

GRE General Test

This page attempts to give as much as information on GRE General Test. The GRE General Test measures critical thinking, analytical writing, verbal reasoning and quantitative reasoning skills of the test takers that have been acquired over a long period of time and that are not related to any specific field of study.

Analytical Writing

The skills measured include the test taker's ability to

- articulate complex ideas clearly and effectively
- examine claims and accompanying evidences
- 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

Skills measured include the test taker's ability to

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

The computer-based GRE General Test has three sections. In addition, one unidentified pre test section may be included and this section can appear in any position in the tests after the analytical writing section. Questions in the pre test section are being tested for possible use in future tests and answers will not count toward candidate's scores. An identified research section that is also not scored may be included and this section would always appear in the final section of the test. Questions in the research section are included for the purpose of ETS research and answers do not count towards the candidate's scores.

The total testing time is up to three hours, excluding the research section. 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 examinees have to 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. A Candidate must treat each section presented during the test as if it counts.

GRE General Test Format

Analytical Writing -

1 Issue Task - to be answered in 45 minutes

Analytical Writing -

1 Argument Task to be answered in 30 minutes

Verbal -

30 questions to be answered in 30 minutes

Quantitative -

28 questions - to be answered in 45 minutes

Pretest - no. of questions Varies - and the stipulated time too varies
Research - no. of questions Varies - and the stipulated time too varies