



PRACTICE TEST · CLASSES 3 TO 5

Science Olympiad Practice Test for Classes 3 to 5

Twenty-five questions in the three sections of the SOF Science Olympiad (ISO, called NSO until 2026): logical reasoning, science, and the achievers section. Take it here and check your answers, or print it.

Science Olympiad

Primary

01 Before you start

Time – 30 minutes, with a clock in view

Marks – 1 mark for each question in Sections 1 and 2 and 2 marks in the Achievers section: 29 marks in all

Wrong answers – no marks are taken off, so answer every question

The real paper – the SOF ISO has 35 questions for 40 marks for Classes 3 and 4, and 50 questions for 60 marks from Class 5, in 60 minutes

02 Logical reasoning

1 mark each

- 1 What comes next? A, C, E, G, ____
(A) H (B) I (C) J (D) K
- 2 Which one does not belong?
(A) Eagle (B) Sparrow (C) Parrot (D) Bat
- 3 If ROSE is written as 6821 and CHAIR as 73456, how is SEARCH written?
(A) 214673 (B) 214763 (C) 216473 (D) 124673
- 4 Seema faces north and turns left. Which way is she facing now?
(A) East (B) South (C) West (D) North
- 5 Six children sit in a row. Aman is third from the left. What is his place from the right?
(A) 3rd (B) 4th (C) 5th (D) 2nd

03 Science

1 mark each

- 6 Which part of a plant makes its food?
(A) Root (B) Leaf (C) Stem (D) Flower

- 7 Which gas do plants take in to make food?
(A) Oxygen (B) Nitrogen
(C) Carbon dioxide (D) Hydrogen
- 8 Which of these animals is a mammal?
(A) Whale (B) Shark
(C) Crocodile (D) Penguin
- 9 Water turning into ice is called:
(A) melting (B) evaporation
(C) condensation (D) freezing
- 10 Which of these gives out its own light?
(A) The Moon (B) A mirror
(C) The Sun (D) A diamond
- 11 Which organ pumps blood around the body?
(A) Lungs (B) Brain (C) Kidney (D) Heart
- 12 Which of these does a magnet attract?
(A) An iron nail (B) A plastic spoon
(C) A wooden stick (D) A rubber band
- 13 Which planet is closest to the Sun?
(A) Venus (B) Mercury (C) Earth (D) Mars
- 14 Which of these is non-living?
(A) A seed (B) A mushroom
(C) A stone (D) A snail
- 15 Which teeth are used for cutting food?
(A) Molars (B) Canines
(C) Premolars (D) Incisors
- 16 Which of these lets electricity pass through it easily?
(A) Copper wire (B) Glass
(C) Rubber (D) Dry wood

17 Where do frogs lay their eggs?

- (A) In sand
- (B) In water
- (C) In trees
- (D) In nests

18 Which vitamin does our skin make in sunlight?

- (A) Vitamin A
- (B) Vitamin C
- (C) Vitamin D
- (D) Vitamin K

19 The force that pulls things towards the Earth is:

- (A) friction
- (B) magnetism
- (C) a push
- (D) gravity

20 Which of these animals eats only plants?

- (A) Cow
- (B) Lion
- (C) Eagle
- (D) Frog

21 What does a thermometer measure?

- (A) Weight
- (B) Temperature
- (C) Length
- (D) Time

04 Achievers section

2 marks each

22 Why does ice float on water?

- (A) It is colder than water
- (B) It has no weight
- (C) It is less dense than water
- (D) It is lighter in colour

23 Why do we see lightning before we hear thunder?

- (A) Thunder happens later
- (B) Sound travels faster than light
- (C) Our eyes are closer to the sky
- (D) Light travels faster than sound

24 A plant kept in a dark cupboard for a week turns pale and weak. Why?

- (A) It cannot make food without sunlight
- (B) It got too much water
- (C) It has no roots
- (D) The cupboard is too warm

25 Which statement is true?

- (A) The Moon makes its own light
- (B) The Earth goes round the Sun once a year
- (C) The Sun goes round the Earth once a day
- (D) Stars are closer to us than the Moon

Answers and explanations

- 1 **B** Skip one letter each time: A (b) C (d) E (f) G (h) I.
- 2 **D** A bat is a mammal. The eagle, sparrow and parrot are birds.
- 3 **A** From the two words: S = 2, E = 1, A = 4, R = 6, C = 7 and H = 3.
- 4 **C** A left turn from north faces west.
- 5 **B** Place from the right = $6 - 3 + 1 = 4$ th.
- 6 **B** Leaves make food by photosynthesis, using sunlight, water and carbon dioxide.
- 7 **C** Plants take in carbon dioxide from the air and give out oxygen.
- 8 **A** Whales breathe air and feed their young on milk. A shark is a fish, a crocodile a reptile and a penguin a bird.
- 9 **D** A liquid turning into a solid is freezing.
- 10 **C** The Sun makes its own light. The Moon, mirrors and diamonds only reflect light.
- 11 **D** The heart is a muscle that pumps blood all around the body.
- 12 **A** Magnets attract iron and steel, not plastic, wood or rubber.
- 13 **B** The order from the Sun is Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars.
- 14 **C** A stone does not grow, eat or reproduce. A seed is alive, waiting to grow.
- 15 **D** Incisors, at the front, cut. Canines tear, and premolars and molars grind.
- 16 **A** Metals such as copper are good conductors. Glass, rubber and dry wood are insulators.
- 17 **B** Frogs lay their eggs in water, where the tadpoles hatch and grow.
- 18 **C** Sunlight on the skin helps the body make vitamin D, which keeps bones strong.
- 19 **D** Gravity pulls everything towards the Earth; that is why things fall.
- 20 **A** A cow is a herbivore. Lions and eagles eat meat, and frogs eat insects.
- 21 **B** A thermometer measures how hot or cold something is.
- 22 **C** Water expands when it freezes, so ice is less dense than water and floats.
- 23 **D** Both happen together, but light reaches us almost at once while sound takes about 3 seconds to travel 1 km.
- 24 **A** Plants need sunlight to make food and to stay green.
- 25 **B** The Earth goes round the Sun once a year and spins once a day; the Moon only reflects sunlight.

How to use this test

- 1 Learn science words with a picture: draw the plant, the eye or the circuit.
- 2 Ask why for every answer: Olympiad questions test reasons, not just facts.
- 3 Practise the logical reasoning section too: it is worth easy marks.

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