



# Garda Aptitude Test Prep 2026

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## Practice Questions

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1. Study the sequence: 1, 3, 7, 15, 31, \_\_\_\_\_. What is the next number?

- A. 55
- B. 63
- C. 61
- D. 57

2. Study the sequence: 1000, 500, 250, 125, \_\_\_\_\_. What is the next number?

- A. 62.5
- B. 75
- C. 80
- D. 100

3. Study the sequence: 7, 14, 21, 28, 35, \_\_\_\_\_. What is the next number?

- A. 40
- B. 42
- C. 44
- D. 46

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4. Study the sequence: 50, 45, 39, 32, 24, \_\_\_\_\_. What is the next number?

- A. 15
- B. 16
- C. 17
- D. 18



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**5. All Garda trainees sit a fitness assessment. Some Garda trainees do not pass the written exam. What can definitely be concluded?**

- A. All trainees who pass the written exam sit the fitness assessment.
- B. No trainees who fail the written exam sit the fitness assessment.
- C. All Garda trainees sit the fitness assessment.
- D. Trainees who fail the written exam never become gardaí.

**6. Study the sequence: 1000, 500, 250, 125, \_\_\_\_\_. What is the next number?**

- A. 50
- B. 55
- C. 62.5
- D. 60

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**7. Which is the odd one out: Inspector, Superintendent, Commissioner, Sergeant, Manager?**

- A. Inspector
- B. Superintendent
- C. Commissioner
- D. Manager

**8. INCH is to FOOT as MONTH is to:**

- A. Week
- B. Day
- C. Year
- D. Decade

**9. Choose the word most similar in meaning to 'INIMICAL'.**

- A. Friendly
- B. Neutral
- C. Supportive
- D. Hostile

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10. Choose the word most similar in meaning to 'REDRESS'.

- A. Worsen
- B. Ignore
- C. Remedy
- D. Harm

11. Read the following passage and answer the question. 'An Garda Síochána Trainee Garda programme is a full-time residential training programme based at the Garda College in Templemore, Co. Tipperary. Trainees receive instruction in law, policing skills, community engagement, first aid, and physical fitness. On completion of training, Trainees are attested as Members of An Garda Síochána and assigned to a Garda station.' Where is the Garda College located?

- A. Dublin
- B. Cork
- C. Galway
- D. Templemore, Co. Tipperary

12. Read the following passage and answer the question. 'The principle of equality before the law means that all individuals, regardless of social status, wealth, or background, must be treated the same under the law. This principle is central to the rule of law and underpins the integrity of any justice system. In Ireland, this principle is protected under Article 40.1 of Bunreacht na hÉireann.' Which Irish constitutional article is cited as protecting equality before the law?

- A. Article 34
- B. Article 38
- C. Article 40.1
- D. Article 44

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13. What voting system is used in Irish general elections?

- A. Proportional Representation with Single Transferable Vote (PR-STV)
- B. First Past the Post
- C. Party List system
- D. Alternative Vote



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**14. What is the Special Criminal Court in Ireland used for?**

- A. Trying cases where there is a risk that the ordinary courts are inadequate to secure the effective administration of justice, particularly scheduled offences and terrorism.
- B. Trying all homicide cases
- C. Trying drug offences only
- D. Appeals from the District Court

**15. What is the main purpose of the Domestic Violence Act 2018 in Ireland?**

- A. To create a new criminal offence of domestic noise
- B. To consolidate and strengthen protections for victims of domestic violence including new safety, barring, and emergency barring orders
- C. To set up domestic violence courts only
- D. To criminalise all forms of marital disagreement

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**16. Under the Criminal Justice (Drug Trafficking) Act 1996, what is the maximum period for which a person may be detained for suspected drug trafficking?**

- A. 24 hours
- B. 48 hours
- C. 7 days
- D. 14 days

**17. What does 'habeas corpus' mean in Irish law?**

- A. The right to remain silent
- B. A search warrant
- C. A legal order requiring a person detained to be brought before a court to examine the lawfulness of detention
- D. Immunity from prosecution

**18. What is the role of the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission (IHREC)?**

- A. To prosecute hate crimes
- B. To promote and protect human rights and equality in Ireland and to review legislation for compatibility with these rights
- C. To manage the asylum application process
- D. To enforce the GDPR

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**19. What is the role of the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission (IHREC)?**

- A. To prosecute discrimination cases in the courts
- B. To provide legal aid to disadvantaged persons
- C. To promote and protect human rights and equality in Ireland
- D. To advise on immigration policy

**20. What is Tusla?**

- A. The Irish national hospital
- B. The national transport authority
- C. The Child and Family Agency responsible for promoting the welfare of children and families
- D. The state housing authority

**21. A sergeant allocates 8 hours to an investigation: 25% to interviews, 50% to paperwork, and the remainder to surveillance. How many hours are spent on surveillance?**

- A. 1.5 hours
- B. 2 hours
- C. 2.5 hours
- D. 3 hours

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**22. Out of 80 Garda applicants, 55% passed the written test. How many passed?**

- A. 40
- B. 44
- C. 48
- D. 50

**23. In a district, drug offences made up 22% of all crime, theft 35%, and public order 18%. What percentage did 'other' crimes represent?**

- A. 20%
- B. 22%
- C. 25%
- D. 28%



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**24. You attend a road traffic accident and a bystander is recording the scene on their phone and posting it to social media. What is the most appropriate response?**

- A. Arrest the bystander.
- B. Ignore the situation.
- C. Confiscate the phone.
- D. Politely ask the bystander to stop recording victims out of respect for the injured, while noting that recording in a public place is not itself illegal.

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**25. You are the first officer at a scene where a man has barricaded himself in a house and is threatening self-harm. What is the first priority?**

- A. Maintain a safe cordon, request specialist support, and attempt calm negotiated communication.
- B. Force entry immediately to physically restrain the person.
- C. Leave the scene and let family members resolve it.
- D. Announce via loudhailer that he will be arrested if he does not come out.

**26. You receive a 999 call reporting a person with a knife threatening others in a public place. You are first on scene and the person is still present. What is your first action?**

- A. Immediately attempt to disarm the person.
- B. Wait in the car until armed support arrives.
- C. Establish a safe perimeter, attempt verbal de-escalation from a safe distance, and request armed support.
- D. Evacuate only the immediate bystanders and take no further action.

**27. You attend a scene where two neighbours are in a heated verbal dispute about a boundary wall. No physical violence has occurred. What is the most appropriate approach?**

- A. Arrest both parties immediately.
- B. Take sides and resolve the issue in favour of the party with more evidence.
- C. Listen to both parties, calm the situation, advise them of their civil law options, and only take action if a public order offence is disclosed.
- D. Issue both parties with fixed penalty notices.

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**28. Which of the following is spelled correctly?**

- A. Accomodation
- B. Accommodation
- C. Acomodation
- D. Accomadation

**29. Which of the following is spelled correctly?**

- A. Liason
- B. Liasion
- C. Liaison
- D. Liasion

**30. What is the Garda Ethnic Liaison Officer (ELO) programme designed to do?**

- A. Build trust between An Garda Síochána and minority ethnic communities by providing dedicated liaison, supporting hate crime reporting, and facilitating communication
- B. Enforce immigration law in minority communities
- C. Provide translation services at Garda stations
- D. Manage asylum seeker registration



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## Answer Key & Explanations

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**1. B — 63**

Each term: multiply by 2 and add 1.  $31 \times 2 + 1 = 63$ .

**2. A — 62.5**

Each term is halved:  $125 \div 2 = 62.5$ .

**3. B — 42**

The sequence increases by 7 (multiples of 7):  $35 + 7 = 42$ .

**4. A — 15**

Differences: -5, -6, -7, -8, -9. So  $24 - 9 = 15$ .

**5. C — All Garda trainees sit the fitness assessment.**

The statement says all trainees sit the fitness assessment — this applies to every trainee, regardless of exam results.

**6. C — 62.5**

Each term is halved:  $125 \div 2 = 62.5$ .

**7. C — Commissioner**

Inspector, Superintendent, Commissioner, and Sergeant are all sworn Garda ranks. 'Manager' is not a Garda rank.

**8. C — Year**

An inch is a subdivision of a foot; a month is a subdivision of a year.

**9. D — Hostile**

'Inimical' means tending to obstruct or harm; 'hostile' is the closest synonym.

**10. C — Remedy**

'Redress' means to remedy or set right a wrong; 'remedy' is the closest synonym.

**11. D — Templemore, Co. Tipperary**

The passage states the Garda College is based in Templemore, Co. Tipperary.

**12. C — Article 40.1**

The passage specifically cites Article 40.1 of Bunreacht na hÉireann as protecting equality before the law.

**13. A — Proportional Representation with Single Transferable Vote (PR-STV)**

Ireland uses PR-STV in Dáil elections, allowing voters to rank candidates in order of preference.

**14. A — Trying cases where there is a risk that the ordinary courts are inadequate to secure the effective administration of justice, particularly scheduled offences and terrorism.**

The Special Criminal Court (established under Part V of the Offences Against the State Act 1939) tries cases



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including terrorism offences and organised crime where a jury trial is deemed at risk.

**15. B — To consolidate and strengthen protections for victims of domestic violence including new safety, barring, and emergency barring orders**

The Domestic Violence Act 2018 consolidated Irish domestic violence law and strengthened victim protections including new emergency barring order provisions and coercive control as an offence.

**16. C — 7 days**

The Criminal Justice (Drug Trafficking) Act 1996 allows for detention of up to 7 days with the appropriate authorisations for drug trafficking suspects.

**17. C — A legal order requiring a person detained to be brought before a court to examine the lawfulness of detention**

Habeas corpus is a legal writ requiring a detaining authority to bring a prisoner before the court to determine whether the detention is lawful.

**18. B — To promote and protect human rights and equality in Ireland and to review legislation for compatibility with these rights**

IHREC is an independent statutory body that promotes and protects human rights and equality, reviews law and practice, and can intervene in legal proceedings.

**19. C — To promote and protect human rights and equality in Ireland**

IHREC (established by the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission Act 2014) promotes and protects human rights and equality in Ireland.

**20. C — The Child and Family Agency responsible for promoting the welfare of children and families**

Tusla — the Child and Family Agency — is Ireland's dedicated state agency for improving wellbeing and outcomes for children and families.

**21. B — 2 hours**

$25\% + 50\% = 75\%$ . Remaining = 25%.  $25\% \text{ of } 8 = 2 \text{ hours}$ .

**22. B — 44**

$55\% \text{ of } 80 = 0.55 \times 80 = 44$ .

**23. C — 25%**

$22 + 35 + 18 = 75\%$ . Other =  $100 - 75 = 25\%$ .

**24. D — Politely ask the bystander to stop recording victims out of respect for the injured, while noting that recording in a public place is not itself illegal.**

Filming in public is generally lawful, but officers can appeal for sensitivity near injured persons. Any response should be measured and respectful.

**25. A — Maintain a safe cordon, request specialist support, and attempt calm negotiated communication.**

Incidents involving persons at risk of self-harm require de-escalation, specialist crisis negotiators, and preservation of life as the overriding priority.

**26. C — Establish a safe perimeter, attempt verbal de-escalation from a safe distance, and request armed support.**



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Safety of the public and officers is paramount. De-escalation from a safe distance and requesting appropriate specialist support is the correct first response.

**27. C — Listen to both parties, calm the situation, advise them of their civil law options, and only take action if a public order offence is disclosed.**

Boundary disputes are primarily civil matters. Gardaí should de-escalate, listen fairly, and signpost the parties to the appropriate civil law process.

**28. B — Accommodation**

The correct spelling is 'accommodation' — double 'c' and double 'm'.

**29. D — Liaison**

The correct spelling is 'liaison' — l-i-a-i-s-o-n.

**30. A — Build trust between An Garda Síochána and minority ethnic communities by providing dedicated liaison, supporting hate crime reporting, and facilitating communication**

ELOs build positive relationships between Garda and minority ethnic communities, facilitate hate crime reporting, and assist with communication and cultural understanding.



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