

Proctored Mock CAT-9 2011 Analysis

The test had 60 questions in all that were equally spread over two sections, which were clearly defined in the instructions. Each section was individually timed, which means that each section had an individual time limit of 70 minutes and once the time ended for the first section, the test automatically moved to the second section. There was no provision of going back to the first section.

Section I: Quantitative Ability & Data Interpretation (Q.1 – Q.30)

This section of the test was of moderate level of difficulty. The section consisted of:

- 5 questions on Number System
- 3 questions on Algebra
- 4 questions on Arithmetic
- 4 questions on Geometry
- 4 questions on Modern Math (Misc.)
- 1 DI set (Table) on Calculations (3 questions)
- 1 DI set (Venn Diagram) on Calculations and Reasoning (2 questions)
- 2 Individual questions on Data Sufficiency
- 1 DI set (Two Bar graphs) on Calculations (3 questions)

The section covered all the topics as shown above. There were 20 questions based on Quantitative Ability (QA), and 10 questions based on Data Interpretation (DI). In QA the distribution of questions was almost uniform. In DI, the questions mainly tested the calculation and analytical skills of the students. Some of the questions asked were moderate to tough but at the same time some sitters were also present in this section. So a judicious selection of questions was very important.

There were several questions in this section (Q. 11, 19, 28 etc.), which could be solved by “value substitution/option elimination” and some of them would have taken a longer time if solved by traditional methods.

Given below is the question-wise analysis for this section:

Question S. No.	Key Concepts and Brief Description	Topic	Overall level of Difficulty
3, 9, 13, 22 & 27	Unit Digit, Divisibility, Counting, Factors etc.	Numbers (QA)	Easy to Moderate
10, 18 & 23	Quadratic Equations, Maxima & Minima, Cubic Equations etc.	Algebra (QA)	Easy
4, 11, 19 & 28	Time, Speed and Distance, Mixtures, Time and Work, Pipes and Cisterns etc.	Arithmetic (QA)	Easy to Moderate
1, 14, 20 & 29	Triangles, Volume, Circles etc.	Geometry (QA)	Easy
2, 5, 17 & 30	Permutation & Combination, Co-ordinate Geometry, Probability etc.	Modern Math – Misc. (QA)	Moderate

6 to 8	A set of DI in which data was given through a Table. Involved mainly calculations.	Table – Calculations (DI)	Easy to Moderate
15 & 16	A set of Venn Diagram carrying data in the form of various instructions.	Venn Diagram (DI)	Moderate
12 & 21	Two individual questions on Data Sufficiency. One question was based on Circles and Quadrilaterals and the other was based on Time, Speed and Distance etc.	Data Sufficiency (DI)	Easy
24 to 26	A set of DI in which data was given through a combination of two Bar Graphs.	Bar Graphs – Calculations (DI)	Easy

Section II: Verbal Ability & Logical Reasoning (Q.31 – Q.60)

This section was a combination of questions that tested Verbal Ability and Logical Reasoning skills. This section of the test had a moderate level of difficulty and had a couple of sitters. The section consisted of:

- 3 RC Passages (Total 8 questions)
- 2 Questions on Incorrect Usage
- 3 Question on Para Jumbles
- 3 Questions on Para Completion
- 2 Questions on Sentence Completion
- 2 Questions on Common Confusables
- 3 sets on Logical Reasoning (3 + 2 + 3 = 8 questions)
- 1 Individual question on Data Sufficiency
- 1 Individual question on Logical Reasoning

The various questions are now described in detail:

Question S. No.	Brief Description	Overall Level of Difficulty	Strategy
31 & 32	Reading Comprehension (spirituality)	Moderate	Both the questions should have been attempted.
33 to 35	Reading Comprehension (Tax Break)	Easy	Both the questions were easy. Skimming the passage was important in order to answer these questions.
37 to 39	Para Jumble	Easy-Moderate	Finding mandatory pairs in these questions was important.

43 ,44 , 57	Para Completion	Moderate	1 out of 2 questions could have been attempted. A careful reading of the paragraph and elimination of options was required to answer the given questions.
46 to 48	Reading Comprehension (Berlin)	Moderate-Tough	Elimination of options was the key to answer these questions.
49 & 50	Incorrect Usage	Moderate	Both the questions could have been attempted.
53 & 54	Sentence Completion	Moderate	A careful selection of the words on the basis of the context was necessary.
55 & 56	Common Confusables	Moderate-Tough	Some of words were quite confusing. These questions could have been done by elimination.
40 to 42; 51 & 52; 58 to 60	Logical Reasoning	Easy to Moderate	Each set carried a set of information, which was to be properly analyzed to obtain feasible arrangements. Two of the sets were of moderate difficulty and the third one was easy. An ideal strategy for solving such questions would be to draw a rough table/diagram for possible arrangements and then to eliminate cases according to the information given.
36	Data Sufficiency	Easy	The question involved arrangement based reasoning, which could be solved with the help of a rough diagram.
45	Logical Reasoning	Easy	The question involved arrangement based reasoning and solving would require a strategy similar to the one given above for the Logical Reasoning sets.