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TEST TAKING STRATEGIES

OPEN DOOR DAY 2012
The Goal

- Get acquainted with the different tests used in the admission process
- Develop a “way of thinking” – how can one tackle the different test problems in an efficient way
- Know how can one prepare for the tests
AGENDA

- Structure of the SSE Riga tests
- Strategies for tests
  - Maths
  - Logical and Numerical Reasoning
  - English
- Q&A
STRUCTURE

- Mathematics
- Logical and numerical reasoning
- English

- Lasts about 3 hours equally distributed among the above mentioned
Secondary school Maths curriculum
  - Specifically - Algebra
Each question is worth 1 point
Only the answer given is evaluated
Discuss with the person next to you what you consider to be the most optimal strategy

Consider:
- The content of the test
- The evaluation for the test
- The time constraints
Mathematics - Summary

- Revise your secondary school curriculum in algebra
- Refer to your secondary school exercise books
- Revise the properties of the operators mentioned in the Maths summary
**Logical and Numerical Reasoning - Example**

**Example Question I**

Identify the missing number in the series.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. 4, 8, 16, 32, ?</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>E</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. 3, 6, 11, 18, ?</td>
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<td>3. 4, 3, 5, 9, 12, 17?</td>
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☐ Can you identify the link between the number series?
Logical and Numerical Reasoning – Strategies for Series

- Look for a relationship between consequent numbers
- Check the intervals between numbers
- See if there are relationships involving previous numbers in the series
- Common relationships: multiplication, division, powers
Example Question II

You need to estimate the answers to these questions, as you do not have time to calculate them precisely.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>E</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>347</td>
<td>198</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.</td>
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Answers
- 1. B
- 2. D
- 3. A
Discuss with your neighbor your way of approaching such problems
Logical and Numerical Reasoning - Summary

- Rounding
- Evaluate the direction of the error due to rounding
- Quickly perform the simplified calculation
- Find the possible answer or two
- Check which one is more likely based on the direction of the error due to rounding
Example Question III
Which two pictures are identical?

A  B  C  D  E
Non-Verbal Reasoning

- Discuss the experience you have had with similar kinds of visual intelligence tests
NON-VERBAL REASONING

- Prepare for such tests online

- http://www.psychometric-success.com
ENGLISH

- Reading
- Grammar
- Essay
Read the excerpt from the adaptation of Guiding Lights (Drake, B., May 2, 2010)
Question

1. What was puzzling about Brazil’s declining birth rate?
   a. It lasted forty years.
   b. There was no apparent reason for it.
   c. Many people actually saw it as a good thing.
   d. China had taken similar measures as Brazil, but this didn’t lead to quite the same decline.
1. One of these sentences contains a mistake in verb usage. Indicate the letter of the incorrect sentence:
   a. At the moment prices increase.
   b. Prices were increasing throughout 2009.
   c. Recently prices have increased.
   d. Recently prices have been increasing.

2. Insert the appropriate article (‘a’, ‘an’, ‘the’)

   Croatia will join ____ European Union.
   Slovenia is ____ European Union member.
The full article made the following assertions:

- There is evidence that soap operas might influence the behavior of people positively
- Soap operas can be used as a tool for change (organizations have already been doing it)
- The approach of combining entertainment and education has been coined as “edutainment”
1) What are some other problems (not mentioned in the above article) that such organizations might wish to solve and how might they do so using soap operas?

2) To what extent, and under what conditions, do you think such specially made “edutainment” can work?
Always answer the questions posed for the essay
- You’re asked to give additional problems
- And to evaluate under what circumstances (in your opinion) such “edutainment “ can work
CONTACTS

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