Tips to attempt Coding-Decoding questions based on the latest pattern for SBI Clerk Exam

Reasoning has become one of the crucial and difficult parts of Bank exams. With the ever-increasing complexity of questions and evolving patterns, it becomes essential for a candidate to navigate and attempt this section carefully. The best way to clear the cut off in this particular section in SBI Clerk Junior Assistant exam is to practice religiously and regularly using a diverse set of practice questions. This article explores the ways you can approach different types of coding decoding questions effectively. We are confident that if you follow these strategies and tricks, you will score better and faster.

Tips to solve Coding-Decoding for SBI Clerk Exam

What is Coding Decoding?

In a layman's language, coding is encrypting a message to maintain its secrecy.

Similarly, in Coding Decoding for competitive exams, you will be given a sample message (word, number or sentence) along with the code for it, you have to understand the logic used while coding the message and further code / decode the message given to you.

SOME CODING LOGICS:

1) REPLACING THE LETTER / NUMBER BY ITS SUCCESSOR

For example: The word 'BANKING' can be coded as 'CBOLJOH'

Here, B is replaced by C, A is replaced by B, N is replaced by O and so on... Each alphabet is replaced by the alphabet next to it.

2) REPLACING THE LETTER / NUMBER BY ITS SUCCESSOR & REVERSING

For example: The word 'COMPUTER' can be coded as 'SFUVQNPD' and 'ZEBRA' can be coded as 'BSCFA'.

Here, C is replaced by D, O is replaced by P, M is replaced by N and so we get the word 'DPNQVUFS' it is further reversed to get the coded word: 'SFUVQNPD' and Z is replaced by A (as there is no alphabet after Z), E is replaced by F and so on to get the code 'AFCSB', which is further reversed to get 'BSCFA'.

3) REPLACING THE LETTER / NUMBER BY ITS PREDECESSOR:

For example: The word 'AMAZING' can be coded as 'ZLZYHMF'.

Since there is no alphabet preceding A, it is replaced by Z, M is replaced by L, i.e. the alphabet which precedes M, and so on, to get the word ZLZYHMF.

4) REPLACING THE LETTER / NUMBER BY ITS PREDECESSOR & REVERSING:

For example: The word 'ARTICLES' can be coded as 'RDKBHSQZ'. Here, A is replaced by Z R is replaced by Q and so we get the word 'ZQSHBKDR', which is further reversed to get 'RDKBHSQZ'.

5) ALTERNATE ADDITION AND SUBTRACTION:

For example: The word 'POLLUTION' can be coded as 'RMNJWRKMP'

Here, P + 2 = R, O − 2 = M, L + 2 = N, L − 2 = J, U + 2 = W, T − 2 = R, I + 2 = K, O − 2 = M, N + 2 = P. So, each letter is replaced by the letter 2 places next to it or 2 places before it, in alternate order.

6) DENOTING LETTERS AS THEIR NUMERICAL POSTION OR DIGITAL SUM OF THEIR NUMERICAL POSTION:

For example: The word 'SUCCESS' can be coded as '19213351919'.

Here, S is coded as 19 because S' position with respect to the alphabetical order is 19, U is coded as 21, C as 3 and so on.

The word 'SUCCESS' can also be coded as '1 3 3 3 5 1 1'.

Here, S is coded as 8 because its position with respect to the alphabetical order is 19 and to denote it as a single digit we use the digital sum of 19: $1 + 9 = 10$: $1 + 0 = 1$.

U's position with respect to alphabetical order is 21 and hence we represent it as 3 $(2 + 1)$.

7) SUM OF THE POSITIONS OF LETTERS:

For example: The word 'PRACTICE' can be coded as 75.

Here P's position is 16, R's position is 18, A's position is 1, C's position is 3, T's position is 20, I's position is 9 & E's position is 5. On adding all these number: $16 + 18 + 1 + 3 + 20 + 9 + 3 + 5 = 75$.

8) SHIFTING OF LETTERS:

Shifting of alphabets in the given word alphabetically, reverse alphabetically, placing the vowels first and consonants later or simply shifting the positions of the alphabets in the given word.

For example: The word 'ICELAND' can be coded as ACDEILN (alphabetically) or NLIEDCA (reverse alphabetically), AEICDLN (vowels first and consonants later) or ECILDNA (reversing the first 3 and the last 3 alphabets, keeping the middle alphabet constant)

9) CODING WORDS AS SYMBOLS:

For example: If 'SWEET SUGAR ANT ATE' is coded as '& * # @'

'TAKE SUGAR IN MILK' is coded as '% ^ $ @'

Then what is the code for SUGAR?

Here, the only common word in the given sentences is 'SUGAR' and the only common symbol is @. So, sugar is coded as @.

10) CODING SENTENCES:

For example: 'STUDY PLAN TIME WORK' IS CODED AS: 'N4& K4% E4$ Y5#'

Then how will 'TRANSLATE' be coded?

Here, the first alphabet in each code indicates the last alphabets of the words given in this sentence, So, for translate, the first alphabet will be 'E' the alphabet is then followed by the number of letters in the given word, so, 'E' will be followed by the number 9,

Then, for word stating with T the symbol is $

So now, the code for TRANSLATE will be: E9$

Now that you have a fair idea of how to solve these kind of questions, we urge you to follow this up with doing exercises to cement your understanding so that on the D-Day, you are comfortable while solving these questions. And we also urge you to revise this set of tricks before every practice session you undertake.

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