

# FMS 2010 Analysis

## Overview:

Number of Questions	200
Number of Sections	4
Number of Options	4
Time	120 minutes
Marks Per Question	4 Marks
Negative Marking	1 Mark per Incorrect Answer

FMS 2010 increased the number of questions compared to FMS 2009 – from 175 to 200. The number of sections remained four. There were 50 questions in each section.

Certain questions were repeated (Reading Comprehension) were repeated from previous FMS papers. Certain questions (Correct/Incorrect Sentences) were modified versions of GMAT questions, available on GMAT forums.

Given the large number of questions in the paper, selection of questions and accuracy was more important than attempting a large number of questions. Since the sectional cut-off is set at 50 percentile, it makes sense to maximize scores by concentrating on strong sections, after clearing the minimum cutoffs.

There were 4 Question Paper variants – 11, 13, 16, and 20. The section order was different across variants, and the order of questions inside a section was also different.

Section	Category	Total Questions	Ideal Attempts	Expected Cut-offs (Marks)	Level of Difficulty
1	Reading Comprehension	50	26-28	40-50	Easy to Moderate
2	Logical Reasoning	50	25-30	60-65	Easy to Moderate
3	Verbal Ability	50	18-20	40-50	Moderate
4	Quantitative Ability	50	18-20	40-45	Easy to Moderate
	<b>Total</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>280</b>	

## Reading Comprehension – 50 Questions

Learning Objectives	No. of Questions	Topic	No. of Questions
Elimination Techniques	50	Reading Comprehension	50

The Reading Comprehension section had four, rather long, passages. The subject matter of the passages in two of them, on philosophy and organization systems, was dense. The other two were on the easier side – the one on business strategy with 24 questions and FDI in Russia with 7 questions should have been attempted – particularly since the questions were factual. Most of the questions, excepting a few that were ambiguous and best left alone, were factual and directly traceable to specific sentences in the passages.

## Logical Reasoning – 50 Questions

Learning Objectives	No. of Questions	Topic	No. of Questions
Complex Arrangement	7	Logical Reasoning	42
Logical Conditions and Grouping	4		
Miscellaneous	21		
Linear Arrangement	10		
Tables and Caselets	6	Data Interpretation	6
Antonyms	2	Vocabulary	2
Grand Total	50		50

The single DI set was avoidable – while simple, they involved long calculations - each question had 2 statements and each statement required 4-5 calculations. Two sets were ambiguous. One of the arrangements could be created only if “A is sitting 2 places to the left of B” was read as “There are 2 people between A and B” *contrary to the conventional interpretation* “There is one person between A and B”. This ambiguity was also present in the set “arrangement of products”. The set on “5 songs to be played” was trickier compared to the other questions in this section and could have been attempted at the very end.

The two vocabulary-based questions were difficult. These had an anagram given, from which the original word was to be found; and then its antonym was to be marked. “Abhorrence” had more than one correct option.

The remaining sets were quite straightforward and could have been attempted quickly.

## Verbal Ability - 50 Questions

Learning Objectives	No. of Questions	Topic	No. of Questions
Analogy	4	Verbal Reasoning	8
Fill in the blanks	4		
Correct/Incorrect Sentences	7	Errors in Usage	11
Idiomatic Errors	1		
Mark the Error	3		
Synonyms	10	Vocabulary	28
Antonyms	10		
Word usage	8		
Nouns	1	Grammar	3
Adjectives	1		
Parts of Speech	1		
Grand Total	50		50

The Verbal Ability section contained questions that were based mainly on vocabulary, grammar. This section should have been completed in around 20 minutes – you either knew the answer or not to the questions. The time gained could have been spent in your strong section.

## Quantitative Ability – 50 Questions

Learning Objectives	No. of Questions	Topic	No. of Questions
Logarithms	4	Algebra	17
Number Systems	1		
Number Theory	1		
Quadratic and Higher Order Equations	7		
Surds and Indices	4		
Percentages	1	Arithmetic	13
Profit, Loss and Discount	2		
Ratio and Proportion	3		
Time and Distance	6		
Time and Work	1		
Circles	1	Geometry	9
Coordinate Geometry	6		
Quadrilaterals and Other Polygons	1		
Triangles	1		
Calculus: Limits, Differentiation and Integration	2	Higher Maths	2
Numerical Logic	2	Logical Reasoning	2
Sequences, Progressions and Series	6	Modern Maths	7
Sets	1		
Grand Total	50		

This section was fairly simple – questions were neither conceptually difficult nor time consuming. There was a mix of questions across different topics – with the maximum number of questions from Algebra.