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Mock Test

➤ Mock Test

1-22



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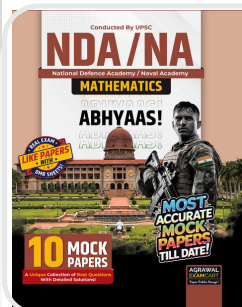
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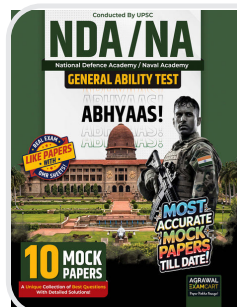
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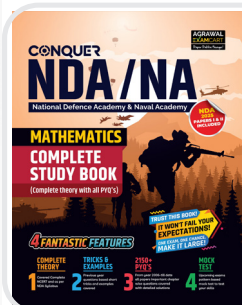
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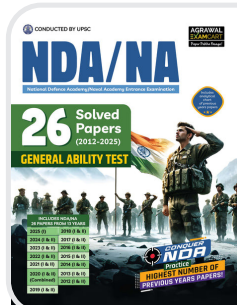
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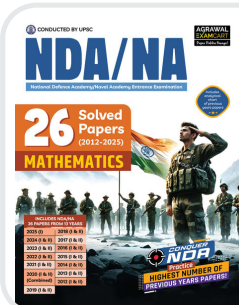
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Chapter 1

Noun: Types of Nouns, Number & Gender, Case & Confusion about the Use of Certain Nouns

Noun : Kinds of Noun

1. Definition

- It is a Naming Word. It is also defined as a name of a person, place or things. *e.g.* Manoj, Ravi, Cow, gold, Agra, truth etc.

Examples :

- The Taj Mahal is situated in Agra.
- Man is social animal.
- Axe is made of iron.
- There are sixty students in my class.
- Honesty is the best policy.

2. Kinds of Noun

- We have two main kinds of noun—concrete and abstract. Concrete nouns are the words used for things and persons that can be touched or seen. They can be Common Nouns, Proper Nouns, Collective Nouns and Material Nouns.

- **Common and Proper Nouns**—The words that denote any one of a class of persons, places or things are called Common Nouns. As soon as they acquire a name and one is distinguished from the others of the same class they become Proper Nouns. Boy, girl, mountain, dog, river are Common Nouns. When they acquire the names Ram, Durgesh, Mt. Everest, Jack, Ganga they are termed as Proper Nouns.
- **Collective Nouns** are names of groups of person, animals or things. They are usually singular as they are considered a single whole :

Example :

- There was a crowd of people/a team of players/a fleet of ships/a herd of cattle.
- If there is a reference to individual members of the group the collective noun is considered plural :

Example :

- The committee were arguing among themselves. (*i.e.* the members of the committee).
The regiment are spread around the hill. (*i.e.* soldiers are posted around).
- Some collective nouns are always considered plural. Important among them are cattle, gentry, poultry, people and vermin.

- **Names of materials** or substances (generally natural) out of which things are made are material nouns. They are generally singular : clay, cotton, dust, gold, iron, mercury, wood, wool.

- Some material nouns are also used for certain articles made from them. Then they are used as common nouns. They can have number and can be used as plurals too :

Examples :

- The window has glass panes. (material noun)
She gave me two glasses of lime juice. (common noun)

- Some such common nouns are iron (with which we press clothes), marbles (small pieces of stone with which children play), paper (when used for newspaper), tin (when used for a container)

Article is used before a material noun when it works as a common noun.

- **Abstract Nouns** are the words through which we can realize, think of or feel mentally or emotionally. They have no physical existence. They may express a feeling (pleasure, joy), an action (fight, quarrel), a general idea or a system of thought (Philosophy, Astronomy) a state (youth, birth, death), a quality (beauty, ugliness, patience).
- Some Abstract nouns are singular. Pleasure, joy, sorrow and many others can be used as plural too.

3. Some Important Collective Nouns

A jury of judges	A slice of bread
A troop of children	A grain of rice
A quiver of arrows	A pinch of snuff
A suit of rooms	A blade of grass
A pile of books	An army of soldiers
A peal of laughter	A board of directors
A chain of Mountains	A band of nomads
A band of musicians	A lock of hair
A course of study	A suit of armour
A volley of arrows	A suit of furniture
A volley of missiles	A stock of coal
A heap of rubbish	A string of onions
A brace of pigeons	A bevy of ladies
	A flight of stairs

A volley of shots	A bunch of keys
A volley of stones	A galaxy of stars
A heap of dust	A fleet of ships
A heap of stones	An army of ants
A ray of light	A covery of partridges
A pair of socks	A shoal of fish
A gust of wind	A bouquet of flowers
A pinch of salt	A choir of singers
A band of travellers	A herd of swine
A wardrobe of clothes	A stock of clothes
A flight of birds	A tuft of grass
A sheaf of grains	A crowd of people
A heap of sand	A herd of cattle

Noun : Number

1. Definition

- When a noun is single *i.e.* one, it is in the singular number. When it denotes more than one it is in the plural number.

2. Formation of Plural Nouns

- Most of the plural nouns are formed by adding 's' to the singular : books, lovers, tables, emotions.
- Words ending in s, x, z, sh or ch form the plural by adding es to the word :
kiss-kisses; tax-taxes; maze-mazes; dish-dishes; church-churches.
- If a singular noun ends in y and a consonant comes before y, they is changed into i and es is added to it : fly-flies.
- If the y at the end of the word is preceded by a vowel simply s is added to it : day-days; monkey-monkeys.
- If a singular noun ends in o preceded by a vowel the plural is formed by adding only s to it. But if it is preceded by a consonant es is added to it, bamboo-bamboos; cuckoo-cuckoos; radio-radios. But hero-heroes; mango-mangoes; potato-potatoes.
- The nouns ending in f or fe drop these and take ves to form plural. They are *calf-calves* ; *half-halves*; *knife-knives*; *leaf-leaves*; *life-lives*; *loaf-loaves*; *self-selves*; *sheaf-sheaves*, *shelf-shelves*, *thief-thieves*, *wife-wives*, *wolf-wolves* *cafe-cafes*, *fife-fifes*, *safe-safes*, *strife-strifes*.
- Nouns ending in ff, rf, oof, eef, and ief generally form plural by adding only s *cliff-cliffs*, *serf-serfs*; *proof-proofs*, *chief-chiefs*.
- Other words ending in f form the plural by adding s; *gulf-gulfs*.
- A few words ending in f have two plurals : *scarf-scarfs*, *scarves*. *staff-staffs*, *staves*; *wharf-wharfs* *wharves*.
- Eight nouns form the plural by changing an inside vowel : *dormouse-dormice*, *foot-feet*, *goose-geese*, *louse-lice*, *man-men*, *mouse-mice*; *tooth-teeth*; *woman-women*.

- Some nouns are changed into plural by adding *en* or *ne* to them in different ways : *child + r + en = children*; *ox-oxen*; *brother – brethren* (two changes); *cow-kine* (two changes). The common plurals of *brother* and *cow* are *brothers* and *cows*. But they have different connotations.
- Compound nouns are changed into plural by adding s to the principal word : *mother-in-law-mothers-in-law*; *passers-by*; *Major-Generals lookers-on*. But those compounds which are written without hyphens form plural by adding s at the end : *pickpockets*, *spoonfuls*, *stepmothers*.

3. Formation of Foreign Plurals

- If a word ends in a it is changed into *ae* : *formula-formulae*; *nebula-nebulae*.
- If a word ends in us it is changed into *i* : *alumnus-alumni*; *bacilus-bacilli*, *focus-foci*, *fungus-fungi*, *radius-radii*; *stimulus-stimuli*.
- If a word ends in um it is changed into *a* : *bacterium-bacteria*; *curriculum-curricula*; *datum-data*, *dictum-dicta*; *medium-media*; *memorandum-memoranda*; *stratum-strata*.
- If a word ends in ex is or ix these are changed into *ices* or only *es* : *apex-apices*; *index-indices*; *appendix-appendices*; *axis-axes*, *hypothesis-hypotheses*; *synopsis-synopses*.
- Words ending in on form plural by changing on into *a*: *automation-atomata*; *criterion-criteria*; *pheno-menon-phenomena*.

4. Confusion About the Use of Certain Nouns

- Certain nouns have the same form in singular and plural : *deer*, *gallows*, *grouse*, *innings*, *means offspring*, *salmon*, *sheep*, *swine*, *trout*.
- Some nouns always go in pairs and are always used in plural : *bellows*, *pants*; *scissors*, *spectacles*, *tongs*, *trousers*.
- A few nouns ending in ry have a plural significance but are used only in the singular form : *drapery*, *imagery*, *machinery poetry*, *scenery*, *stationery*.
- Certain nouns having a plural formation are used as plurals only and cannot be changed into singular : *annals*, *premises*, *tidings*, *thanks*, *wages*.
Wage is used in singular formations in compound nouns : *wage earners*, *living-wage*, *wage-board*.
- Furniture*, *stationery*, *advice* and *information* are always singular.
- Some nouns have one meaning in the singular but two in the plural.

Singular	Plural	
Colour (hue)	Colours	(1. hues 2. the flag of a regiment)
Custom (habit)	Customs	(1. habits 2. import duty)
Effect (result)	Effects	(1. results 2. property)

Manner (method)	Manners	(1. Moral lessons 2. conduct)
Moral (a moral lesson)	Morals	(1. moral lessons 2. conduct)
Number (quantity)	Numbers	(1. quantities 2. verses)
Pain (suffering)	Pains	(1. sufferings 2. exertion 3. penalty)
Premise (proposition)	Premises	(1. propositions 2. A building)
Quarter (fourth part)	Quarters	(1. fourth parts 2. lodgings)
Spectacle (a sight)	Spectacles	(1. eye glasses 2. sights)
Letter (any alphabet)	Letters	(1. alphabets 2. epistles epistle 3. literature)
Ground (reason, earth)	Grounds	(1. reasons 2. enclosed land 3. dreges <i>i.e.</i> particles sunk to the bottom in a liquid)

The Noun : Gender

1. Definition

The gender of a noun indicates whether it is male or female.

Examples :

- Boy, girl, hero, heroine, lion, lions etc.

Kinds of Gender : There are four kinds of gender.

- Masculine Gender,
- Feminine Gender,
- Common Gender,
- Neuter Gender.
- **Masculine Gender :** A noun that denotes mainly to males or to objects classified as male.

Examples :

- Boy, man, dog, lion, horse etc.

- **Feminine Gender :** A noun that denotes mainly to females or the objects classified as females.

Examples :

- Girl, woman, lioness, bitch, mare, cow etc.

- **Common Gender :** A noun that denotes a thing that is either male or female is called the common gender.

Examples :

- Child, baby, infant, friend, parents, doctor, teacher, servant, enemy, cousin, person, student, neighbour etc.

- **Neuter Gender :** A noun that denotes a thing that is neither male or female *i.e.* thing without life is called the neuter gender.

Examples :

- Book, pen, tree, room etc.

2. Formation of Genders

- **By the use of a different word :**

Masculine	Feminine	Masculine	Feminine
Brother	Sister	Boy	Girl
Czar	Czarina	Bachelor	Spinster
Boar	Sow	Lad	Lass
Bullock	Heifer	Bull	Cow
Colt	Filly	Cock	Hen
Drake	Duck	Dog	Bitch
Earl	Countess	Drone	Bee
Father	Mother	Executor	Executix
Gender	Goose	Fox	Vixen
Hart	Roe	Gentleman	Lady
Horse	Mare	He	She
King	Queen	Husband	Wife
Man	Woman	Lord	Lady
Monk	Nun	Marquis	Marchioness
Nephew	Niece	Male	Female
Ram	Ewe	Ox	Cow
Sir	Madam	Signor	Signora
Stag	Hind	Son	Daughter
Uncle	Aunt	Tailor	Seamstress
Wizard	Witch	Widower	Widow

- **By the addition of ess :**

Masculine	Feminine	Masculine	Feminine
Actor	Actress	Ambassador	Ambassa- doress
Heir	Heiress	Duke	Duchess
God	Goddess	Master	Mistress
Negro	Negress	Emperor	Empress
Prince	Princess	Votary	Votaress
Waitor	Waitress	Lion	Lioness

- In a few cases, by the addition of various endings to the Masculine :

Masculine	Feminine	Masculine	Feminine
Administrator	Administratrix	Hero	Heroine
Sultan	Sultana	Viceroy	Vicereine
Testator	Testatrix	Signor	Signora
Fox	Vixen		

- By placing a word before or after.

Masculine	Feminine	Masculine	Feminine
Cock-Sparrow	Hen-Sparrow	He-Goat	She-Goat
Grandfather	Grandmother	Greatuncle	Greataunt
Manservant	Maidservant	Landlord	Landlady
Milkman	Milkwoman	Peacock	Peahen
Salesman	Saleswoman	Washerman	Washerwoman

Very Important Previous Years Questions (2006-2024)

Type A Fill in the Blanks

Direction (Q. No. 1 to 21)

Each of the following sentences in this section has a blank space and four words or group of words given after the sentence. Select the word or group of words you consider most appropriate for the blank space.

[NDA & NA 03-09-2023 Paper-II]

- It is a really tough course, I am just worried that I won't be able to go the
(A) way (B) distance
(C) far (D) route
- The of the advancement made in agricultural productivity in India has been remarkable.
(A) extent (B) context
(C) distance (D) syntax
- Adolescence is the wherein a child enters adulthood.
(A) threshold (B) position
(C) condition (D) period
- Endangered species have a fifty per cent or greater probability of within five years or two generations whichever is longer.
(A) distinction (B) extinction
(C) complication (D) completion
- There was a time when West Germany was a distinct
(A) policy (B) polity
(C) abstract (D) hierarchy
[NDA & NA 2021 Paper-I]
- The British all over Africa and Asia collapsed in the first half of the twentieth century.
(A) hegemony (B) domicile
(C) residence (D) inheritance
[NDA & NA 2018 Paper-II]
- The soldiers waiting to go into battle for the first time were full of

- (A) apprehension (B) consideration
(C) anticipation (D) frivolity
[NDA & NA 2018 Paper-II]
- The dictator of that country was a monster of wickedness, insatiable in his for blood and plunder.
(A) idea (B) vision
(C) lust (D) intention
[NDA & NA 2017 Paper-I]
- Could you lend me some money ? I am very of cash at the moment.
(A) down (B) low
(C) short (D) scarce
[NDA & NA 2017 Paper-II]
- I feel for those who are cruel to their children.
(A) sympathy (B) contempt
(C) admiration (D) craving
[NDA & NA 2016 Paper-II]
- Both the parties were keen to have an settlement of the dispute.
(A) enviable (B) inimical
(C) worthy (D) amicable
[NDA & NA 2016 Paper-II]
- The accident took place because of the criminal of the driver.
(A) performance (B) disregard
(C) negligence (D) slackness
[NDA & NA 2016 Paper-II]
- The belief in the of vaccination is gaining ground.
(A) immunity (B) prevalence
(C) efficacy (D) workability
[NDA & NA 2016 Paper-II]
- They found a world of between what he said and what he did.
(A) chaos (B) bitterness
(C) difference (D) hope
[NDA & NA 2016 Paper-II]
- Man has won his dominant position on this planet by his of technology.
(A) command (B) emphasis
(C) belief (D) stress
[NDA & NA 2015 Paper-II]

- The day was extremely hot and, in no time, my back was drenched with
(A) prickly heat (B) perspiration
(C) sores (D) fatigue
[NDA & NA 2015 Paper-II]
- The Government is encouraging village upliftment in the country.
(A) programmes (B) designs
(C) talks (D) propaganda
[NDA & NA 2015 Paper-II]
- The two children stood at the of the table.
(A) conclusion (B) terminal
(C) end (D) termination
[NDA & NA 2014 Paper-I]
- 'Please' and 'Thank you' are the little courtesies by which we keep the of life oiled and running smoothly.
(A) path (B) machine
(C) garden (D) river
[NDA & NA 2014 Paper-II]
- Many of the advances of civilization have been conceived by young people just on the of adulthood.
(A) boundary (B) threshold
(C) peak (D) horizon
[NDA & NA 2014 Paper-II]
- The old 'Nature' versus debate regarding crime continues even today.
(A) 'Man' (B) 'Universe'
(C) 'Culture' (D) 'Nurture'
[NDA & NA 2014 Paper-II]

Type B Common Errors

Direction (Q. No 22 to 26)

Each item in this section has a sentence with three underlined parts labelled (A), (B) and (C). Read each sentence to find out whether there is any error in any underlined part.

[NDA & NA 03-09-2023 Paper-II]

- The process of removing
(A)
wool from the body of

- (B)
an animal is called sharing.
- (C)
No error
- (D)
Failure is the stepping stone to success;
23. success; (A)
however, successive failures are not
- (B)
successive stepping stones to success (C)
No error (D)
[NDA & NA 2022 (I) 10-4-2022]
24. My friend's daughter-in-laws (A) (B)
have come. No error. (C) (D)
[NDA & NA 2020 Paper-II]
- The art of printing was introduced into England
25. _____ (A)
during the reign of Edward IV (B)
by William Caxton, a native of Kent. (C)
No error. (D)
[NDA & NA 2019 Paper-I]
26. A great part of Arabia (A) (B)
is desert. No error. (C) (D)
[NDA & NA 2019 Paper-I]

Direction (Q. No. 27 to 33)

- (i) In this section, a number of sentences are given. The sentences are underlined in three separate parts and each one is labelled (A), (B) and (C). Read each sentence to find out whether there is an error in any underlined part. No sentence has more than one error. When you find an error in any one of the underlined parts (A), (B) or (C), indicate your response on the Answer Sheet at the appropriate space. You may feel that there is no error in a sentence. In that case, (D) will signify a 'No error' response.
- (ii) Errors may be in grammar, word usage or idioms. There may be a word missing

- or there may be word which should be removed.
- (iii) You are not required to correct the error. You are required only to indicate.

27. The differential attractions of the sun and the moon have a direct effect (A)
in the rising and falling of the tides. (B) (C)
No error (D)
[NDA & NA 2013 Paper-I]
28. The nation should be grateful (A)
to the armed forces (B)
for protecting them. No error. (C) (D)
[NDA & NA 2013 Paper-II]
29. Let us bring this discussion (A) / (B) /
to close. No error (C) / (D)
[NDA & NA 2012 Paper-I]
30. The speaker stressed repeatedly on (A)/ the importance of improving (B)/ the condition of the slums (C)/ No Error. (D)
[NDA/NA 2011-I]
31. Credit cards have (A)/brought about a revolutions (B)/in people's spending habits. (C)/No error. (D)
[NDA/NA 2008-I]
32. It's stupid to go (A)/to the expense of taking(B)/music lessons if you never practice (C)/No error. (D)
[NDA/NA 2007-I]
33. It is greatly to Amit's credit (A)/that he gave back the money he found; (B)/his honesty does for him credit (C)/No error. (D)
[NDA/NA 2007-I]

**Type C
Sentence Improvement**

Direction (Q. No. 34 to 36)

In this section, look at the underlined part of each sentence. Below each sentence are given three possible substitutions for the underlined part. If one of them (A), (B) or (C) is better than the underlined part, indicate your response on the Answer Sheet against the corresponding letter (A), (B) or (C). If none

of the substitutions improves the sentence, indicate (D) as your response on the Answer Sheet. Thus a 'No improvement' response will be signified by the letter (D).

34. Last evening I went to the optician and bought spectacles.
(A) a spectacle
(B) two spectacles
(C) a pair of spectacles
(D) No improvement
[NDA & NA 2017 Paper-I]
35. I went to the shop to buy some stationerites.
(A) stationery
(B) stationary
(C) stationaries
(D) No improvement
[NDA & NA 2016 Paper-II]
36. It began to rain heavily just when I prepare to go out.
(A) prepared
(B) was preparing
(C) have prepared
(D) No improvement
[NDA & NA 2016 Paper-II]

**Type D
Class of Word**

Direction (Q. No. 37 and 38)

Each of the following sentences has word (s) underlined. Read the sentence carefully and find which word class the underlined word (s) belong (s) to.

37. Adders are the only poisonous snakes found across Britain.
(A) Noun
(B) Adjective
(C) Adverb
(D) Determiner
[NDA & NA (II) (GAT), 01-09-2024]
38. The plane is ready for take-off.
(A) Noun
(B) Conjunction
(C) Verb
(D) Gerund
[NDA & NA (II) (GAT), 01-09-2024]

Answer Key

1. (B) 2. (A) 3. (A) 4. (B) 5. (B)
6. (A) 7. (A) 8. (C) 9. (C) 10. (B)
11. (D) 12. (C) 13. (C) 14. (C) 15. (A)
16. (B) 17. (A) 18. (C) 19. (B) 20. (B)
21. (D) 22. (C) 23. (D) 24. (B) 25. (D)
26. (D) 27. (B) 28. (A) 29. (C) 30. (D)
31. (B) 32. (C) 33. (C) 34. (C) 35. (A)
36. (B) 37. (A) 38. (A)

□□