

GEAR UP TO STUDY ABROAD

HOW TO START WITH MS PREPARATIONS?

- Why do an MS?
- Overview of GRE, TOEFL, and IELTS
- Understanding the GRE
- Understanding the TOEFL and IELTS
- Resources and Timelines
- Q&A



Ayush Gala - BE Computer Engineering

Why do an MS/study abroad?



1. Better education & research facilities.

2. Better jobs & opportunities (salary + learning curve)



3. Universally known degree and curriculum.

4. Experience new culture and lifestyle.

5. Branch/Major change

Overview of the GRE, TOEFL, and IELTS

Graduate Record Examination (GRE):

- Purpose: Standardized test used for admissions into various graduate schools in US, UK, Canada, Australia, etc.
- Helps admissions committees get a more complete picture of applicant strengths by providing information about applicants' reasoning, critical thinking and analytical writing skills.
- Sections:
 - Quantitative Reasoning
 - Verbal Reasoning
 - Analytical Writing



Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) & International English Language Testing System (IELTS)

- Both the exams test your proficiency in the English language.
- IELTS - Focuses on British English. Accepted worldwide
- TOEFL - Focuses on American English. Not valid for admission to the UK or Canada, etc. Preferred in the US.
- Sections:
 - Reading
 - Listening
 - Speaking
 - Writing



Understanding the GRE:



1. **Time:** < 2 hours

2. **Sections:**

Test structure of GRE beginning September 22, 2023

Section	Number of Questions	Time
Analytical Writing (One section)	One "Analyze an Issue" task	30 minutes
Verbal Reasoning (Two sections)	Section 1: 12 questions	Section 1: 18 minutes
	Section 2: 15 questions	Section 2: 23 minutes
Quantitative Reasoning (Two sections)	Section 1: 12 questions	Section 1: 21 minutes
	Section 2: 15 questions	Section 2: 26 minutes

3. **Marks:** Out of 340 (170 each Quant and Verbal) + Out of 6.0 for Analytical writing

4. **Mode:** Proctored, Computer Delivered Test

- a. At home
- b. Test Center

5. **Fees:** ₹22,550/- (Without Discounts)

6. **Attempts:** Any day of the year, 21 days between consecutive tests.
~ Send only your best scores to Unis.

Understanding the sections:

Quantitative Reasoning:

- Algebra, Arithmetic, Quadratics
- Fractions, Decimals, & Percents
- Coordinate, Plane, and Solid Geometry,
- Number properties, exponents, ratios
- Word Problems, Work, speed, directions
- Quantitative Comparisons, inequalities
- Data Interpretation, Statistics

Question Types:

- MCQs (Single & Multiple correct)
- User Input
- Comparative

Verbal Reasoning:

- Text completion
 - 1/2/3 Blanks
- Text Analysis
- Sentence Equivalence
- Reading Comprehension
 - Short Passage
 - Long Passage
- Complex Vocabulary

Question Types:

- MCQs (Single & Multiple correct)
- Sentence selection
- Fill in the Blanks

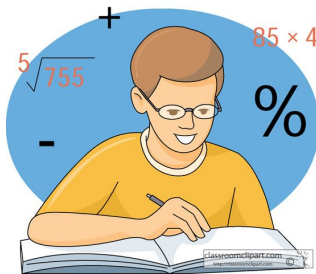
How to prep for the GRE?

Good prep time: 2-3 Months

What is a good time to give GRE?

- Masters directly after UG - **Sem VI**
- Masters after work exp - **4th year**
(Score is valid for 5 yrs)

1. Understand difficulty: CET level Math and Logic
2. Solve a lot of questions!
(Use a calculator!)
3. Revise vocabulary regularly!
(1000-1500 word lists)
4. Use the correct resources
 - a. ETS official guide to GRE
 - b. Manhattan 5lbs
 - c. Magoosh Vocab App (Download from Playstore)
5. Give at least 3-4 mock tests:
 - a. Follow the 1-2-1 rule



Should you enrol for classes?

- The GRE is extremely easy for engineers as Quant questions come to us naturally.
- If you have the time and discipline to study regularly for 2-3 months then absolutely no class is required to score well.
- However, if you have trouble managing your time, enrolling for classes is a good option.



All book links stated on page 11!

Understanding the TOEFL:



1. **Time:** < 2.5 hours

2. **Sections:**

Section	Estimated Timing	Questions/Tasks	Description
Reading	35 minutes	20 questions	Read passages and respond to questions.
Listening	36 minutes	28 questions	Answer questions about brief lectures or classroom discussions.
Speaking	16 minutes	4 tasks	Talk about a familiar topic and discuss material you read and heard.
Writing	29 minutes	2 tasks	Read a passage, listen to a recording, type your response. State and support an opinion in an online classroom discussion.

3. **Marks:** Out of 120 (30 for each section)

4. **Mode:** Proctored, Computer Delivered Test

- At home (Not in India yet :()
- Test Center

5. **Fees:** ₹18,000/- (Without Discounts)

6. **Attempts:** Any day of the year, 12 days between consecutive tests.
(Except Govt. Holidays)

Understanding the sections:

Reading: Understanding huge amt. of info.

- 2 passages - 700 words each with 10 questions per passage
- Excerpts from university-level textbooks that would be used in introductions to a topic.
- All the information you need to answer the questions will be included in the passage.

Question Types:

- Identify facts, Vocabulary
- Sentence Simplification & Summarization

Writing:

- Integrated writing: Read a passage, listen to a lecture and write your thoughts about it.
- Writing for an Academic Discussion task (10 minutes) – state and support an opinion in an online classroom discussion.

Listening: Understand conversations and lectures

- 3 lectures, some with classroom discussion, each 3–5 minutes; 6 questions per lecture
- 2 conversations, each 3 minutes; 5 questions per conversation. You can take notes.

Speaking: Ability to convey thoughts properly

- Independent speaking task
- Integrated speaking task - Listen to a lecture and speak on the questions.
- 15-20 seconds for preparing & 45-60 seconds for speaking

Understanding the IELTS:

1. **Time:** < 3 hours

2. **Sections:**

Sections with Duration	IELTS Academic Test Description	Total Questions
Listening (30 minutes)	It encompasses four recorded monologues and conversations	40
Reading (60 minutes)	Three long reading passages with tasks Texts range from descriptive and factual to discursive, and analytical including non-verbal material like diagrams, graphs, and illustrations texts are authentic (taken from books, journals, and newspapers)	40
Writing (60 minutes)	In Writing Task 1 a candidate has to write at least 150 words where he/she must summarize, describe or explain a table, graph, chart, or diagram. In Writing Task 2, a candidate has to write a short essay of at least 250 words	2
Speaking (11-14 minutes)	A face-to-face interview includes an introduction of the candidate, a cue card, and a detailed discussion	3

3. **Marks:** Out of 9 bands for each section

4. **Mode:** Proctored, Computer Delivered Test

- At home
- Test Center

5. **Fees:** ₹16,250/- (Without Discounts)

6. **Attempts:** 4 times a month.
Any number of attempts are allowed.

How to prep for TOEFL/IELTS?

Good prep time: 3-4 weeks

Good time to take the tests?

- 3-4 weeks after your GRE
(Score valid for 2 years)

1. Revise vocabulary regularly and understand how to use it in sentences.
(1000-1500 word lists)
2. Record and listen to yourself talking and think of improvements.
3. Use the correct resources
 - a. TOEFL iBT Official book
 - b. Magoosh Prep
 - c. Read Non-fiction books
4. Listen to audiobooks and try summarizing the content in your own words.



Should you enrol for classes?

- If you speak in English very regularly (with friends or in a professional setting) then do not enroll for any classes.
- If English is not your second/bilingual language then you may consider enrolling for classes in-general.
- Start conversing in english with friends and participate in college events by DebSoc, Pictoreal, & Art Circle.



All book links stated on page 11!

Thank you for listening patiently!

All official books:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1zOHpXBmW4dNaeUg9WwnNTBvDHrNukvZR?usp=sharing>

A) GRE extra material and info:

- a) <https://github.com/Aishwarya-Rajasekaran/GRE-Preparation-Material>
- b) <https://www.ets.org/gre/score-users/about/general-test/content-structure.html>

B) TOEFL iBT extra material and info:

- a) <https://www.ets.org/toefl/test-takers/ibt/about/content.html>
- b) <https://www.bestmytest.com/toefl/listening>

C) IELTS extra material and info:

- a) <https://github.com/lchang-me/IELTS-preparation>
- b) <https://ielts.idp.com/prepare/ielts-test-preparation-material>
- c) <https://quicklylearningenglish.files.wordpress.com/2016/05/cambridgeielts10.pdf>

D) Good Youtube channels:

- a) <https://www.youtube.com/@gregmat8036>
- b) <https://www.youtube.com/@TheTestedTutor> , <https://www.youtube.com/@juva>

Q&A

You can follow and ask me questions at:
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/ayush-gala/>