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Free official preparation materials for the GRE General test

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Introduction

This document provides a list of free official test preparation resources and exam practice materials that aims to assist instructors and those who plan to sit the Graduate Record Examinations (GRE) General examination. Over 100 free official General Test resources are available via the web-pages shown in this document.

Those who are new to the GRE examination are advised to visit the home and introductory pages of ETS, the not-for-profit institution that administers the GRE examinations:

“GRE Home”

<https://www.ets.org/gre/>

“About the GRE General Test”

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/about/

“Frequently asked questions”

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/faq/

Background

There are thousands of open-access (free) and commercial GRE General exam preparation resources available on the internet and at other outlets such as bookstores.

The Free School classifies these materials in four ways, as shown in the table below.

GRE Exam Preparation Resources

1. GRE General official publications: Free practice materials.	2. GRE General official publications: Commercial practice materials.
3. Non-GRE sources: Free practice materials.	4. Non-GRE sources: Commercial practice materials.

This document examines “1. GRE General official publications: Free practice materials”.

The School does not endorse GRE General exam preparation material that has been published by non-GRE General sources as the quality of these resources varies widely. Some of these exam preparation materials are of excellent quality as they accurately reflect the content, format and standards of the GRE General examination. Some materials are poor to average quality. To varying degrees, these lesser resources do not accurately reflect the content, format and standards of the GRE General examination.

Those who plan to sit for the GRE General exam should only consult unofficial exam preparation materials if they have access to a qualified GRE General Test tutor who can review the suitability of unofficial resources on a case-by-case basis.

This document lists eight information sections, in the following order:

1. GRE General exam structure and content
2. GRE General scoring system
3. General preparation advice
4. Technical resources: how to answer exam questions
5. GRE General Exam question examples
6. Exam questions and answers from test takers
7. Official GRE General community forums
8. Official GRE General computer software applications

1. GRE GENERAL EXAM STRUCTURE AND CONTENT

“Test content and structure”

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/about/content/

“GRE Information Bulletin”

https://www.ets.org/s/gre/pdf/gre_info_bulletin.pdf

“Computer-delivered test”

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/about/content/computer/

“Paper-delivered test”

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/about/content/paper/

Part 1: Analytical writing

“Introduction to the Analytical Writing Measure”

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/analytical_writing/

1a) “Introduction to the issue task” (multiple links available on this page)

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/analytical_writing/issue/

1b) “Introduction to the argument task” (multiple links available on this page)

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/analytical_writing/argument/

Part 2: Verbal reasoning

“Introduction to the Verbal Reasoning Measure”

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/verbal_reasoning

“GRE® General Test: Verbal Reasoning Question Types”

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/about/content/verbal_reasoning

2a) “Reading comprehension”

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/verbal_reasoning/reading_comprehension

2b) “Text completion”

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/verbal_reasoning/text_completion

2c) “Sentence equivalence”

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/verbal_reasoning/sentence_equivalence

Part 3: Quantitative reasoning

“Introduction to the Quantitative Reasoning Measure”

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/quantitative_reasoning/

3a) “Quantitative comparison questions”

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/quantitative_reasoning/comparison

3b) “Multiple-choice Questions — Select One Answer Choice”

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/quantitative_reasoning/multiple_choice_one

3c) “Multiple-choice Questions — Select One More Answer Choices”

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/quantitative_reasoning/multiple_choice_more

3d) “Numeric entry options”

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/quantitative_reasoning/numeric_entry

2. GRE GENERAL SCORING SYSTEM

“How the test is scored”

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/scores/how/

“Graduate institute score report” (example/sample)

https://www.ets.org/s/gre/pdf/institution_score_report.pdf

“GRE Guide to the use of scores”

https://www.ets.org/s/gre/pdf/gre_guide.pdf

“Understanding your scores”

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/scores/understand/

“2016-2017 Interpreting your GRE scores”

https://www.ets.org/s/gre/pdf/gre_interpreting_scores.pdf

“Verbal reasoning and quantitative reasoning”

https://www.ets.org/s/gre/pdf/gre_guide_table1a.pdf

“Score Level Descriptions for the Analytical Writing Measure “

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/analytical_writing/score_level_descriptions/

“Scoring services”

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/scores/services/

3. GENERAL PREPARATION ADVICE

“Prepare for the General Test”

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/

“Prepare for the GRE® General Test”

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/?WT.ac=grehome_greprepare_b_150213

4. TECHNICAL RESOURCES: HOW TO ANSWER EXAM QUESTIONS

“Strategies and Tips for the Computer-delivered GRE® General Test”

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/tips/

Online resources: specific sections

Analytical writing

“Introduction to the Analytical Writing Measure”

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/analytical_writing/

Verbal reasoning

“Introduction to the Verbal Reasoning Measure”

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/verbal_reasoning/

Quantitative reasoning

“Introduction to the Quantitative Reasoning Measure”

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/quantitative_reasoning/

“Math review for the quantitative reasoning measure of the GRE revised test”

https://www.ets.org/s/gre/pdf/gre_math_review.pdf

“Khan Academy® Instructional Videos: Free Preparation for the GRE® Quantitative Reasoning Measure”

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/khan_academy

“Mathematical conventions for the quantitative reasoning measure of the GRE revised test”

https://www.ets.org/s/gre/pdf/gre_math_conventions.pdf

5. GRE GENERAL EXAM QUESTION EXAMPLES

Analytical writing section

Section 1 “Analyze an issue: sample issue”

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/analytical_writing/issue/sample_task

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/analytical_writing/issue/pool

Section 2 “Analyze and argument”

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/analytical_writing/argument/

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/analytical_writing/argument/pool

Verbal reasoning section

Section 1 “Reading comprehension sample questions”

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/verbal_reasoning/reading_comprehension/sample_questions

Section 2 “Text completion sample questions”

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/verbal_reasoning/text_completion/sample_questions

Section 3 “Sentence equivalence sample questions”

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/verbal_reasoning/sentence_equivalence/sample_questions

Quantitative reasoning section

Section 1 “Quantitative Comparison”

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/quantitative_reasoning/comparison/sample_questions

Section 2 “Multiple-choice – Select One”

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/quantitative_reasoning/multiple_choice_one/sample_questions

Section 3 “Multiple-choice – Select One or More”

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/quantitative_reasoning/multiple_choice_more

Section 4 “Numeric Entry”

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/quantitative_reasoning/numeric_entry/sample_questions

“Data Interpretation Sets”

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/quantitative_reasoning/data_interpretation/sample_questions

“Problem-solving Steps”

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/quantitative_reasoning/problem_solving/

“Using the Calculator”

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/quantitative_reasoning/calculator

6. EXAM QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FROM TEST TAKERS

“Practice Book for the Paper-based GRE Revised General Test (2nd edition)”

Full exam pp. 36-118 (Appendix A, B & C)

https://www.ets.org/s/gre/pdf/practice_book_GRE_pb_revised_general_test.pdf

“GRE Practice General Test #1 Answer Key” (Verbal reasoning, Section 2)

https://www.ets.org/s/gre/accessible/GRE_Practice_Test_1_Answers.doc

“GRE® General Test: Quantitative Reasoning Sample Questions”

https://www.ets.org/gre/institutions/about/general/quantitative_reasoning_sample_questions/

“Practice Test General #1 Section 3 & 4, Quantitative Reasoning”

https://www.ets.org/s/gre/accessible/GRE_Practice_Test_1_Quant_18_point.pdf

7. OFFICIAL GRE GENERAL COMMUNITY FORUMS

“In Language Webinars” (free preparation resource)

<https://www.ets.org/gre/webinars/>

“GRE General Community on Facebook”

<https://www.facebook.com/gregeneraltest>

8. OFFICIAL GRE GENERAL COMPUTER SOFTWARE APPLICATIONS

“POWERPREP® II, Version 2.2 Software: Preparation for the Computer-delivered GRE® revised General Test”

https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/powerprep2/

Official commercial material available for free

ETS and their official business partners have authored numerous resources that are available for purchase. Copies of books in paper and digital format are freely available at some public and college libraries. For example, the University of Technology, Sydney maintains the “GRE Official” series. These are archived in the 378.166 Dewey Index range.

This is a Free School Presentation

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