

Tips & techniques



Ideal time to be spent on various question types



Ideally, how many questions do we get from each type?

Question Type	No of questions (typical numbers)
Data comparison	8 to 9
Numerical entry	1 to 2
Multiple choice, Multiple Selection	2 to 3
Multiple choice, Single Selection	7 to 8

What is the ideal time which we need to spend for each Qn type?

Question Type	No of questions (typical numbers)	Average time that you should spend (Min:sec)	Total time (Min:sec)
Data comparison	8 to 9	1:30	12:45
Numerical entry	1 to 2	2:00	3:00
Multiple choice, Multiple Selection	2 to 3	2:00	5:00
Multiple choice, Single Selection	7 to 8	1:30	11:15
		Total	32 mins

Do you know when to skip a question?

- Ideally, one should not spend more than 2mins in each questions of higher difficult level (level 4,5).
- If takes more, then it is better to make an intelligent guess and select a choice. Then mark the question for verification and move on to the next one.
- It is better to move on the next one rather than getting stuck and losing time.

Ideal time to spend on different types of Questions

- One can spend up to 2 minutes on a Data Interpretation question, especially the first one.
- It is important to spend sufficient time to understand the graphs and plots. Once that is done, the subsequent questions will take you less time.
- Question from Arithmetic, Algebra should take 40 to 60 seconds.
- Questions from Geometry that are of easy or medium difficulty level (Level 1,2,3) should also take 40-60 seconds
- Mark a question for verification if you feel it needs a re-look, *(especially MCMS Qns, Worded questions that need to be interpreted correctly etc.)*

Target time line to solve 20 questions

Question Number	Suggested Time-lines
5 th Question	8 th min
10 th Question	16 th min
15 th Question	24 th min
20 th Question	32 nd min

Summary

- Don't spend more than **2 minutes** for any question.
- If a Question seems to be taking more time or seems to be confusing, make an intelligent guess, mark for review and move on. Revisit in the end.
- **There is no negative marking in the GRE exam**, so it is advisable to make a choice by intelligent guess work rather than leaving a question un-answered
- Try to solve **simple question in less time** so that you can spend more time on questions of higher difficulty level and DI questions.
- It is good to complete all the questions in about **30 minutes** so that you can devote the last 3-4 minutes to check the questions that you have marked for verification. You might be able to detect some of the silly mistakes that you might have committed.

Note that these are **just guidelines and not hard-and-fast rules**. As you practice and analyze your performance, you will be able to evolve a time management strategy that works best for you.

Tips to solve different types of Questions



Tips for answering the numerical entry questions

- Since there are no answer choices to guide you, read the question carefully. Sometimes there will be a partial statement before or after the answer box to indicate the type of answer that is desired.
- Pay special attention to units such as feet or miles, to orders of magnitude such as millions or billions, and to percents as compared with decimals that appears after the answer box.

Tips for answering the numerical entry questions

- If you are asked to round your answer, make sure you round to the required degree of accuracy. **For example**, if an answer is 24.6 and if it is to be rounded to the nearest integer, you need to enter 25 in the box provided. If you get the answer as $\frac{24}{72}$, remember that $\frac{6}{18}$, $\frac{2}{6}$ or $\frac{1}{3}$ are all valid responses. Also, 4.6 is equivalent to 4.60
- If your solution involves intermediate computations, you should carry out all computations exactly and round only your final answer in order to get the required degree of accuracy. If no rounding instructions are given, enter the exact answer.
- It is a good idea to mark the question number on the rough sheet where you have solved the Qn. It will help you if you get a different answer while verification in the end. You can compare the steps.

Tips to avoid mistakes

- Many mistakes in Quant can be attributed to minor mistakes in calculations. So be careful.
- Mistakes occur while entering correct data in the online calculator.
- Errors might happen when calculation is done in the mind. So, use the on-line calculator or paper & pencil for minor calculation.
- Don't completely rely on the given diagram. Unless a note states that a figure is drawn to scale, do NOT solve these problems by estimating sizes by sight or measurement.

Tips to avoid mistakes

- One should not go for approximations until it is mentioned in the question.
- If instruction for approximation is given, you should carry out all your computations exactly and do the approximation only in last step (or final calculation)
- Pay special attention to units such as feet or miles, to orders of magnitude such as millions or billions, and to percents as compared with decimals

General tips - DO

- Solve Questions of higher level so that actual exam looks easy.
- Due to the adaptive nature of the test, you need to be able to solve higher difficulty level questions from all the topics, especially, if you are aspiring for high scores. So be well prepared on all topics.
- Don't rely entirely upon the statements of previous test takers regarding the difficulty of the Quant section. Note, each test taker will experience different levels of difficulty due to the adaptive nature of the test and might perceive the test differently.

General tips - DO

- Go to the exam, only to score as high as you can.
- Maintain your confident till the end.
- Make use of the break.
- Have a proper sleep previous of your GRE and have proper food on the day.
- It is better to reach exam centre 30 minutes earlier.
- AWA is always in the first section. The next section could either be Verbal or Quant. So be mentally prepared for either possibility.

General tips – DON'T

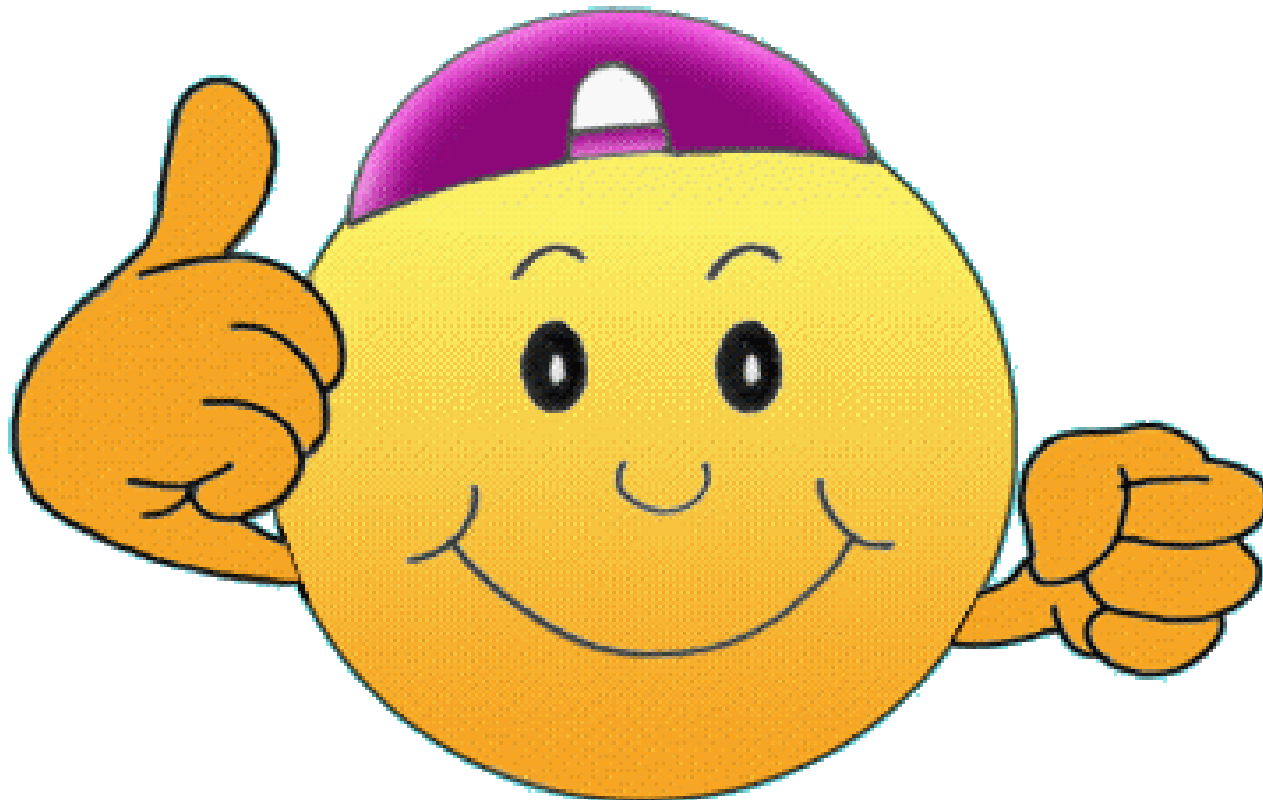
- Maintain your calm. Do not get upset if you suddenly see a difficult question or long passage.
- Don't think about your performance in the earlier sections.
- Be practical - Don't take the test as a mark of prestige.
- Do not leave any question unanswered in the test.
- You may get technical issue during exam. So don't panic such situations. Stay cool!
- Don't expect to get convenient atmosphere or situation.

Documents to be taken

- Passport (Original document)
- Copy of Confirmation letter (from ETS website)
- Driving license/ PAN card. (optional)
- Four Shortlisted Universities (in mind).
Remember the city and the state in which these universities are located.



GO FOR IT !



GOOD LUCK !