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## CAT Syllabus PDF





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**CAT** stands for Common Admission Test.

CAT exam does not have a defined syllabus. 2 sections out of the 3 do not require you to memorize even basic formulae. However, based on the trends in the last few years, we can have an idea about the pattern of the exam.

We have given this syllabus based on CAT 2020 and 2019. The paper consists of 3 sections.

1. Verbal ability and Reading comprehension.
2. Data Interpretation and Logical Reasoning.
3. Quantitative Aptitude.

***For more details related to CAT Exam pattern, Visit last pages of this PDF.***

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### CAT VERBAL ABILITY & READING COMPREHENSION SECTION

For the past few years, RC has been dominating this section. Reading comprehension alone contributes around 24% of the total marks in CAT and 80% of the marks in VARC section. Aspirants cannot afford to skip this section.

Also, the remaining 10 questions in the section also rely heavily on the comprehension ability of the candidate. Hence, aspirants must try to have a decent grasp on this section.

Questions in the recent CATs are from the following topics:

1. [Reading comprehension](#)
2. [Para jumbles](#)
3. [Odd sentence out](#)
4. [Para summary and completion](#)

Apart from reading comprehension, 3 questions on para summary too require candidates to read a passage and answer the question.

The remaining 7 questions are para jumbles and odd sentence elimination. These questions check the candidate's ability to spot coherence and pattern. All these questions are of TITA (Type In The Answer) type and do not carry any negative mark. Hence, aspirants must definitely take a shot at these questions.



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Apart from these, questions on grammar, sentence correction, synonyms and antonyms, analogies and other such topics used to appear in CAT before a few years.

1. Syllogism
2. Analogies
3. Synonyms and antonyms
4. Grammar-based sentence correction
5. Phrases, fill in the blanks and Cloze test

As of now, these questions have not made their appearance in the past few years. However, aspirants must at least prepare the basics of these topics to avoid any unpleasant surprises.

### **VARC Exam Pattern:**

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Expected Weightage (Questions)</u>
Reading Comprehension (RC)	24Q (4 to 5 RC's with 3-6 Questions for each RC)
Parajumbles	4Q (TITA)
Para Summary	3Q
Odd one out	3Q

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## DATA INTERPRETATION & LOGICAL REASONING SECTION

CAT has moved away from conventional bar and pie charts in the last few years. Most of the sets that appear in the exam are unconventional and are not very calculation intensive. Rather, the focus now has clearly been on cracking the logic than grinding numbers.

However, it pays off to have a decent understanding of the conventional sets before moving on to the tougher ones. This syllabus PDF contains the list of conventional topics that one must practice to ace this section.

Logical reasoning: (Around 16Q - 4 Sets. 3-5 questions from each set)

1. Seating arrangement (facing inwards/ outwards).
2. Seating arrangement based on truth liar concept.
3. Einstein's puzzle and arrangement puzzles
4. Networks
5. LR based on picking coins
6. Scheduling
7. Games and tournaments.
8. Truth - liar concept
9. Selection with conditions

Data interpretation: (Around 16Q - 4 Sets. 3-5 questions from each set)

1. Line chart, bar chart
2. Pie chart
3. Unconventional charts - radar chart, bubble chart, area chart
4. Tables, tables with missing values
5. DI based on growth over years
6. Venn diagrams (and 4 group Venn diagrams)

Apart from solving questions, solve puzzles so that your capacity to pick up the cues improves. Solve puzzles, sudokus and kakuros to improve your problem-solving skills.



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## QUANTITATIVE APTITUDE SECTION

This is the only section in which one can define the topics and syllabus with some amount of certainty. Broadly, we can classify the quantitative ability section into five groups.

1. Number systems
2. Arithmetic
3. Algebra
4. Geometry and mensuration
5. Modern math

### 1. **Number systems and progressions:**

Numbers, factors, properties of numbers, type and classification of numbers, divisibility rules, [HCF and LCM](#), cyclicity and base theorem, [remainders and remainder theorems](#), binomial theorem, the highest power of a number in a factorial.

**Series and progressions**, types of series – AP, GP, HP. Sum of series – finite, infinite. AM-GM concept, special series.

### 2. **Arithmetic:**

Ratios and proportions, averages, alligations, Percentages, profit-loss, faulty machines, simple interests, compound interests, time and work, time speed distance, relative speed, average speed, escalators, races and headstarts, circular tracks, pipes and cisterns, clocks and calendars.



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### **3. Algebra:**

Linear equations, special linear equations, quadratic equations, roots of an equation, functions and graphs, maxima and minima, types and properties of functions, coordinate geometry, inequalities.

Sets, inclusion-exclusion principles, Venn diagrams.

### **4. Geometry and mensuration:**

Triangles, lines, properties of triangles, similarity, congruence, quadrilaterals and other polygons, properties of quadrilaterals, cyclic quadrilaterals, concave and convex polygons, circles, chords and tangents, properties of circles.

3D geometry – cubes, cuboids, cones, cylinders, spheres and other shapes, volumes and surface areas of 3D shapes, development of 3D shapes, cutting and colouring problems on 3D shapes.

### **5. Modern math:**

Permutation (arrangement), Combinations (selection) arranging similar and distinct objects in similar and distinct groups, circular permutation and necklace problems, Probability, mutually exclusive and collectively exhaustive events, conditional probability, Baye's theorem, the theory of partitioning.



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### **Quantitative Aptitude** - Expected topic wise weightage

Topic	Expected Weightage (Questions)
<a href="#">Divisibility, Remainder Theorems, LCM-HCF</a>	0-2 Q
<a href="#">Number Systems</a>	1-3 Q
<a href="#">Linear Equations</a>	0-2 Q
<a href="#">Quadratic Equations</a>	0-2 Q
<a href="#">Polynomial Equations</a>	0-2 Q
<a href="#">Inequalities</a>	0-2 Q
<a href="#">Profit, Loss and Interest</a>	3-5 Q
<a href="#">Ratio, Proportions and Mixtures</a>	2-5 Q
<a href="#">Time, Speed, Distance and Work</a>	3-6 Q
<a href="#">Geometry</a>	6-10 Q
<a href="#">Venn diagrams</a>	1-3 Q
<a href="#">Functions and Graphs</a>	1-3 Q
<a href="#">Probability and Combinatorics (P&amp;C)</a>	1-3 Q
<a href="#">Progressions and Series</a>	2-4 Q
<a href="#">Data Sufficiency</a>	0-2 Q
<a href="#">Logarithms</a>	0-1 Q

[Verbal Ability for CAT Questions PDF](#)

[CAT Logical Reasoning Solved questions PDF](#)

[Data Interpretation CAT Solved Questions PDF](#)





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### CAT Exam pattern:

CAT is a three-hour exam. Due to the Covid pandemic, CAT 2020 was held as a 2 hour exam, in three slots. Assuming that CAT 2021 will return back to its previous format (CAT 2019, 2018 etc) following is the exam pattern:

VA section will have around 34 questions

DI-LR Section will have around 32 Questions

QA section will have around 34 Questions.

**Each Correct Answer will be awarded 3 marks., and for every wrong answer there is a negative marking of 1 mark (except for the TITA Questions).** For TITA questions no options will be given, so candidates have to type the answer (using the mouse).

**Total exam duration:** 3 hours

Section name	No. of Questions	No. of marks	Sectional time duration
Verbal ability and Reading comprehension (VARC)	34	102	1 hour (60 minutes)
Data Interpretation and Logical reasoning (DILR)	32	96	1 hour (60 minutes)
Quantitative ability (QA)	34	102	1 hour (60 minutes)
<b>Total</b>	100	300 Marks	3 hours (180 minutes)



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## Number of TITA Questions in each section:

Section name	No. of Questions	No. of TITA questions*
Verbal ability and Reading comprehension (VARC)	34	7
Data Interpretation and Logical reasoning (DILR)	32	8
Quantitative ability (QA)	34	12
Total	100	27

\*Based on the recent exam papers, and we can expect around 6-10 questions from each section and around 25-27 questions overall in the whole CAT exam paper.

Some Useful Blog links:

[CAT preparation Tips for Beginners](#)

[How to prepare for CAT By self Study](#)

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