

Miller Analogy Content

The MAT aims to measure the ability of examinees to see relationships between objects and concepts. General knowledge in a number of fields is required to solve the MAT problems. Some questions require knowledge acquired through life experiences, while other questions require knowledge gained from more formal sources, such as undergraduate courses. The candidate cannot prepare for the MAT by studying any particular field. Questions on the MAT come from the areas of language and vocabulary, the humanities, the social sciences, the natural sciences, and mathematics.

■ Language and Vocabulary

Some MAT equations test comprehension of words and grammar, and the ability to recognize relationships between words. Most analogies in this category test knowledge of synonyms, antonyms, and words of intensity. Words of intensity deal with degrees such as cold and frigid.

■ Humanities

MAT equations may involve material from humanities. The content of this type of equation can come from the fields of literature, philosophy, and fine arts. Equations drawing on the field of literature test the candidate's knowledge of authors, works, classes of literature, and literary devices. Equations involving the field of philosophy may test knowledge of philosophers and their writings, and knowledge of the schools of philosophy. The content of equations involving the fine arts may include any area in music, drama, dance, painting, sculpting, film making and recording. Often equations of this kind involve creator and creation terms. For example, "Michelangelo : Sistine Chapel" which can be interpreted as Michelangelo painted the Sistine Chapel ceiling.

■ Social Sciences

Social science analogies may draw from any area of social science. Candidates are expected to have a general knowledge of historical events, physical and political geography, politics, economics, sociology, and various fields of psychology. The candidate is expected to know important historical figures and dates.

■ Natural Science

The natural sciences include the biological and physical sciences. Natural science MAT equations may test knowledge in either of these broad areas.

■ Mathematics

Equations testing mathematical relationships may deal with number theory, basic arithmetic, algebra, and geometry. An equation may be expressed in numbers, words, symbols, or any combination of these categories. To solve the equation, the candidate may be required to perform simple calculations. The use of a calculator is not permitted.

Understanding Your MAT Score

Your MAT score report, valid for five years, is comprised of three scores — your raw score (the number of questions answered correctly), your percentile based on the intended major you indicated, and your percentile based on the total group of MAT test-takers. Your score report will also list the institutions that will receive your scores based on the information you filled out during the exam.

Approximately 10-15 business days after taking the MAT, you will receive a personal score report, a Transcript Request Form for requesting additional official score reports, and a Retest Admission Ticket that you must use to gain admittance to retake the MAT. The personal Score Report is for your information only and cannot be used as a substitute for an official score report or a transcript. Official score reports are forwarded to the institutions you identified on test day.

During or immediately following the exam, you can request that your test not be scored by choosing the "no score" option. If you choose this option, your score will not be reported and there will be no official record of your having taken the MAT. A Personal Score Report will be sent to you (without a score) as well as a Retest Admission Ticket allowing you to retake the MAT. Once you invoke the "no score" option, no later requests to score your test and report your scores will be honored.

Miller Analogies Test (MAT)

Solving Analogies

- Most standardized exams include questions in the form of analogies. Solving analogies tests your critical thinking skills, vocabulary skills, as well as your understanding of word relationships. An analogy is a word problem comprised of two different pairs of words. The word problem is set up to reveal one set of words first. This first pair of words is related to each other in some way. Then the problem gives you the first word of the second pair, and it asks you to complete the second pair by choosing a second word. This second word must be related to the first word in the same manner that the first pair of words is related to each other.

Here is an example:

Graceful : Clumsy :: Hot : ____

- Graceful and clumsy is the first set of words. Hot is the first word of the second set; the second word of the second set must be provided by you. The two sets of words are divided by the double colon in between them. This analogy reads as follows (and all analogies read in the same fashion, of course substituting the appropriate words): Graceful is to clumsy as hot is to (blank). You are first being asked to compare the relationship between graceful and clumsy. Then you need to find the word that relates to hot in the same way that graceful and clumsy relate to one another. Because graceful and clumsy are opposites of each other, we need a word that is the opposite of hot. Thus, filling in the blank with the word cold is the correct answer to this analogy.
- Most, but not all, relationships between words fall into one of several categories. Synonyms are words that have the same or similar meanings. Mad and angry are synonyms. Antonyms, on the other hand, are words that have opposite meanings. Hot and cold, as in the example above, are antonyms. Descriptive analogies are when one word describes the other. For example, tall would describe a giraffe. Part-to-whole analogies are when one word is a part or a piece of the other word. For example, a piece is part of a puzzle, and a slice is part of a pizza. An item-to-category analogy is when the first word is the item in the category named by the second word. Monopoly falls under the category of board games, while basketball falls under the category of sports.
- Not all analogies will fall into one of the above categories. You may even be faced with a pair of words that seem to have nothing to do with each another. If this happens, try to read the analogy as a sentence. For example, Puppy : Dog :: Kitten : ____ . The first two words are not synonyms or antonyms. It is not a descriptive analogy, nor is it a part-to-whole analogy or an item-to-category analogy. Try, then, to translate the analogy into a sentence. A puppy is a baby dog, while a kitten is a baby ____ . Filling in the blank with the word cat is the correct answer.

1. Powerful : dictator :: _____ : poet

- A: lyrical
- B: cynical
- C: despotic
- D: serious

2. Bumblebee : _____ :: lion : mammal

- A: amphibian
- B: hive
- C: winged
- D: insect

3. Exotic : _____ : crucial : trivial

- A: foreign
- B: judicious
- C: domestic
- D: essential

4. Delaware : Dover :: Nevada : _____

- A: Carson City
- B: Las Vegas C: Los Angeles
- D: Wilmington

5. Turgid : swollen :: _____ : pompous

- A: repugnant
- B: rigid
- C: bombastic
- D: decorated

6. _____ : Ronald Reagan :: George Washington : John Adams

A: Bill Clinton

B: George H.W. Bush

C: Jimmy Carter

D: Thomas Jefferson

7. Iron : metal :: neon : _____

A: liquid

B: tube

C: sign

D: gas

8. _____ : equilateral :: rhombus : trapezoid

A: spherical

B: isosceles

C: cylinder

D: pentagon

9. Oranges : fruit :: peanuts : _____

A: legume

B: vegetable

C: seed

D: butter

10. Stonewall Jackson : _____ :: William Tecumseh Sherman : U.S. Grant

A: George Patton

B: Robert E. Lee

C: Abraham Lincoln

D: Theodore Roosevelt

Answer Key

1. A. A poet could be described as lyrical.
2. D. Bumblebees are in the class of animals called insects.
3. C. Domestic is the opposite of exotic.
4. A. Carson City is the capital of Nevada.
5. C. Bombastic and pompous are synonyms.
6. C. Jimmy Carter preceded Ronald Reagan as President of the United States.
7. D. At normal temperatures neon is a gas.
8. B. Isosceles and equilateral are both types of triangle.
9. A. Peanuts are in the class of plants known as legumes.
10. B. Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson were both Confederate generals in the Civil War.

1. Fierce : timid :: aggressive : _____

- A: weird
- B: frigid
- C: assertive
- D: passive

2. Honeyed: sweet :: acrid : _____

- A: base
- B: annoying
- C: bitter
- D: salty

3. Short : _____ :: Tall : Enormous

- A: tiny
- B: medium
- C: gigantic
- D: ravenous

4. Intelligent : dunce :: _____ : clown

- A: funny
- B: serious
- C: costume
- D: reticent

5. Hemingway : _____ :: Woolf : Thackeray

- A: Fitzgerald
- B: Homer
- C: Garcia Marquez
- D: Waugh

6. Oklahoma : Nebraska :: Oregon : _____

A: Connecticut

B: Illinois

C: North Carolina

D: Washington

7. Square : cube :: circle : _____

A: rhombus

B: corner

C: sphere

D: cylinder

8. 90 degrees : right :: _____ : obtuse

A: 45 degrees

B: 135 degrees

C: 79 degrees

D: 0 degrees

9. Failure : _____ :: success : elation

A: depression

B: euphoria

C: contagion

D: hospitality

10. Democrats : Republicans :: Labour : _____

A: Whigs

B: Greens

C: Tories

D: Lions

Answer Key

1. D. Passive is the opposite of aggressive.
2. C. Acrid and bitter are synonyms.
3. A. Tiny means very small.
4. B. A clown is not serious.
5. A. Hemingway and Fitzgerald were both American authors
6. D. Oregon and Washington are both states in the northwest United States.
7. C. A sphere is the three-dimensional version of a circle.
8. B. A 135-degree angle is an obtuse angle.
9. A. Failure can lead to depression.
10. C. The Tories and the Labour party are the dominant political parties in Britain.

_____ **1. HAVOC : DEVASTATION**

- A. clarification:mystification
- B. surplus: shortage
- C. farce: sham
- D. turmoil:order
- E. timidity:audacity

_____ **2. INFAMOUS : UNFAVORABLE**

- A. mellow:favorable
- B. hospitable:unfavorable
- C. vindictive: favorable
- D. gigantic: unfavorable
- E. lax:favorable

_____ **3. LETHARGIC : ENERGY**

- A. despondent: melancholy
- B. leisurely: relaxation
- C. notorious:infamy
- D. mellow: wrath
- E. lavish: extravagance

_____ **4. BELLOW : FURY**

- A. snicker: hatred
- B. hiss:joy
- C. giggle:dread
- D. yawn: excitement
- E. gasp: surprise

_____ **5. DISMANTLE : ASSEMBLE**

- A. shirk: malingering
- B. pamper: mistreat
- C. mar: disfigure
- D. rant: rave

_____ **6. DIALOGUE : PLAYWRIGHT**

- A. farce:buffoon
- B. narrative: character
- C. overture:composer
- D. pact: humorist
- E. clarification: beneficiary

_____ **7. FLU : MALADY**

- A. finale:overture
- B. felony: misdemeanor
- C. fun: farce
- D. flea: parasite
- E. fire: hearth

_____ **8. MEDLEY : MISCELLANEOUS**

- A. truce: hostile
- B. luster: dull
- C. fledging: experienced
- D. remnant: partial
- E. malady: fatal

_____ **9. BASKETBALL : HOOP**

- A. pool: cue
- B. croquet:wicket
- C. hockey: puck
- D. tennis: net
- E. baseball: bat

_____ **10. PLAGUE : MALADY**

- A. bystander: participant
- B. timidity: coward
- C. anecdote: narrative
- D. emblem: dialogue

_____ **11. SHERIFF : POSSE**

- A. painter: easel
- B. teacher: student
- C. mascot: team
- D. sergeant: regimen
- E. foreman: jury

_____ **12. GIGANTIC : SIZE**

- A. substantial: mass
- B. marginal: volume
- C. bankrupt: money
- D. despondent: cheerfulness
- E. heartrending: humor

_____ **13. DRUGGIST : PHARMACY**

- A. ballerina: tutu
- B. hand: glove
- C. waiter: restaurant
- D. coach: team
- E. child: father

_____ **14. SKI : SNOW**

- A. drive: car
- B. gold: putt
- C. dance: step
- D. skate: ice
- E. ride: horse

_____ **15. VERIFY : TRUE**

- A. signify: cheap
- B. purify: clean
- C. terrify: confident
- D. ratify: angry

_____ **16. TARANTULA : SPIDER**

- A. mare: stallion
- B. milk: cow
- C. fly: parasite
- D. sheep: grass
- E. drone: bee

_____ **17. RATIFY : YES**

- A. loom: no
- B. eradicate: yes
- C. veto: no
- D. stifle: yes
- E. goad: no

_____ **18. GAUDY : TASTEFUL**

- A. massive: volume
- B. meager: abundance
- C. impartial: objectivity
- D. chronological: time
- E. nutritious : health

_____ **19. RITE : CEREMONY**

- A. magnitude: size
- B. affliction: blessing
- C. clamor : silence
- D. pall: clarity
- E. agitation: calm

_____ **20. INFLATE : BIGGER**

- A. revere: lower
- B. elongate: shorter
- C. fluctuate: longer
- E. diminish : smaller

Answer Key

1. C

2. A

3. D

4. E

5. B

6. C

7. D

8. E

9. B

10. C

11. E

12. A

13. C

14. D

15. B

16. E

17. C

18. B

19. A

20. E

_____ **1. DRIP : GUSH**

- A. cry : laugh
- B. curl : roll
- C. stream : tributary
- D. dent : destroy
- E. bend : angle

_____ **2. WALK : LEGS**

- A. blink : eyes
- B. chew : mouth
- C. dress : hem
- D. cover : book
- E. grind : nose

_____ **3. ENFRANCHISE : SLAVERY**

- A. equation : mathematics
- B. liberate : confine
- C. bondage : subjugation
- D. appeasement : unreasonable
- E. anatomy : physiology

_____ **4. UNION JACK : VEXILLOLOGY**

- A. toad : ornithology
- B. turtle : microbiology
- C. gymnosperms : botany
- D. friend : home economics
- E. algae : zoology

_____ **5. TOPAZ : YELLOW**

- A. diamond : carat
- B. jeweler : clarity
- C. sapphire : red
- D. amethyst : purple

_____ **6. LUMEN : BRIGHTNESS**

- A. candle : light
- B. density : darkness
- C. nickel : metal
- D. inches : length
- E. color : hue

_____ **7. MACERATION : LIQUID**

- A. sublimation : gas
- B. evaporation : humidity
- C. trail : path
- D. erosion : weather
- E. decision : distraction

_____ **8. CLUMSY : BOTCH**

- A. wicked :insinuate
- B. strict:pamper
- C. willful:heed
- D. clever:eradicate
- E. lazy:shirk

_____ **9. FUGITIVE : FLEE**

- A. parasite:foster
- B. braggart:boast
- C. sage:stifle
- D. bystander:procure
- E. firebrand:quibble

_____ **10. CHRONOLOGICAL : TIME**

- A. virtual:truth
- B. abnormal:value
- C. marginal:knowledge
- D. ordinal:place

_____ **11. SOOT : GRIMY**

- A. frost:transparent
- B. sunshine:fruitless
- C. rain:sodden
- D. pall:gaudy
- E. dust:radiant

_____ **12. MORBID : UNFAVORABLE**

- A. reputable:favorable
- B. maternal:unfavorable
- C. disputatious:favorable
- D. vigilant:unfavorable
- E. lax:favorable

_____ **13. SULLEN : BROOD**

- A. lethargic:cavort
- B. regal:cringe
- C. docile:obey
- D. poised:blunder
- E. despondent:laugh

_____ **14. AUTHOR : LITERATE**

- A. cynic:guillible
- B. hothead:prudent
- C. saint:notorious
- D. judge:impartial
- E. doctor:fallible

_____ **15. MASSIVE : BULK**

- A. ultimate:magnitude
- B. trival:importance
- D. interminable:legacy
- E. gigantic:size

_____ **16. ENTICE : REPEL**

- A. germinate:sprout
- B. flourish:fade
- C. officiate:preside
- D. lubricate:grease
- E. implore:entreat

_____ **17. HUMDRUM : BORE**

- A. grim:amuse
- B. nutritious:sicken
- C. stodgy:excite
- D. heartrending:move
- E. pending:worry

_____ **18. HOSPITABLE : COURTESY**

- A. morbid:cheerfulness
- B. vindictive:spite
- C. leisurely:haste
- D. infamous:honor
- E. despondent:glee

_____ **19. REINFORCE : STRONGER**

- A. abound: lesser
- B. dismantle: longer
- C. wilt: higher
- D. shirk: greater
- E. erode: weaker

_____ **20. BRAGGART : MODESTY**

- A. fledgling:experience
- B. embezzler: greed
- C. wallflower: timidity
- D. invalid: malady

Answer Key

1. D

2. B

3. B

4. C

5. D

6. D

7. D

8. E

9. B

10. D

11. C

12. A

13. C

14. D

15. E

16. B

17. D

18. B

19. E

20. A