

GRE: Revised Graduate Record Examination General Exam

Compiled from the GRE website (www.ets.org)

Note: The revised GRE began August 2011

- ❖ **Overview:** Adding administrative and break time, the GRE requires ~4 hours. There are a total of four timed sections consisting of 60 multiple-choice questions and 2 tasks.
- ❖ There are also GRE subject tests (see <http://www.ets.org/gre/subject/about>); you should take subject tests only if they are required for the program to which you are applying.

1. Anatomy of the *Revised* GRE:

I. Analytical Writing

- **Time:** 60 minutes
- **Format:** 2 tasks, subdivided into two parts:
 - Critical issue Task (30 minutes)
 - Argument task (30 minutes)
- **What it Tests:** Responses will be evaluated on whether you can integrate critical thinking and analytical writing by fully addressing the tasks you're presented.
- **Preparatory Courses:** English Composition, Writing Intensive and analytical writing courses in English, Philosophy and other humanities and social sciences.

II. Verbal Reasoning

- **Time:** 60 minutes, 2 sections (30 min/section)
- **Format:** ~20 multiple-choice questions, subdivided into three parts:
 - Text Completion
 - Sentence Equivalence
 - Reading Comprehension
- **What it Tests:** Ability to evaluate and analyze text through the identification of word relationships and drawing of conclusions from passages.
- **Preparatory Courses:** Courses in the humanities and social sciences that require extensive and careful reading.

II. Quantitative Reasoning

- **Time:** 70 minutes, 2 sections (35 min/section)
- **Format:** ~20 multiple-choice questions, subdivided into three parts:
 - Quantitative Comparison Questions
 - Multiple Choice
 - Numeric Entry questions
- **What it Tests:** Basic mathematical and quantitative reasoning skills regarding concepts such as arithmetic, algebra, geometry and data interpretation. On-screen calculator will be available.
- **Preparatory Courses:** Math 135+

IV. Experimental Section

- **Time:** Varies
- **Format:** Similar to Verbal or Quantitative Reasoning
- **What it Tests:** This section is not graded and is used to normalize new questions for future examinations. You will not be able to tell which section is experimental, so take all sections seriously.

2. Scoring:
 - Each GRE section receives its own score. The Analytical Writing is scored on a scale of 0 to 6 in half-point increments (e.g., 3.0, 3.5); you will receive a single averaged score for your overall performance in this section. The Verbal and Quantitative sections each yield a scaled score between 130 to 170, in 1-point increments. Any section in which you answer no questions will be reported as a “No Score” (NS).
 - Your scored report will tell you—and your potential institutions—not only your scaled scores, but also your percentile ranking.
 - A recommended score depends on the strength of the rest of your application, how competitive your field, and where you want to go to school.
3. Score Availability:
 - Your score report will be available online on your MyGRE account (on www.gre.org) approximately 15 days after the test date; it will also be mailed to you and to a maximum of four designated institutions. *On the test date you must designate which institutions will receive the score report.*
 - Current GRE policy states that you may not choose to report scores from a specific test date; all scores earned during the previous 5 years will be reported to each designated institution.
4. Test Format:
 - Computer-Based Testing (CBT)
5. Test Dates:
 - Administered year-round.
 - Appointments are scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis.
 - Register early to get your preferred test date and to receive your test preparation material in time to prepare effectively.
6. Test Registrations
 - To register for the GRE, there are three ways:
 - Apply online using a credit card at visit www.gre.org;
 - Call and register by phone, toll free 1-800-GRE-CALL or 1-800-529-3590; or
 - Complete the *Authorization Voucher Request Form* found in the *GRE Registration Bulletin* and mail the form with payment to the address printed on the voucher.
 - Registration Fee: \$160
7. Official Test Prep Material: *The Official Guide to the GRE revised General Test* from ETS
Practice Questions on GRE website
Free diagnostic exam on GRE website
8. Additional Information:
 - Repeat Policy - There is no limitation to the number of times you can take the GRE; however, it can be taken only *once every 60 days and no more than 5 times in a 12-month period.*

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Hours of Operation: Monday – Friday
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