

GRE - Graduate Record Examinations

The **GRE- General Test** measures critical thinking, analytical writing, verbal reasoning, and quantitative reasoning skills that have been acquired over a long period of time and that are not related to any specific field of study. The **GRE- Subject Tests** gauge undergraduate achievement in eight specific fields of study.

Section in GRE- The following are the sections involved in GRE:

Analytical Writing — The skills measured include the test taker's ability to

- articulate complex ideas clearly and effectively
- examine claims and accompanying evidence
- support ideas with relevant reasons and examples
- sustain a well-focused, coherent discussion
- control the elements of standard written English.

Verbal Reasoning — The skills measured include the test taker's ability to

- analyze and evaluate written material and synthesize information obtained from it
- analyze relationships among component parts of sentences
- recognize relationships between words and concepts.

Quantitative Reasoning — The skills measured include the test taker's ability to

- understand basic concepts of arithmetic, algebra, geometry, and data analysis
- reason quantitatively
- solve problems in a quantitative setting.

Typical Computer-Based GRE® General Test

Section	Number of Questions	Time
Analytical Writing	1 Issue Task*	45 minutes
Analytical Writing	1 Argument Task*	30 minutes
Verbal	30	30 minutes
Quantitative	28	45 minutes
Pretest**	Varies	Varies
Research***	Varies	Varies

* For the Issue task, two essay topics are presented and you choose one. The Argument task does not present a choice of topics; instead one topic is presented.

** An unidentified verbal or quantitative pretest section may be included and may appear in any order after the analytical writing section. It is not counted as part of your score.
 *** An identified research section that is not scored may be included, and it is always be at the end of the test.

Paper-Based General Test Content and Structure

The paper-based GRE General Test contains five sections.

In addition, one unidentified pretest section may be included, and this section can appear in any position in the test after the analytical writing section. Questions in the pretest section are being tested for possible use in future tests, and answers will not count toward your scores.

Total testing time is up to 3 3/4 hours. The directions at the beginning of each section specify the total number of questions in the section and the time allowed for the section.

The analytical writing section is always first. For the Issue task, two topics will be presented and you will choose one. The Argument task does not present a choice of topics; instead one topic will be presented.

The verbal and quantitative sections may appear in any order, including an unidentified verbal or quantitative pretest section. Treat each section presented during your test as if it counts.

Typical Paper-Based General Test

Section	Number of Questions	Time
Analytical Writing	1 Issue Task*	45 minutes
Analytical Writing	1 Argument Task*	30 minutes
Verbal (2 sections)	38 per section	30 minutes per section
Quantitative (2 sections)	30 per section	30 minutes per section
Pretest**	Varies	30 minutes

*For the Issue task, two essay topics will be presented and you will choose one. The Argument task does not present a choice of topics; instead, one topic will be presented.

** An unidentified verbal or quantitative pretest section may be included and may appear in any order after the analytical writing section. It is not counted as part of your score.

Changes planned include the following:

Verbal Reasoning

- Greater emphasis on higher cognitive skills and less dependence on vocabulary
- More text-based materials, such as reading passages
- A broader selection of reading passages
- Emphasis on skills related to graduate work, such as complex reasoning
- Expansion of computer-enabled tasks (e.g., clicking on a sentence in a passage to highlight it)
- Two 40-minute sections rather than one 30-minute section

Quantitative Reasoning

- Quantitative reasoning skills that are closer to skills generally used in graduate school
- Proportion of questions involving real-life scenarios and data interpretation increased
- Proportion of Geometry questions decreased
- Better use of technology (e.g., on-screen calculator)
- Two 40-minute sections rather than one 45-minute section

Analytical Writing

- New, more focused prompts that reduce the possibility of reliance on memorized materials
- The Issue and Argument tasks are each 30 minutes in length
- Essay responses will be made available to designated score recipients

Changes in the Verbal and Quantitative Score Scales

The GRE Board has approved new score scales for the Verbal and Quantitative sections. The GRE Program anticipates that the new score scale range will be 110 to 150, in 1-point increments. Final specification of the score scale will be determined based on data from the initial revised General Test administrations in the fall of 2007. A concordance table will be available in early January 2008 to assist score users in determining the relationship between old and new Verbal and Quantitative scores. The score scale for the Analytical Writing section will continue to be 0 to 6, in half-point increments.

What's Up with the GRE?

The GRE is meant to test your overall academic ability. It's tough to find a measure that applies to the broad range of disciplines that graduate students study. The skills tested in the GRE are supposed to represent core abilities: [verbal reasoning](#), [quantitative reasoning](#), and [analytical writing](#).

You have to take the GRE on the computer. In general this is a positive development for testing. Computer based tests are more efficient because they adapt to your skill level and give you questions that are appropriately challenging. It is a waste of time for you to answer questions that are too hard for you, or that are overly easy. What do you prove when you get them all right or all wrong? The computer zooms in on the gray zone, where your chances of getting a question right are closer to 50-50.

Given the computer adaptive nature of the GRE, you will profit from our tutorials and adaptive practice sessions, which also track your performance and guide you to questions of just the right difficulty.

Verbal Section

The verbal portion of the GRE has four types of questions: Antonyms, Analogies, Sentence Completion, and Reading Comprehension.

The computer-based GRE verbal section has about 30 questions in a single 30 minute session. The questions adapt to your skill level, getting harder or easier depending on your performance. Because this test is adaptive, fewer questions are required to obtain an accurate score than was the case for the written GRE.

Antonyms

On these questions, you are given a single word and choose, from among five possibilities, the answer which is most nearly opposite in meaning to the given word. You might have to distinguish fairly subtle shades of meaning to find the best antonym. This section is really a thinly disguised test of your vocabulary.

Analogies

In an analogy question, you will be given a pair of words, separated by colons, like this:

APPLE : CORE ::

Your job is to discern the **relationships between pairs of words**. Given a pair of words, you find a second pair (from a choice of five pairs) that best matches the relationship in the original pair.

You can make better sense of this strange-looking question type if you translate the question into a sentence, as in: : "**An APPLE is to a CORE in the same way that an X is to a Y.**"

On these questions, you're being asked to identify relationships between things, and to determine what relationships are most similar to each other.

Sentence Completion

Here you're given a complete sentence, from which one or two words have been removed and replaced with blanks. From a list of possible answers, you choose the word or words that best fits the sentence.

Succeeding at this question type means figuring out the relationships between parts of a sentence. Look for words that compare or contrast, that show agreement or disagreement, that show the development of an argument or a departure from it. Once you've learned to identify these things, filling in the blanks will be quite straightforward.

The test-makers want to know if you can recognize the flow of a cogent, coherent sentence, even when some of its elements are missing.

Reading Comp.

In a reading comprehension question, you'll read a fairly substantial piece of text - somewhere between three and six paragraphs, likely - which will be followed by several questions.

The questions will relate to the content of the passage, discerning its main points and significant details. You will also be asked to make inferences based on the information given in the passage. You might also be asked to describe the author's opinions.

In this section, you're being tested on your ability to synthesize and integrate the ideas presented in the passage.

Writing Assessment Section

The GRE contains a mandatory assessment on writing. You will write two short essays in the writing section. For example, in the "issues" task, you will be shown two "prompts", or statements each making a general, broad point. You will have 45 minutes to compose a response expressing your opinion about one of the two prompts.

Quantitative Section

On the computer adaptive version of the GRE quantitative section, you will have about 45 minutes to do 28 questions, although it can vary somewhat. Questions will cover arithmetic, algebra, geometry and data analysis.

The GRE quantitative section resembles the SAT's in many respects. The GRE quantitative portion does not test anything beyond what a typical high school student learns. The main differences between the GRE and SAT quantitative sections are that on the GRE students must do more questions, of a greater variety and of slightly elevated difficulty. And GRE students do not get a formula sheet. Nevertheless, the skills tested are very similar, and that is why we break down the tutorials in the same way for the GRE as we do for the SAT.

You may wonder why a quantitative test for graduate school only contains high school math. The justification is that this section is designed to assess your quantitative reasoning. You are given many little problems, each of which requires one or two small tricks to solve. We've said it elsewhere and we'll say it again: this is very much an academic fitness test. Click on the links above to learn more...

Arithmetic

Our arithmetic tutorial reviews the basic properties of numbers that are important for the GRE. We review prime numbers, factors, fractions, percentages and exponents. We also discuss symbols questions, where a new symbol is defined and you are asked to use it according to the definition.

Algebra

The algebra tutorial builds on the content of the arithmetic section. The new skills that we work on in algebra are **manipulating equations** and **solving for variables**

Geometry

Geometry is a little different from arithmetic and algebra. Geometry requires spatial reasoning skills - an understanding of points, lines and figures and how they relate to each other. You'll need to master some new concepts, including perimeter, area, volume and coordinate plots.

Data Analysis

Data analysis questions are the least frequent, but there are enough of them to merit a separate tutorial. The data analysis questions are very consistent. They ask you to understand a visual presentation of data. The presentation is commonly a pie chart, a bar chart, a line chart or a table. The questions ask you to identify trends, find a maximum or minimum, calculate proportions, calculate percentage change, calculate averages, etc.. These calculations should all be relatively simple and familiar; the challenge is in finding the data that you need from the table or graph.

Frequently Asked Questions About the GRE

How is the GRE scored?

Now that all GREs are taken on the computer, the means of scoring the test is slightly different than it had been. You'll receive a score ranging from 200-800 on each of the two sections: verbal and quantitative. This means you can receive a score ranging from 400-1600.

In addition, you will have to write two essays, and you will receive a writing score between 0 and 6. Recently, about 50% of GRE takers scored 4.5 or higher on the analytical writing component of the test.

For the verbal and quantitative reasoning sections, your score will depend on the number of questions you answer in the time allotted as well as your performance on the questions given. To some extent, questions will be weighted according to their difficulty level.

In addition to two scores out of 800, you will also be given a percentile ranking, indicating where you would place in a group of 100 students who took the same test you did. If your score places you in the 45th percentile, it means that for every hundred students, 55 scored better than you.

How do I register for the GRE?

For the most up to date information on the actual GRE test, including registration information, visit [the official GRE website](#).

What is the test fee?

The test fee will be US\$175, which is US\$35 more than the current foreign test fee to cover additional costs for a split-test administration. The candidate will pay for the entire test at the time he/she registers to take the Analytical Writing section.

CBT Test Center List: I.

INDIA

To Register:

Region 14 - INDIA

Call: 91-124-5147700 (*New Delhi, India*)

FAX: 91-124-5147773

AHMADABAD

Test Center Number: 8902

TESTS OFFERED: GMAT, GRE, TOEFL

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