

Game 28 – Books

Exactly six books—L, M, N, Q, R and S—are placed on a shelf in a single file line from left to right. The placement of the books must conform to the following conditions:

- R has exactly two books to the left of it.
- S is to the left of M, but to the right of L.
- L and N are not shelved next to each other.

1. Which one of the following could be the order of the books on the shelf, from left to right?
 - A. Q, L, S, R, M, Q
 - B. L, N, R, S, Q, M
 - C. S, Q, R, L, M, N
 - D. Q, S, R, L, M, N
 - E. Q, L, R, S, M, N
2. Each of the following could be true EXCEPT
 - A. M has exactly one book to the left of it.
 - B. N has exactly one book to the left of it.
 - C. Q has exactly one book to the left of it.
 - D. S has exactly one book to the right of it.
 - E. S has exactly two books to the right of it.
3. If M is not the furthest book to the right, which one of the following is a complete and accurate list of numbers of books that could be to the left of N?
 - A. one, three, four
 - B. one, three, five
 - C. one, four, five
 - D. three, four
 - E. three, four, five
4. Which one of the following is a pair of books that cannot be shelved next to each other?
 - A. S and L
 - B. S and Q
 - C. L and Q
 - D. Q and M
 - E. Q and N
5. If L is the second book from the left, then in how many different arrangements can the books be shelved?
 - A. one
 - B. two
 - C. three
 - D. four
 - E. five

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1. E
2. A
3. E
4. B
5. C

Question 1 is the typical first question that tests the rules. Answers A through D all break a rule. Question 2 is based on the inference that both S and L must be to the left of M. The answer to Question 3 flows from the L and N rule—if M isn't last, either Q or N is last. If Q is last, N can't be first or second because it would be next to L. This means N is in fourth, fifth, or sixth—with three, four, or five books to the left.

On Question 4, if S is next to Q, then S must be fourth and Q fifth—leaving L stuck next to N in violation of the rules. Question 5 stems from the deduction that Q must be furthest to the left (since N cannot be under the rules), therefore, three different arrangements of books can be placed afterward.