JEE Main 2015 Mathematics



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26. If 12 identical balls are to be placed in 3 identical boxes, then the probability that one of the boxes contains exactly 3 balls is

(1)
$$\frac{55}{3} \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{11}$$

(2)
$$55\left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{10}$$

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$$55\left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{10}$$
 (3) $220\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^{12}$ (4) $22\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^{11}$

(4)
$$22\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^{12}$$

Answer:

Let's assume balls are different and 1 particular box to have 3 balls.

Out of 12 balls selecting 3 for a particular box = $^{12}C_3$ Remaining 9 balls in 2 boxes can be distributed in 2⁹ ways

Favourable cases = ${}^{12}C_3 \times 2^9$

Total no. Of cases (sample space) $=3^{12}$

$$\text{Required probability} = \frac{12_{\text{C}_3} \times 2^9}{3^{12}} = \frac{12 \times 11 \times 10 \times 9!}{9!3 \times 2 \times 3} \times \frac{2^9}{3^{11}} = \frac{55}{3} \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{11}$$

Correct option (1) $\frac{55}{3} \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{11}$

However as per the questions without our assumption answer should be 5/19