



GMAT

Verbal Reasoning & Essay Sections

[What is the GMAT®?]

- **Graduate Management Admission Test®**

[Verbal Overview]

- 41 multiple choice questions
 - Comprehension
 - Critical Reasoning
 - Sentence Correction
- Maximum of 75 minutes

[Verbal Cont.]

- The Verbal section of the GMAT® measures your ability to:
 - Read and comprehend written material
 - Evaluate arguments
 - Write in standard English
- Three types of multiple-choice questions are used in the Verbal section of the GMAT®:
 - Reading Comprehension
 - Critical Reasoning
 - Sentence Correction

Verbal Cont.

Reading Comprehension

- Passages up to 350 words
- Topics contain material from the social sciences, physical or biological sciences, marketing, economics, and human resource management
- Specific knowledge of the material is not required
- Interpretive, applied, and inferential questions follow the passages

Verbal Cont.

Reading Comprehension Evaluates...

- Comprehension of terms and the English language
- Comprehension of the logical relationships present in arguments
- Ability to conclude based upon facts and statements in the reading passages
- Ability to interpret and conclude based upon numerical data

[Verbal Cont. Critical Reasoning]

- Tests reasoning skills in constructing and evaluating arguments
- Specific knowledge of the material is not required

Verbal Cont. Critical Reasoning Evaluates...

- Ability to reason in three areas:
 - Argument construction
 - Argument evaluation
 - Formulating and evaluating a plan of action

Verbal Cont. Sentence Correction

- Improve incorrect or ineffective expressions
- Choose which of the five choices best expresses an idea or relationship
- Be familiar with the stylistic conventions and grammatical rules of standard written English

Verbal Cont.

Sentence Correction Evaluates...

- Ability to correct sentences so they are grammatically and structurally sound
 - All grammar rules apply
- Ability to clearly and concisely express an idea or relationship
 - Includes ability to use denotative meanings of terms

Verbal Cont. Analytical Writing

- Analysis of an Issue
- Analysis of an Argument
- Two separate writing samples
- 30 minutes to complete each one
- Specific knowledge of the essay topic is not required
- Ability to write analytically is assessed

Verbal Cont. Analytical Writing

- **Analysis of an Issue**
 - Analyze the issue presented
 - Consider various perspectives
 - Use relevant reasons or examples drawn from your experience, observations, or reading to develop your own position on the issue.

- **Evaluates**
 - Your ability to explore the complexities of and take a position that is informed by your understanding

Verbal Cont. Analytical Writing

- **Analysis of an Argument**
 - Analyze the reasoning for an argument and write a critique of that argument
 - You are not presenting your own views on the subject
- Consider the following when developing your essay:
 - What assumptions inform the argument?
 - What alternatives weaken the conclusion?
 - What evidence can strengthen or refute the argument?
- **Evaluates**
 - Your ability to formulate a constructive critique of a specific argument based on a specific reasoning

[Study Suggestions]

- Read about the test format
- Download Test Prep
- Practice writing essays with sample topics
- Purchase *The Official Guide for GMAT® Review 11th Edition*
- Spend at least 4 weeks studying

[Test Taking Strategies]

- Read all directions thoroughly
- Read all questions thoroughly
- Eliminate wrong answers and select best choice
- Confirm answers when you are certain and want to move to the next question
- Pace yourself

[Disclaimer]

- Most of the material in this presentation came from free website: <http://www.mba.com/mba/TakeTheGMAT>
- Please note the material is not original to the CTL or its representatives

[Other Great Resources]

- Test Prep Preview
- The Princeton Review
- Kaplan
- Business Week
- 800 Score