

IIFT 2009 Analysis

Overview:

Number of Questions	122
Number of Sections	4
Number of Options	4
Time	120 minutes
Negative Marking	1/3 rd

IIFT 2009 reduced its section to 4, from the 6 sections of last year. The sections were:

- Data Interpretation and Logical Reasoning
- General Knowledge and Current Affairs
- Quantitative Aptitude
- Verbal Ability. Sub-Sections: (1) Reading Comprehension and (2) English Usage.

The number of questions reduced to 122 as compared to 150 last year.

The unique type and style of questions of IIFT was maintained. There were questions with ambiguity, inconsistent data, no option that was correct, and grammatical errors.

Some questions were similar to previous CAT questions, but not exactly similar, which was the case last year. The differential marking for different sections/sub-sections and decimal marks were typical to IIFT.

This year, it was clearly mentioned that there will be sectional cutoffs.

Overall, the IIFT 2009 paper was moderate and a student with an above average grasp of concepts could have attempted around 60-70 questions in the allotted time frame.

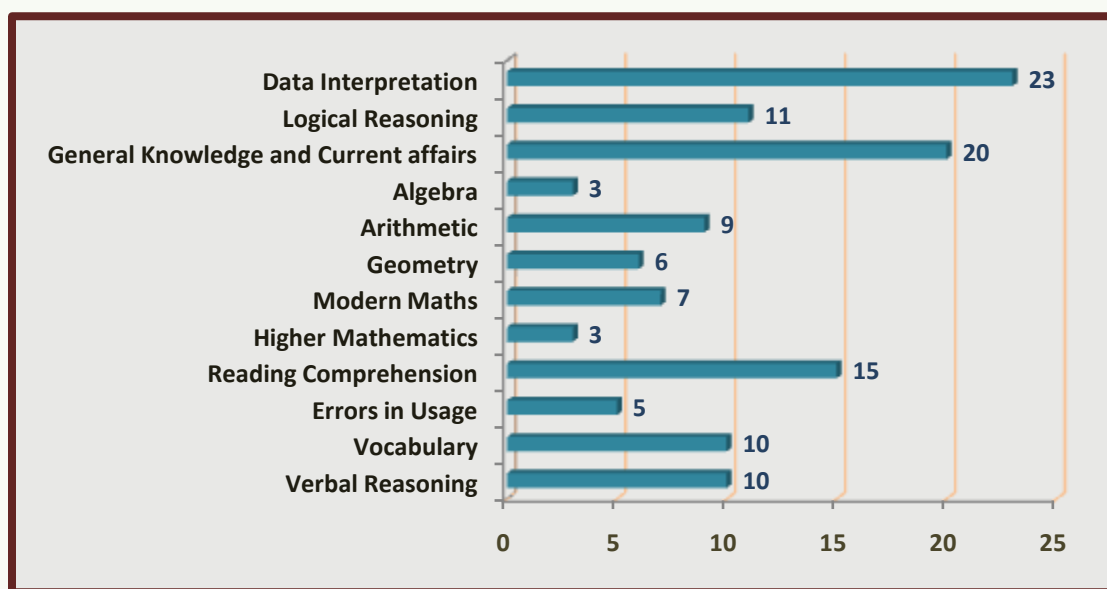
Although, the paper was quite different from a typical CAT paper, but it was a good warm-up before the Big CAT starting Saturday.

Section	Category	Number of Questions	Marks per Question	Ideal Attempts (No. of Q.)	Expected Cut-offs (Marks)	Level of Difficulty
1	Data Interpretation and Logical Reasoning	34	1.0	15-20	10-12	Moderate
2	General Knowledge and Current Affairs	20	0.4	12-15	3-4	Easy to Moderate
3	Quantitative Aptitude	28	1.0	8-10	6-8	Moderate to Difficult
4 (part-1)	Reading Comprehension	15	1.0	8-10	12-15	Moderate
4 (part-2)	English Usage	25	0.6	15-20		

The overall cut-off is expected to be 32+ for Delhi campus and 25+ for Kolkata campus. The call for GDPI stage will also depend upon past academic records and work experience of the candidates.

The overall difficulty level of the paper was Moderate.

The topic-wise breakup of the entire paper is:



Data Interpretation and Logical Reasoning – 34 Questions

This section comprised 23 questions on Data Interpretation and 11 questions on Logical Reasoning.

Learning Objectives	NoQ	Topics	NoQ
Charts and Diagrams	6	Data Interpretation	23
Tables and Caselets	17		
Complex Arrangement	3	Logical Reasoning	11
Linear Arrangement	2		
Miscellaneous	2		
Numerical Logic	4		
Total	34		34

The DI sets were mostly based on tables. Though the reasoning involved in DI caselets was very simple, the huge calculations made them time intensive, and perhaps worth solving selectively only.

The LR questions were, in general, not difficult and could have been attempted within 15 minutes. A total of 35-40 minutes could have been used for this section.

General Knowledge and Current affairs – 20 Questions

The emphasis of this section was on Business GK and Current Affairs as compared to many questions from static GK last year. The level of difficulty of the questions was also less as compared to last year. Many of the questions of ‘match the following type’ could have been solved even with one or two clues.

The last 10 minutes of the paper should have been used to attempt this section.

Quantitative Aptitude - 28 Questions

The QA section had 28 questions, as follows:

Learning Objectives	No. of Q.	Topics	No. of Q.
Logarithms	1	Algebra	3
Linear Equations	1		
Algebraic Formulae and Operations	1		
Time and Distance	2	Arithmetic	9
Time and Work	2		
Stocks and Shares	1		
Mixtures and Alligation	1		
Interest and Growth Rates	1		
Profit, Loss and Discount	1		
Percentages	1		
Circles	2	Geometry	6
Trigonometry	2		
Quadrilaterals and Other polygons	2		
Probability	3	Modern Maths	7
Sequences, Progressions and Series	3		
Permutations and Combinations	1		
Differential Calculus	3	Higher Mathematics	3
Total	28		28

This was the most difficult section in the entire paper. The question stems were lengthy for most of the questions; also the concepts tested were difficult. A fair number of Higher Maths, Modern Maths, Geometry, Logarithms and Binomial theorem questions made this section sufficiently difficult to attempt. Surprisingly, there were no questions from Numbers.

This section required thorough preparation on specific areas tailored to IIFT, in order to do well in it.

A well prepared student could attempt 8-10 questions from this section, based on his/her selection ability, in about 30-35 minutes.

Verbal Ability – 40 Questions

Learning Objectives	No. of Q.	Topics	No. of Q.
Elimination Techniques	15	Reading Comprehension	15
Correct/ Incorrect Sentences	5	Errors in Usage	5
Synonyms	5	Vocabulary	10
Antonyms	5		
Fill in The Blanks	4	Verbal Reasoning	10
Jumbled Sentences	6		
Total	40		40

In the Verbal Ability section, apart from a few questions which were tricky, and should have been avoided, the questions were moderate in difficulty. Two of the RC passages were extremely long, but compensated by having questions on the easier side. The passage from economics was short, but very dense.

The non-RC questions had lower marks, and could have been attempted faster than the RC's. The Jumbled Sentences showed a variation, bringing in options that covered only three of the four sentences given.

In general, a good time allocation for this section would have been 30-35 minutes.