

GMAT RC High-Scorer's Time Management

How to Conquer a Passage in 6-8 Minutes with High Accuracy

Does This Sound Familiar?

- You spend 10+ minutes on one passage, and your pacing is ruined.
- You re-read constantly to understand every word, but still feel lost.
- You rush through, remember nothing, and your accuracy plummets.
- You spend too much time on RC, leaving no time for CR.
- You run out of time and guess on the final questions, ruining your score.

The Core Conflict & The Real Goal

- **The Core Conflict: Speed vs. Accuracy**
 - Most students think you can't have both.
- **Redefining the Goal: "6 to 8 Minutes"**
 - RC passages come in 3-question and 4-question sets.
 - Your goal is a flexible framework: 6 minutes for 3-question sets. 8 minutes for 4-question sets.

Our Agenda Today

- We will deconstruct this framework through three layers:
 - **Mindset**
 - **Strategy**
 - **Skills**

Myth #1: I have to understand 100% of the passage.

- **The Truth:** GMAT RC tests your ability to process unfamiliar information and make logical judgments under pressure.
- **The New Mindset:** Your job isn't to become an expert. It's to create a "**Passage Map**" in your mind.

Myth #2: Reading faster is always better.

- **The Truth:** Constant, high-speed reading is ineffective.
- **The New Mindset:** Adopt **Strategic Pacing**. Divide the passage into:
- **Hot Zones:** Critical areas where you must slow down and analyze.
- **Cold Zones:** Areas you can skim quickly, noting only their function.

The Golden Time Allocation

- **Phase 1: Reading the Passage - Building Your Mental Map**
- **Time:**
 - **Short Passage:** 1.5 - 2 mins
 - **Long Passage:** 2 - 2.5 mins
 - **The Rule:** Never exceed 3 minutes.
- **Focus:** Identify the function and relationship of key ideas.

Reading Strategy: Hot Zones vs. Cold Zones

- **Hot Zones (Slow Down & Analyze)**
 - **The Topic:** Usually in the first paragraph.
 - **Paragraph Functions & Relationships:**
 - **Argument:** A core viewpoint responding to the topic.
 - **Evaluation:** An assessment of another argument.
 - **Transition & Attitude Words:** Slow down, but know they aren't absolute. Context is key.
- **Cold Zones (Skim Quickly)**
 - **Complex Jargon:** Use initials; note its location if needed.
 - **Long Examples/Lists:** Just link the example to the point it supports or refutes.

Phase 2: Answering Questions - Precision Strikes

- **Time:** 1 to 1.5 minutes per question.
- **Main Idea Questions:** < 1 minute. Use your mental map.
- **All Other Questions** (Supporting, Inference, etc.): ~1.5 minutes.
- **The 3-Step Method:**
 - **Locate:** Find the proof in the passage using keywords.
 - **Read + Pre-think:** After reading the text, form a one-sentence answer before you look at the choices.
 - **Compare & Eliminate:** Use your "pre-thought" answer to actively screen the options.

Advanced Triage Strategy

- **First 1/3 of Section (Q1-8):** Invest **7-9 minutes**.
Accuracy is critical here.
- **Middle 1/3 (Q9-16):** Return to the standard **6-8 minutes**.
- **Final 1/3 (Q17-23):** Stick to 6-8 minutes in principle, but **be ready to abandon a low-probability question quickly** to save time and mental energy.

Live Demo

Topic: the origin of multinational corporation

A1: from 19th company not those of 16/17 th

The modern multinational corporation is described as having originated when the owner-managers of nineteenth-century British firms carrying on international trade were replaced by teams of salaried managers organized into hierarchies. Increases in the volume of transactions in such firms are commonly believed to have necessitated this structural change. Nineteenth-century inventions like the steamship and the telegraph, by facilitating coordination of managerial activities, are described as key factors. Sixteenth- and seventeenth-century chartered trading companies, despite the international scope of their activities, are usually considered irrelevant to this discussion: the volume of their transactions is assumed to have been too low and the communications and transport of their day too primitive to make comparisons with modern multinationals interesting.

In reality, however, early trading companies successfully purchased and outfitted ships, built and operated offices and warehouses, manufactured trade goods for use abroad, maintained trading posts and production facilities overseas, procured goods for import, and sold those goods both at home and in other countries. The large volume of transactions associated

with these activities seems to have necessitated hierarchical management structures well before the advent of modern communications and transportation. For example, in the Hudson's Bay Company, each far-flung trading outpost was managed by a salaried agent, who carried out the trade with the Native Americans, managed day-to-day operations, and oversaw the post's workers and servants. One chief agent, answerable to the Court of Directors in London through the correspondence committee, was appointed with control over all of the agents on the bay.

E: 16/17 early companies are still important

The early trading companies did differ strikingly from modern multinationals in many respects. They depended heavily on the national governments of their home countries and thus characteristically acted abroad to promote national interests. Their top managers were typically owners with a substantial minority share, whereas senior managers' holdings in modern multinationals are usually insignificant. They operated in a preindustrial world, grafting a system of capitalist international trade onto a premodern system of artisan and peasant production. Despite these differences, however, early trading companies organized effectively in remarkably modern ways and merit further study as analogues of more modern structures.

E: 16/17 early companies need more attention

Live Demo

The author's main point is that

- ~~(A) modern multinationals~~ originated in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries with the establishment of chartered trading companies
- ~~(B) the success of early chartered trading companies, like that of modern multinationals, depended primarily on their ability to carry out complex operations~~
- ☒ (C) early chartered trading companies should be more seriously considered by scholars studying the origins of modern multinationals
- (D) scholars are quite mistaken concerning the origins of modern multinationals
- ~~(E) the management structures of early chartered trading companies are fundamentally the same as those of modern multinationals~~

With which of the following generalizations regarding management structures would the author of the passage most probably agree?

- ~~(A) Hierarchical management~~ structures are the most efficient management structures possible in a modern context.
- ☒ (B) Firms that routinely have a high volume of business transactions find it necessary to adopt hierarchical management structures.
- ~~(C) Hierarchical management~~ structures cannot be successfully implemented without modern communications and transportation.
- (D) Modern multinational firms with a relatively small volume of business transactions usually do not have hierarchically organized management structures.
- ~~(E) Companies that adopt~~ hierarchical management structures usually do so in order to facilitate expansion into foreign trade.

Live Demo

The passage suggests that modern **multinationals** differ from early chartered trading companies in that

- ~~(A) the top managers~~ of modern multinationals own stock in their own companies rather than simply receiving a salary
- ~~(B) modern multinationals~~ depend on a system of capitalist international trade rather than on less modern trading systems
- ~~(C) modern multinationals~~ have operations in a number of different foreign countries rather than merely in one or two
- ~~(D) the operations of modern~~ multinationals are highly profitable despite the more stringent environmental and safety regulations of modern governments
- (E)** the overseas operations of modern multinationals are not governed by the national interests of their home countries

According to the passage, early chartered trading companies **are usually described** as

- (A)** irrelevant to a discussion of the origins of the modern multinational corporation
- ~~(B) interesting but ultimately~~ too unusual to be good subjects for economic study
- ~~(C) analogues of nineteenth-century~~ British trading firms
- ~~(D) rudimentary and very early~~ forms of the modern multinational corporation
- ~~(E) important national institutions~~ because they existed to further the political aims of the governments of their home countries

Your New Toolkit

- **One Mindset:** Shift from a passive reader to an active strategist.
- **One Principle:** Use Strategic Pacing (Hot/Cold Zones), not uniform speed.
- **One System:** [1.5-2.5 Min. Map] + [~1.5 Min. Per Question (Locate + Pre-think + Compare)]

How to Practice: From Theory to Skill

- **Start Slow:** Practice the method without a timer first.
- **Build Up:** Start with a 10-minute target and gradually decrease it.
- **Use an Error Log with "Diagnostic Tags":**
 - Pinpoint the true reason for errors (e.g., Location Error, Pre-think Direction Error).

The Ultimate Improvement Path: A Modern Approach to Review

1. you ignore 2. you did but did it wrong 3. you tried to did but fail to do so

- **Record & Compare:** Record your own problem-solving process and compare it to an expert's video explanation.
- **Diagnose:** Use "Diagnostic Tags" to label the specific gaps in your thinking process.
- **Improve:** Focus your practice specifically on fixing the issues you've diagnosed.



Remember:

Strategic Pacing, Preemptive Thinking.

See you at:

GMATTerminator.site

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