

GRE QUANTITATIVE COMPARISON

Quantitative Comparison - Strategy

- Analyze Centered Information, Columns, and Quantities
- Approach Strategically - variety of approaches to solving these questions

[Note: Quantitative Comparison questions ask you to compare 2 mathematical expressions: Quantity A and Quantity B]

Quantitative Comparison - Tips

- Memorize answer choices to save time
 - Choices are always the same
 - Wording and order never vary
- When there is at least 1 variable in a problem, try to demonstrate two different relationships between quantities
 - If you can find 2 different relationships, then choice (D) is correct
- Compare the value of each “piece” in each quantity
 - If every “piece” in one quantity is greater than a corresponding “piece” in the other other quantity and if operation is addition or multiplication, then the quantity with the greater individual values will have the greater total value

Quantitative Comparison - Tips (continued)

- Make one quantity look like another
 - When quantities A and B are expressed differently, change the format of one quantity to match the other - this makes comparison easier
- Do the same thing (operation) to both quantities
 - Simplify complex comparisons by performing addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division operations on both quantities to make them simpler
- Don't be tricked by misleading information
 - Don't assume anything. Use only information that is given or information based on properties or theorems
 - For example: Don't assume angles are equal or that all variables are positive integers - fractions or negative numbers impact relationship between quantities

Quantitative Comparison - Tips (continued)

- Remember to consider other possibilities
 - If an answer looks obvious, it may be a trap
 - Example: Product = 6 ($2 \times 3 = 6$; $-2 \times -3 = 6$; $-1 \times -6 = 6$)
- Don't fall for look alikes
 - Two similar expressions may be mathematically different
 - Be extra cautious with expressions involving parentheses or radicals