

SNAP 2008

SNAP 2008, conducted on 21st December 2008 retained its earlier format in some aspects: 180 marks test with questions divided into 4 sections that had to be solved in 2 hours. SNAP 2008 differed in structure from SNAP 2007. The total number of questions also decreased to 135 from 150 questions of previous year. The Analytical and Logical Reasoning section had 30 questions of 2 marks each, just like SNAP 2007. However the other 3 sections, viz. General English, General Awareness and Quantitative and Data Interpretation and Data Sufficiency, each had 30 questions of 1 mark each and 5 questions of 2 marks each.

SNAP 2008 - An Overview

Overall Test Structure

Institutes accepting this exam score	12 Post-graduate institutes of Symbiosis
Total Duration of the exam (minutes)	120 minutes
Total number of questions	135
Number of sections	4
Sectional timing	No
Number of choices per question	4
Marks per question	Differential*
Negative marking	1/4 th of the allotted mark *

In 3 sections, first 30 questions carried 1 mark each and the rest 5 2 marks each. In Analytical & Logical Reasoning section, all 30 questions of 2 marks each.

Section Wise Test Structure

Sections	Area	No. of questions
1	General English	35
2	Quantitative Ability, Data Interpretation & Data Sufficiency	35
3	General Awareness	35
4	Analytical & Logical Reasoning	30
Total		135

Section 1 – General English

This section comprised questions on verbal ability as well as reading comprehension. Broadly speaking, the questions were almost at par with the types and the level of difficulty of questions that have been appearing for the last two years.

This was a comparatively easy section. The questions based on grammar were mostly doable. There were many questions asked on topics like synonyms, plurals, spellings and usage. There were 3 RCs, one with 6 questions and the other two with 3 each. The RC with 6 questions was on environmental pollution due to cars in the background of the launch of the Nano. The second RC was on census and its history and the third one on the Great Depression of 1929. The RCs were of moderate difficulty level since some of the questions were inferential; however some others were direct questions. The RC on the Great Depression contained a question on an antonym. The RC with 6 questions and any one of the two other RCs should have been attempted. Moreover on the slightly tougher side, there were 2 questions that tested skills such as parallel reasoning and differing usage of the same word, and a good knowledge of idioms and phrases, through the format of "Match the Following". The questions on grammar should have been attempted first.

A good attempt would have been 23 to 25 questions with a possible score of 20 + marks.

Section 2 - Quantitative Ability, Data Interpretation & Data Sufficiency

The Quantitative part required basic knowledge of mathematical concepts. However, there was a slight emphasis on analysis and concepts such as permutations and combinations and probability. A few of the questions required simple calculations. This section had 25 questions on Problem Solving, covering topics like numbers, percentage, puzzle, TSD, clocks, profit & loss, inequalities, series, ratio, P & C, probability, stocks, stats, geometry (area, volume and triangle), series completion, etc. The questions ranged from easy to moderately difficult ones. In geometry, 2 questions involved option-based solving. In the 2 mark questions, one question was based on a table and was calculation intensive. The DI questions were very easy, especially, the 4 questions on tables. Out of the 4 questions on bar graphs, 3 were easy and 1 was slightly difficult because it was time-consuming. In the 1 mark questions, there were two sets of questions with tables. Both were calculation intensive and carried 4 qs each. There was also another single question based on a table where one had to calculate a ratio. There were only 2 Data Sufficiency questions and these could be easily answered. The 5 questions with 2 marks each differed from the other 30 questions carrying 1 mark each only with respect to their difficulty level, which was slightly higher in the former case.

This section was time consuming because it was calculation intensive and one had to spend some time in reading and understanding the questions and then solving them. A sound strategy would have been to attempt the tabular form of questions first along with the ones involving simple calculations. At least 3 of the 5 questions with 2 marks each should have been attempted.

A good attempt in this section would be around 20 to 23 questions with a possible score of 18 to 20 marks.

Section 3 – General Awareness

This section contained a lot of questions on current affairs. Apart from these questions on sports, wildlife, diet and nutrition, human biology, music and general knowledge of other topics were also present. The 5 two mark questions were on the more difficult side as compared to the other 30 with 1 mark each. 3 of these 2-mark questions were based on current affairs, 1 on bioengineering and 1 on geography.

Overall this was a moderately difficult section.

A good attempt in this section would be 15 to 19 questions with a possible score of 12 to 16 marks.

Section 4 – Analytical & Logical Reasoning

This section, which had 30 questions of 2 marks each, was time consuming. There were a lot of questions based on geometrical figures for which one had to use skills of visual reasoning and analysis. There were questions based on parallel reasoning as also a syllogism where one had to determine which conclusion(s) follow from the given statements. There were many questions, which were descriptive in character and hence took time. There were also 2 questions on Magic Squares wherein the empty boxes in the square had to be filled. Further there were 2 sets of questions on Logical Reasoning, which required considerable data interpretation and data refining skill. However, they contained 3 questions each and hence were a “must attempt”.

Thus this was a moderately difficult section again. It was especially time consuming and should not have been left at the end, as with 2 marks per question, it was also highly scoring.

A sound attempt would have been around 18 to 20 questions with a score of about 30 to 32 marks.

