

In how many ways can 5 children and a couple be seated on a bench if the couple should be together ?

Question:

- A. 5040 ways
- B. 720 ways
- C. 1440 ways
- D. 144 ways

Answer:

$$\begin{array}{cccccc} & & & & & \downarrow \\ & & & & & \text{---} \\ \underline{C_1} & \underline{C_2} & \underline{C_3} & \underline{C_4} & \underline{C_5} & \underbrace{\underline{M_1} \quad \underline{M_2}} \\ & & & & & \Rightarrow \quad \underline{C_1} \quad \underline{C_2} \quad \underline{C_3} \quad \underline{C_4} \quad \underline{C_5} \quad \underline{M} \end{array}$$

Two members of the couple can be considered as 1 since they have to be always together

There are 6! different ways for 6 people to sit.

$$\begin{array}{l} \rightarrow \underline{C_1} \quad \underline{C_2} \quad \underline{C_3} \quad \underline{C_4} \quad \underline{C_5} \quad \underline{M_1 M_2} \quad | \quad \underline{C_1} \quad \underline{C_2} \quad \underline{C_3} \quad \underline{C_4} \quad \underline{C_5} \quad \underline{M_2 M_1} \quad \leftarrow \\ \rightarrow \underline{C_1} \quad \underline{C_2} \quad \underline{M_1 M_2} \quad \underline{C_3} \quad \underline{C_4} \quad \underline{C_5} \quad | \quad \underline{C_1} \quad \underline{C_2} \quad \underline{M_2 M_1} \quad \underline{C_3} \quad \underline{C_4} \quad \underline{C_5} \quad \leftarrow \end{array}$$

Since both members of the couple can change their places among themselves as shown above,

There are 2! different ways for 2 members of the couple to be seated.

Thus total No. of ways required seating arrangement can be fulfilled =  $6! \cdot 2!$

$$= 720 \times 2$$

$$= 1440$$

∴ Ans: Option (C)