Shortest path
C) MST
D) Top sort

Q6. Heap insert average:

A) O(log n)
B) O(n)
C) O(1) always
D) O(n log n)

Q7. HashMap average get: [IBM paper]

A) O(1)
B) O(n)
C) O(log n) guaranteed always
D) O(n^2)

Q8. Stable sort among:

A) Merge sort
B) Heap sort
C) Selection
D) Quick (not stable)

Q9. Dijkstra needs non-negative weights because:

A) Relaxation correctness
B) Stack overflow
C) TCP
D) SQL nulls

Q10. Anagram check of two strings best:

A) Count freq / sort compare
B) DFS
C) BFS
D) Bellman-Ford

## English Language

Q11. Choose correct: The team ___ decided.

A) has
B) have (BrE collective sometimes)
C) are
D) were always

Q12. Synonym of 'concise':

A) brief
B) verbose
C) vague
D) lengthy

Q13. Antonym of 'obsolete':

A) modern / current
B) outdated
C) ancient
D) defunct

Q14. Fill: He is good ___ mathematics.

A) at
B) in
C) on
D) by

Q15. Error: 'He don't know.' Correct:

A) He doesn't know
B) He don't knows
C) He not know
D) He no know

## Quantitative Ability

Q16. Simple interest on 5000 at 8% for 3 years:

A) 1200
B) 1000
C) 1500
D) 800

Q17. If 20% of x = 50, x=

A) 250
B) 200
C) 150
D) 100

Q18. Speed 60 km/h for 2.5 h covers:

A) 150 km
B) 120
C) 100
D) 180

## Logical Reasoning

Q19. Cube painted, cut into 27. Cubes with 3 faces painted:

A) 8
B) 1
C) 6
D) 12

Q20. If all flowers are plants, some plants are trees — 'some flowers are trees'?

A) Does not follow
B) Follows
C) Either
D) Only

## Technical MCQ

Q21. JVM stands for:

A) Java Virtual Machine
B) Java Visual Map
C) Joint Virtual Memory
D) JSON Void Method

Q22. Cloud IaaS example category:

A) Compute/storage infrastructure
B) Only Gmail UI
C) Only compiler
D) Only IDE theme

Q23. SQL DELETE vs TRUNCATE:

A) TRUNCATE is DDL faster typically, resets identity often
B) Same always
C) DELETE faster always
D) TRUNCATE logs each row always

Q24. Process vs Thread:

A) Threads share address space of process
B) Processes share heap always
C) Threads never share
D) No difference

Q25. HTTPS encrypts via:

A) TLS
B) FTP
C) SMTP
D) ARP

Q26. Agile sprint is typically:

A) Time-boxed iteration
B) Infinite loop
C) Waterfall phase only
D) Hardware burn-in

## Programming Logic

Q27. Topological sort applies to:

A) Directed Acyclic Graph
B) Undirected cycle only
C) Complete graph only
D) Bipartite only

# Answer Key & Explanations

## Programming Logic

Q1. A
Standard reverse.

Q2. A
Level order.

Q3. A
Chain depth n.

Q4. A
XOR trick.

Q5. A
DP classic.

Q6. A
Bubble up.

Q7. A
Amortized.

Q8. A
Merge is stable.

Q9. A
Negatives break Dijkstra.

Q10. A
Counting.

## English Language

Q11. A
AmE collective singular often has.

Q12. A
Brief.

Q13. A
Current.

Q14. A
Good at.

Q15. A
Doesn't.

## Quantitative Ability

Q16. A
PRT/100=1200.

Q17. A
0.2x=50.

Q18. A
60*2.5.

## Logical Reasoning

Q19. A
Corner cubes.

Q20. A
No.

## Technical MCQ

Q21. A
JVM.

Q22. A
IaaS.

Q23. A
Common interview.

Q24. A
Shared memory.

Q25. A
TLS.

Q26. A
Sprint.

## Programming Logic

Q27. A
DAG topo.

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