MATHEMATICS — 30 QUESTIONS

Multiple choice · 45 minutes

Work through the questions in order, but do not spend too long on any one. Mark your best answer for every question, then check your work against the worked solutions.

1. What is the mode of this data set: 30, 26, 35, 24, 28, 35, 33, 23, 35, 29, 35, 35, 27, 34?

A 30

B 33

C 35

D 12

2. What is 8% of 300?

A 24

B 276

C 240

D 34

3. Calculate 7 × (−6).

A −52

B −42

C 1

D 42

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THE WORKED ANSWERS TO THOSE 3 QUESTIONS

1. What is the mode of this data set: 30, 26, 35, 24, 28, 35, 33, 23, 35, 29, 35, 35, 27, 34? [Mode]

Correct answer: C — 35

- The mode is the value that occurs most often.
- Count each value: 35 appears 5 times, more than any other.
- Mode = 35.
- Why the other options are wrong:
- A (30): That is (close to) the mean.
- B (33): That is the median, not the mode.
- D (12): That is the range.

LOS: MA4-DAT-C-02

> **KEY TAKEAWAY**
> The mode is the most frequent value (there can be more than one, or none).

2. What is 8% of 300? [Percentage of a quantity]

Correct answer: A — 24

- 8% means 8 out of 100, so 8% = 0.08.
- 0.08 × 300 = 24.
- 8% of 300 is 24.
- Why the other options are wrong:
- B (276): That is what is left after taking 8%.
- C (240): The decimal point was misplaced.
- D (34): The total was divided by the percentage.

LOS: MA4-FRC-C-01

> **KEY TAKEAWAY**
> Find 1% by dividing by 100, or use an equivalent fraction, then scale up.

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3. Calculate 7 × (−6). [Multiplying integers]

Correct answer: B — −42

- Multiply the sizes: 7 × 6 = 42.
- Same signs give a positive answer; different signs give a negative.
- 7 × −6 = −42.
- Why the other options are wrong:
- A (−52): Check the multiplication.
- C (1): The numbers were added instead of multiplied.
- D (42): The sign rule was applied the wrong way round.

LOS: MA4-INT-C-01

KEY TAKEAWAY

Same signs multiply to a positive, different signs to a negative.

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