

PUBDET Exam Guide

A Candidate's Guide to the Undergraduate Admission Test

What is the Admission Test?

For a set of undergraduate Honours subjects, admission is decided through a written Admission Test rather than academic scores alone. Performance in this test directly determines your rank on the General Merit List for the subject you apply to.

Subjects Covered by the Admission Test

- History
- Political Science
- Chemistry
- Economics
- Life Sciences
- Statistics

Candidates applying to any of these subjects must sit for the corresponding test; only test-takers scoring above zero are considered for the merit list.

Exam Format

- **Type:** Multiple Choice Questions (MCQ), answered on OMR sheets
- **Number of questions:** 50 per subject
- **Duration:** 2 hours per test
- **Language:** Question paper is set in English only
- **Answer key:** Each question has exactly one correct option

Marking Scheme

Response Type	Marks
Correct answer	+2 marks
Wrong answer	−0.5 marks
Not attempted / question voided	0 marks

Because wrong answers carry a penalty, guessing without any elimination of options is generally not advisable — but an educated guess after ruling out one or more options is usually still worthwhile in expectation.

Syllabus and Question Pattern

The table below summarises how each subject's 50 questions are distributed and the level of syllabus they are drawn from.

Subject	Question Pattern	Syllabus
History	50 questions from History	Class XI–XII across all major boards of education (e.g. ISC, CBSE, WBCHSE, WBBME)
Chemistry	Chemistry — 39 Mathematics — 6 Physics and Biology — 5	Class XI–XII level Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics and Biology across all major boards of education
Statistics	50 questions from Mathematics	Class XI–XII level Mathematics across all major boards of education
Life Sciences	50 questions from Biology, Physics and Chemistry	Class XI–XII level Biology, Physics and Chemistry across all major boards of education
Economics	Mathematics — 35 English — 15 (Grammar, Vocabulary, analytical language skills)	Class XI–XII level Mathematics and English across all major boards of education
Political Science	Politics & society — 15 English comprehension — 15 Logical reasoning — 15 Picture / visual analysis — 5	Class XI–XII level English and general aptitude across all major boards of education

All subjects draw questions at the Class XI–XII level from major school boards, so a thorough revision of the higher-secondary curriculum is the most reliable preparation strategy, rather than relying on any single board's textbook alone.

Preparation Strategy

Subject-wise Focus

- **History:** Revise chronology, key movements, and cause–effect relationships rather than isolated dates.
- **Chemistry:** Prioritise core Chemistry (organic, inorganic, physical) since it carries the largest share; keep basic Mathematics and Physics/Biology concepts fresh for the remaining questions.
- **Statistics:** Since the entire paper is Mathematics-based, practise problem-solving speed alongside conceptual clarity in algebra, calculus, and probability.
- **Life Sciences:** Balance revision across Biology, Physics, and Chemistry instead of over-focusing on Biology alone.
- **Economics:** Split preparation time roughly in proportion to the question split — more time on Mathematics, supplemented by English grammar and vocabulary practice.
- **Political Science:** Combine current-affairs style general knowledge with English comprehension and logical reasoning practice; don't neglect picture/visual analysis questions.

General Test-Taking Tips

- Attempt questions you are fully confident about first, then return to uncertain ones.
- Use the negative marking scheme to guide your guessing strategy — only attempt a question if you can eliminate at least one or two options.
- Keep an eye on time allocation: with 50 questions in two hours, aim to spend no more than roughly two minutes per question on the first pass.
- Practice with OMR-style answer sheets beforehand so that filling responses does not eat into your thinking time.
- Since the question paper is in English only, build comfort reading and answering technical questions in English, even if your board medium of instruction was different.

On the Day of the Test

- Carry your admit card and a valid photo ID, along with any other documents specified for entry.
- Reach the test venue well ahead of the reporting time to allow for verification and seating.
- Bring your own stationery (black/blue ball-point pens) as typically required for OMR sheets.
- Read all instructions on the question booklet and OMR sheet carefully before you begin.
- Double-check that you are marking responses against the correct question numbers, especially if you skip and return to questions.

This guide is a preparation aid summarising the test structure and syllabus pattern. Candidates should always cross-check specific requirements, eligibility conditions, and procedural details against the official admission notification before appearing for the test.