

**PRACTICE QUESTIONS FOR COMPETITIVE EXAMS**  
**SUB: MATHEMATICS**  
**VECTORS**

**Q.1** Vector  $\vec{r}$  which is equally inclined to coordinate axes such that  $|\vec{r}| = 15\sqrt{3}$  is

- (A)  $\hat{i} + \hat{j} + \hat{k}$                       (B)  $15(\hat{i} + \hat{j} + \hat{k})$   
 (C)  $7(\hat{i} + \hat{j} + \hat{k})$                       (D) None of these

**Q.2** Let  $\vec{a}$ ,  $\vec{b}$ ,  $\vec{c}$  be three vectors such that  $|\vec{a}| = |\vec{c}| = 1$ ;  $|\vec{b}| = 4$  and  $|\vec{b} \times \vec{c}| = \sqrt{15}$ . If  $\vec{b} - 2\vec{c} = \lambda\vec{a}$  then a value of  $\lambda$  is

- (A) 1                      (B) -1                      (C) 2                      (D) -4

**Q.3** For 3 vectors  $\vec{u}$ ,  $\vec{v}$ ,  $\vec{w}$ , which of the following expressions is  $\neq$  to any remaining three.

- (A)  $\vec{u} \cdot (\vec{v} \times \vec{w})$                       (B)  $(\vec{v} \times \vec{w}) \cdot \vec{u}$   
 (C)  $\vec{v} \cdot (\vec{u} \times \vec{w})$                       (D)  $(\vec{w} \times \vec{u}) \cdot \vec{v}$

**Q.4** If 2 out of 3 vectors  $\vec{a}$ ,  $\vec{b}$ ,  $\vec{c}$  are unit vectors,  $\vec{a} + \vec{b} + \vec{c} = \vec{0}$  and  $2(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} + \vec{b} \cdot \vec{c} + \vec{c} \cdot \vec{a}) + 3 = 0$ , then third vector is length-

- (A) 3                      (B) 1                      (C) 2                      (D) None of these

**Q.5** If  $\vec{a} + \vec{b} + \vec{c} = \vec{0}$ ,  $|\vec{a}| = 3$ ,  $|\vec{b}| = 5$  &  $|\vec{c}| = 7$  then  $\angle\theta$  between  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$  is

- (A)  $40^\circ$                       (B)  $30^\circ$                       (C)  $150^\circ$                       (D) None of these

**Q.6** Magnitude of projection of vector  $\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + \hat{k}$  on vector  $4\hat{i} + 4\hat{j} + 7\hat{k}$  is

- (A) 3      (B)  $3\sqrt{6}$       (C)  $\sqrt{6}/3$       (D) None of these

**Q.7** Magnitude of moment of force  $-2\hat{i} + 6\hat{j} - 8\hat{k}$  acting at point  $2\hat{i} - \hat{j} + 3\hat{k}$  about point  $\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} - \hat{k}$

- (A)  $\sqrt{211}$       (B) 0      (C)  $\sqrt{54}$       (D) None of these

**Q.8** Let  $\vec{a} + \vec{b}$  is orthogonal to  $\vec{b}$  and  $\vec{a} + 2\vec{b}$  is orthogonal to  $\vec{a}$ , then

- (A)  $|\vec{a}| = \sqrt{2}|\vec{b}|$       (B)  $|\vec{a}| = 2|\vec{b}|$   
(C)  $|\vec{a}| = |\vec{b}|$       (D)  $2|\vec{a}| = |\vec{b}|$

**Q.9** If  $\hat{a}$  &  $\hat{b}$  are unit vectors represented by  $\vec{OA}$  and  $\vec{OB}$ , then unit vector along bisector of  $\angle AOB$  is scalar multiple of

- (A)  $\hat{a} - \hat{b}$       (B)  $\hat{a} \times \hat{b}$       (C)  $\hat{b} \times \hat{a}$       (D) None of these

**Q.10** If  $[2\vec{a} + 4\vec{b} \quad \vec{c} \quad \vec{d}] = \lambda[\vec{a} \quad \vec{c} \quad \vec{d}] + \mu[\vec{b} \quad \vec{c} \quad \vec{d}]$  then  $\lambda + \mu =$

- (A) 6      (B) -6      (C) 10      (D) None of these

**Q.11** ‡ Let  $a, b, c$  be distinct non-negative numbers. If the vectors  $a\hat{i} + a\hat{j} + c\hat{k}, \hat{i} + \hat{k}$  and  $c\hat{i} + c\hat{j} + b\hat{k}$  lie in a plane, then  $c$  is **(1993)**

- (A) The Arithmetic Mean of  $a$  and  $b$ .
- (B) The Geometric Mean of  $a$  and  $b$ .
- (C) The Harmonic Mean of  $a$  and  $b$ .
- (D) Equal to zero.

**Q.12** The volume of the parallelepiped whose sides are given by  $\vec{OA} = 2\hat{i} - 3\hat{j}, \vec{OB} = \hat{i} + \hat{j} - \hat{k}, \vec{OC} = 3\hat{i} - \hat{k}$ , is **(1983)**

- (A)  $\frac{4}{13}$       (B) 4      (C)  $\frac{2}{7}$       (D) None of these

**Q.13** A vector  $\vec{a}$  has components  $2p$  and  $1$  with respect to a rectangular Cartesian system. This system is rotated through a certain angle about the origin in the counter clockwise sense. If, with respect to the new system,  $\vec{a}$  has components  $p+1$  and  $1$ , then **(1986)**

- (A)  $p = 0$       (B)  $p = 1$  or  $p = -\frac{1}{3}$   
 (C)  $p = -1$  or  $p = \frac{1}{3}$       (D)  $p = 1$  or  $p = -1$

**Q.14** † The unit vector which is orthogonal to the vector  $3\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + 6\hat{k}$  and is coplanar with the vectors  $2\hat{i} + \hat{j} + \hat{k}$  and  $\hat{i} - \hat{j} + \hat{k}$  is **(2004)**

- (A)  $\frac{2\hat{i} - 6\hat{j} + \hat{k}}{\sqrt{41}}$       (B)  $\frac{2\hat{i} - 3\hat{j}}{\sqrt{13}}$   
 (C)  $\frac{3\hat{j} - \hat{k}}{\sqrt{10}}$       (D)  $\frac{4\hat{i} + 3\hat{j} - 3\hat{k}}{\sqrt{34}}$

**Q.15** If  $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}$  are non-coplanar unit vectors such that  $\vec{a} \times (\vec{b} \times \vec{c}) = \frac{(\vec{b} + \vec{c})}{\sqrt{2}}$ , then the angle between  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$  is **(1995)**

- (A)  $\frac{3\pi}{4}$       (B)  $\frac{\pi}{4}$       (C)  $\frac{\pi}{2}$       (D)  $\pi$

**Q.16** If  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$  are two unit vectors such that  $\vec{a} + 2\vec{b}$  and  $5\vec{a} - 4\vec{b}$  are perpendicular to each other, then the angle between  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$  is **(2002)**

- (A)  $45^\circ$       (B)  $60^\circ$       (C)  $\cos^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)$       (D)  $\cos^{-1}\left(\frac{2}{7}\right)$

**Q.17** Let  $\vec{V} = 2\vec{i} + \vec{j} - \vec{k}$  and  $\vec{W} = \vec{i} + 3\vec{k}$ . If  $\vec{U}$  is a unit vector, then the maximum value of the scalar triple product  $[\vec{U} \vec{V} \vec{W}]$  is **(2002)**

- (A) -1      (B)  $\sqrt{10} + \sqrt{6}$       (C)  $\sqrt{59}$       (D)  $\sqrt{60}$

**Q.18** If the vectors  $\vec{a} = \hat{i} - \hat{j} + 2\hat{k}$  and  $\vec{c} = \lambda\hat{i} + \hat{j} + \mu\hat{k}$  are mutually orthogonal then  $(\lambda, \mu) =$  **(2010)**

- (A) (2, -3)      (B) (-2, 3)      (C) (3, -2)      (D) (-3, 2)

**Q.19** ! If  $[\vec{a} \times \vec{b}, \vec{b} \times \vec{c}, \vec{c} \times \vec{a}] = \lambda [\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}]^2$  then  $\lambda$  is equal to  
**(2014)**

- (A) 1                      (B) 3                      (C) 0                      (D) 1

**Q.20** If the vectors  $\vec{AB} = 3\hat{j} + 4\hat{k}$  and  $\vec{AC} = 2\hat{j} + 4\hat{k}$  are the sides of a triangle ABC, then the length of the median through A is  
**(2013)**

- (A)  $\sqrt{72}$                       (B)  $\sqrt{33}$                       (C)  $\sqrt{45}$                       (D)  $\sqrt{18}$

**ANSWERS: 1(B), 2(D), 3(C), 4(B), 5(B), 6(D), 7(B), 8(A), 9(A), 10 (A), 11(B)**  
**12(B), 13(B), 14(C), 15(A), 16(B), 17(C), 18(D), 19(A), 20(B)**