

most exams are quant heavy but I understand that real advantage takers show their skills on case heavy exams. Now assume I have an case heavy question how to Find the variables ? Randomly surfing the Internet, watching videos, asking LLM does makes any noticeable forward move.

In case-heavy exams:

- Variables are **hidden**.
- The problem space is **open**.
- The test is not calculation—it is **problem framing under uncertainty**.

This is why random internet surfing, videos, or even LLM queries feel useless:

- They give **answers**, not **problem decomposition**
- They skip the **variable discovery phase**, which is the *actual test*

1. What “finding variables” actually means (clarity first)

In case-heavy questions, *variables are not numbers*. They are:

- **Levers** (things that can be changed)
- **Constraints** (things that cannot be changed)
- **Signals** (information that reveals hidden structure)
- **Objectives** (what success actually means)

“What must be true for any solution to exist?”

Senior engineers, strategists, and strong case-solvers **never start with answers**.

They start by **stabilizing the problem space**.

2. How strong candidates *actually* practice this skill

They do **deliberate variable extraction**, not solution hunting.

A correct practice loop:

1. Take a case
2. **Do not solve it**
3. Only write:
 - Decision
 - Constraints
 - Variables
 - Assumptions
4. Stop

This feels unsatisfying—but it trains the *right muscle*.

