

TOP B-schools

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT



Management







Business



The CAT 2025 syllabus covers three core areas -

- i) Verbal Ability & Reading Comprehension (VARC),
- ii) Data Interpretation & Logical Reasoning (DILR), and
- iii) Quantitative Aptitude (QA).

These sections evaluate a candidate's **English comprehension**, analytical thinking, and logical reasoning skills.

Section-wise Weightage

- VARC 24 Questions | 72 Marks
- DILR 22 Questions | 66 Marks
- QA 22 Questions | 66 Marks

1. Verbal Ability & Reading Comprehension (VARC)

The first section of CAT tests a student's ability to understand, interpret, and analyze written content, along with their command over grammar and vocabulary.

This section has two parts:

- Verbal Ability (VA)
- Reading Comprehension (RC)

KEY TOPICS OF VARC

Para Completion & Inference	Fill in the blanks	Grammar
Verbal Reasoning & Logic	Subject-verb agreement	Foreign words in English
Para - Jumbles & Jumbled Paragraphs	Sentence Correction & completion	Idioms & one- word substitutions
Reading comprehension	Parts of speech	Idioms
Syllogisms	Preposition	Sentence correction
Different usage of same word	Types of clauses	Jumbled paragraphs
Verbal Logic	Antonyms	One word substitution
Errors in tenses	Phrases modifiers	Articles usage

2. Data Interpretation & Logical Reasoning (DILR)

The second section tests **problem-solving**, **logical thinking**, **and data analysis skills**.

It has two parts:

- Data Interpretation (DI)
- Logical Reasoning (LR)

Time Limit: 40 minutes for the section.

KEY TOPICS OF LRDI		
Statements	Series	Pie Charts
Proposition	Data Arrangement	Tables
Direction Sense	Family Tree	Data Structures
Coding-Decoding	Binary Logic	Venn Diagram
Assumptions	Seating Arrangement	Syllogism
Sets & Caselets	Puzzles	Clocks and Calendars
Bars & Line Graphs	Data Sufficiency	Blood Relations

3. Quantitative Aptitude (QA)

The final section of CAT is **calculation-intensive** and requires strong conceptual clarity in mathematics.

KEY TOPICS OF QUANT		
Geometric Progression	Probability	Square & Cube Root
Number System	Simple & Compound interest	Logarithms
Time-Speed- Distance	Binomial theorem	Percentages
In-equations Quadratic & Linear equations	Mean, Mode & Median	Work and Time
Surds and Indices	Profit & Loss	Inequalities
Trigonometry	Partnership (Accounts)	Ratios & Proportion
Algebra	Mensuration	Geometry

Important Topics for **QUANT**

Number System Topics for CAT

Basics of Numbers, Properties of Numbers,
Divisibility Rules, Divisibility and Factors,
Highest Common Factor and Lowest Common
Multiple, Finding Out the Last Digit, Finding Out
Last Two Digits, Number of Trailing Zeroes,
Finding out Remainders based on, Basic
Divisibility Rules, Binomial Theorem,
Simplifying the Dividend (Single and/or
Multiple Divisors), Fermat's Theorem, Euler's
Theorem, Pattern Recognition and Cyclicity of
Remainders, Wilson's Theorem, Base Systems,
Conversion of Bases, Addition / Subtraction /
Multiplication in different bases

Algebra Topics for CAT

Basics Algebraic Formulae, Linear Equations,
Problems on ages, Number of integer solutions,
Quadratic Equations, Finding out roots, Maxima
and Minima, Higher Degree Equations,
Descartes Rule of Signs, Inequalities,
Logarithm, Functions, Modifications of Graphs,
The Smallest Value in a Maximum Function

Arithmetic Topics for CAT

Averages, Mean Median Mode, Percentages, Ratio and Proportion, Simple and Compound Interest, Profit and Loss Mixtures and Allegations, Time and Work, Time Speed and Distance

Modern Math Topics for CAT

Sequence and Series, Binomial Theorem, Set
Theory, Permutation and Combination,
Probability

Geometry Topics for CAT

Lines and Angles, Triangles – Basic Concepts, Area, Angles, Similar Triangles, Polygons, Circles, Solids / Mensuration – 3D Geometry, Coordinate Geometry, Trigonometry

Important Topics for RCs

RC Passa ges	Slot 1	Slot 2	Slot 3
CAT 2024	 Utility & Human Economics Entertainment/ Netflix Australian Species Craftsmanship 	 Spice Trade Unintended Consequences of Technology Peer Review of Research Carnivore-Human Conflict 	 Impact of AI Languages Chinese Moutai Saving outer space and other planets
CAT 2023	 Wolf → Environmentalist s vs Farmer Philosophy → Change in Work Culture Indian Ocean- based Geographical Literature Human Behavior 	 Garments, Fashion Industry & Pollution Netflix Dubbing of titles for Europe → Good or Bad for Europe? Liberalism is Dying Facts & Interpretation in History 	 Romantic Aesthetics/ Philosophy Cultural Property Law Exploration of Sites Nutmeg Curse→ Environment Degradation Rational Thinking
CAT 2022	 Ghosts & their mysteries how we can't find their history Chinese Copy of articles Two levels of emotional thinking STOICS 	 Music Engineering technology Octopus Philosophy	 Social reorganization increasing crime rate Software if more easy humans are not capable to get solutions) Indian history American migration / urbanization increasing
CAT 2021	 Mayan Civilization Utopia and Dystopia Marshmallow Experiment Evolution of Tea as a Drink 	 Language/ Indigenous People Why Fiction Trumps Truth Colonialism/Nationalism Knowledge and Problems of Knowledge is a Scandal to Philosophy 	 Nanotechnology Language Instinct Time Accuracy Entropy Unconscious & Psychoanalysis

RC Passa ges	Slot 1	Slot 2	Slot 3
CAT 2020	 Anarchism Migration of Northern Seals Currency of Tang Dynasty Grammar/Vocab ulary 	 Investing in Renewable Energy Technologies Piracy in International Trade Freudian Models of Aggression A Study of Visualisation 	 Travel Writing and Feminism During Colonial Times The Need for Economic Literacy in the General Population Screen Time and Undercurrents of Social Class An Analysis of Human Nature
CAT 2019	 British Folk Music Topophilia Emperor Penguins Internet Shopping and Choice Anxiety Origin of Story of Alladin 	 Dense Cities Google and Archaeology Distributing Bureaucracy Language & Culture British Colonial Policy 	No exam
CAT 2018	 Genetics India's View on its Legacy of Second World War Plastic Pollution Elephant Society Consumer Behaviour Studies 	 Grover Snails Meritocracy and Diversified Teams Use of Technology in Essential Services Rings of Saturn and Their Age Human Resource and Learning 	No exam





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