NUMERICAL APTITUDE – II

We discussed the methods of finding squares and square roots earlier. Now let us look at the methods of finding cubes and cube roots. But as an aspirant one should remember the cubes of first 15 natural numbers.

$1^3 = 1$	$2^3 = 8$	$3^3 = 27$	$4^3 = 64$	$5^3 = 125$
$6^3 = 216$	$7^3 = 343$	$8^3 = 512$	$9^3 = 729$	$10^3 = 1000$
$11^3 = 1331$	$12^3 = 1728$	$13^3 = 2197$	$14^3 = 2744$	$15^3 = 3375$

The cube of a two digit number can be found by using

 $(a+b)^3 = a^3 + 3a^2b + 3ab^2 + b^3$. For this take the first digit of the two digit number as 'a' and the second digit as 'b'. Then get $b^3, 3ab^2, 3a^2b$ and a^3 respectively and treat that these are values obtained in addition.

E.g 1: Find the value of
$$24^3$$
?
Sol: Take a = 2 and b = 4
 $24^3 = 2^3 | 3 \times 2^2 \times 4 | 3 \times 2 \times 4^2 | 4^3$
= 8 | 48 | 96 | 64
= 8 | 48 | 96 | 4
= 8 | 48 | 9 | 4
= 8 | 48 | 2 | 4
= 8 | 8 | 2 | 4 = 13824

CUBE ROOT OF A PERFECT CUBE:

Step I: Arrive at the units digit of cube root based on the units digit of the cube by using the following table.

Units digit of a cube	0	1	4	5	6	9	2	8	3	7
Units digit of the cube		1	4	5	6	9	8	2	7	3
root										

Step II: After arriving at the units digit, strike off the last 3 digits of the number. Then find the perfect cube immediately less than or equal to left out

value and get its cube root. Then prefix this value to the units digit arrived in Step I to get the cube root of the given number.

E.g 2: Find the value of $\sqrt[3]{148877}$?

Sol: **Step I**: The perfect cube has 7 in the units place. So its cube root will have 3 in the

units place.

Step II: After striking off the last three digits of 148877 (148877) the value left out

is 148. The perfect cube immediately less than or equal to 148 is 125

and



ANSWER: 2

The given cube 778688 has 8 in the units place. So its cube root will have 2 in its units

place.

Now erasing the last three digits (688) of the given number then the left out value will be

778.

The perfect cube which is immediately less than or equal to 778 is 729 and $\sqrt[3]{729} = 9$.

Now prefix 9 to the unit digit 2 to get the cube root of the given perfect cube i.e.

 $\sqrt[3]{778688} = 92$

2. $\sqrt[3]{205379} = ?$

1) 57 2) 59 3) 54 4) 58 5) 56 ANSWER: 2

The given cube 205379 has 9 in units place. So its cube root will have 9 in units place.

Now erasing the last three digits (379) of the number, the left out value will be 205.

The perfect cube immediately less than or equal to 205 is 125 and $\sqrt[3]{125} = 5$

Now prefix 5 to the unit digit 9 to get the cube root of the given perfect cube i.e.



4. $\sqrt[3]{12167} \times \sqrt{?} = 621$

1) 841 2) 27 3) 625 4) 29 5) None of these

ANSWER: 5

The perfect cube 12167 has 7 in units place. So its cube root will have 3 in its units place.

Now erasing the last three digits (167) the left out value will be 12.

The perfect cube less than or equal to 12 is 8 and $\sqrt[3]{8} = 2$

Prefix 2 to the units digit 3 to get the cube root of perfect cube i.e. $\sqrt[3]{12167}$ =



$$= \frac{8}{5} |8|2|4$$

= 13824

$$(21)^{3} = 2^{3} | 3 \times 2^{2} \times 1 | 3 \times 2^{12} | 1^{3}$$

$$= 8 | 12 | 6 | 1$$

$$= 9261$$

$$\div 24^{3} - 21^{3} = 13824 - 9261 = 4563$$
6. (?)³ + 32 = 54
1) 18 2) 2744 3) 1728 4) 12 5) None of these
ANSWER: 4
(?)³ + 32 = 54

$$\div (?)^{3} 32 \times 54 = 32 \times 2 \times 27 = 64 \times 27$$

$$\div ? = \sqrt[3]{64 \times 27} = 4 \times 3 = 12$$
7. $\sqrt[3]{42875} - ? = 21$
1) 18 2) 13 3) 15 4) 11 5) None of these
ANSWER: 5

The perfect cube 42875 has 5 in the units place, so its cube root will have 5 in its units

place.

Erasing the last three digits (875), the left out value will be 42.

The perfect cube immediately less than or equal to 42 is 27 and $\sqrt[3]{27} = 3$

Prefixing 3 to the units digit 5 will give the cube root of the number i.e.

 $\sqrt[3]{42875} = 35$

∴
$$\sqrt[3]{42875} - ? = 21$$

⇒ $35 - ? = 21$

8. $\sqrt[3]{74088} = ?$

1) 36 2) 38 3) 42 4) 44 5) 46 ANSWER: 3

The perfect cube 74088 has 8 in the units place, so its cube root will have 2 in its units

place.

Erasing the last three digits (088), the left out value will be 74.

The perfect cube immediately less than or equal to 74 is 64 and $\sqrt[3]{64} = 4$

Prefixing 4 to the unit digit 2 will give the cube root of the number i.e.

 $\sqrt[3]{74088} = 42$

