VERBAL ANALOGY

Verbal analogy is a reasoning skill that establishes a relationship between two pairs of words. The goal is to identify the relationship between the first pair and find a second pair of words that share the same relationship. Verbal analogies test your vocabulary, logical reasoning, and understanding of relationships.

Structure of Verbal Analogies

The format is typically:
A : B :: C : D
This is read as: "A is to B as C is to D."
You need to determine the relationship between **A** and **B** to find the correct match for **C** and **D**.

Types of Relationships in Verbal Analogies

1. **Synonyms (Similar Meaning):**
   Example: Happy : Joyful :: Sad : Miserable
   (*Both pairs have similar meanings.*)
2. **Antonyms (Opposite Meaning):**
   Example: Hot : Cold :: Light : Dark
   (*Both pairs are opposites.*)
3. **Part to Whole:**
   Example: Petal : Flower :: Finger : Hand
   (*A part makes up the whole.*)
4. **Cause and Effect:**
   Example: Rain : Flood :: Heat : Drought
   (*One leads to the other.*)
5. **Function/Use:**
   Example: Pen : Write :: Knife : Cut
   (*Each word indicates the primary function of the other.*)
6. **Degree/Intensity:**
   Example: Warm : Hot :: Cool : Cold
   (*The second word is a more intense version of the first.*)
7. **Category/Type:**
   Example: Rose : Flower :: Oak : Tree
   (*Each word belongs to a specific category.*)
8. **Sequence or Order:**
   Example: Day : Night :: Morning : Evening
   (*A sequence of events or time.*)

How to Solve Verbal Analogies?

1. **Understand the Relationship:**
   Analyze the relationship between the first pair of words.
2. **Identify the Type of Relationship:**
   Is it synonymy, antonymy, cause-effect, part-whole, etc.?
3. **Apply the Same Relationship to the Second Pair:**
   Use the same logic to complete the second pair.
4. **Eliminate Wrong Options:**
   If multiple choices are provided, rule out irrelevant or mismatched ones.

Example Question:

Question: Pen : Write :: Scissors : ?
Options:
a) Cut
b) Paper
c) Sharp
d) Tool

Answer: a) Cut
Explanation: The pen is used to write, just as scissors are used to cut. This is a "Function/Use" analogy.

Verbal analogies are common in competitive exams and tests, helping assess critical thinking and logical reasoning.