

CAT Verbal Ability and Reading Comprehension Syllabus 2023

Updated on Mar 22, 2023 - 2:06 p.m. IST by Prerna Goel

CAT Verbal Ability and Reading Comprehension (VARC) Syllabus 2023- The key to success lies only in dedicated preparation and hard work when it comes to CAT 2023. Candidates who are planning to appear in the CAT 2023 exam must be familiar of the fact that CAT conducting body will not provide any official [CAT syllabus](#).

This can be confusing at the time of starting the preparation. Hence based on the past trends in CAT, candidates should be well aware of CAT verbal ability and reading comprehension syllabus 2023. [Careers360](#) brings to you details of [CAT](#), exam dates, features of VARC section, major topics along with an expected number of questions in this article of CAT Verbal Ability and Reading Comprehension Syllabus 2023. Along with that, the major preparation tips to be followed to ace the VARC section, best books are also provided in this article.

Quick Links -

- [How to prepare for CAT DI & LR](#)
- [How to Prepare for CAT Quantitative Ability](#)

CAT Exam Dates 2023

In order to be familiar with [when and how to start preparation of CAT 2023](#), it is important for candidates to be aware of the [exam dates of CAT 2023](#). Details of notification, start and end of registration and other events regarding CAT 2023 are mentioned under this section. Given below table can also be referred by candidates for the purpose of making a good [CAT preparation strategy](#).

CAT Exam Schedule 2023

Events	Dates
CAT Registration 2023 starts from	First week of August 2023
Last Date to submit the CAT Application form	TBA
Correction of CAT application form	TBA
CAT Mock Test 2023	TBA

Availability of CAT Admit Card	TBA
CAT 2023 Exam Date	TBA

CAT Exam Pattern 2023

To form a preparation plan for the CAT 2023 exam, it is imperative for candidates to be aware of the type of questions asked, total time duration, marking scheme and related information. Such details are provided under the [exam pattern of CAT 2023](#). Given below is the CAT 2023 exam pattern for the VARC section.

Exam Pattern of CAT VARC Section:

Particulars	Details
Sectional Time Duration for VARC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 53 minutes and 20 seconds for PwD Candidates• 40 Minutes for other
Type of Questions	MCQs and TITA Questions (Both)
Marking Scheme for MCQs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 marks for the correct answer• -1 mark for an incorrect answer• No marks for unattempted questions
Marking Scheme for TITA Questions	No negative marking
Difficulty Level	Moderately High

CAT Verbal Ability and Reading Comprehension Syllabus 2023

The very first section that candidates see in the CAT 2023 exam is the VARC section out of the three. For the VARC section, candidates are expected to select passages carefully and answer accurately. The questions in the VARC section are divided into both MCQs and TITA Questions. As of now, every year 10 questions from Verbal Ability are asked and the remaining are from the reading comprehension part. CAT Verbal Ability and Reading Comprehension syllabus 2023 aims to test candidates on grammar and Verbal Reasoning, Error Correction, Facts, inference or judgment, comprehensions, vocabulary, para summary and related topics

Quick Link - [How to tackle TITA questions in CAT](#)

CAT 2023: Verbal Ability and Reading Comprehension Syllabus

Particulars	Details
Type of questions in Verbal Ability	Both MCQs and TITA (Non-MCQs)
Type of questions in Reading comprehension	MCQs only
Total MCQs in verbal ability	10
Total questions in Reading comprehension	24

Related Verbal Ability and Reading Comprehension Syllabus Topics

- Inferential Logical Reasoning
- Para Jumbles
- Summary
- Contextual usage
- Idioms
- One word substitution
- Sentence completion
- Misfit/Out of Context sentence
- Paragraph Completion
- Vocabulary

CAT 2022 Slot 1 Exam Analysis

As per CAT Exam Analysis 2022 slot 1, the overall difficulty level of VARC section is moderate. No questions are asked on Odd one out. The paper consists of 3 questions from Para Summary and Para Jumbles and 2 from Fill in the Blanks.

CAT 2022 Slot 2 Exam Analysis

As per CAT Analysis 2022, the RC section had 4 difficult passages, especially one on Institutions. The verbal Ability section was based on Para Summary, Para Completion, and Para Jumbles.

CAT 2022 Slot 3 Exam Analysis

As per CAT 2022 Analysis, the VARC is moderate. The RC passages are easy to read as the options are a little tricky. RC passages are asked from the below topics:

- History - Tricky
- Biology & Tech - Moderate
- Sociology & Anthropology (Great Migration) - Moderate
- Software - Moderate

CAT 2021 Slot 1 Exam Analysis of VARC

Based on the initial reaction of test-takers, the CAT 2021 Slot 1 Exam Analysis of VARC is provided below.

- Maximum number of questions had been asked from RC i.e. a total of 4 sets of RC with 4 questions each were there in Slot 1 paper.
- Along with that 19 MCQ and 5 TITA-type questions were asked in VARC slot 1 paper.
- As per experts the good attempts for slot 1 VARC paper could be around 16 to 18 questions.
- Other than that, 3 questions each were asked from Para jumbles and para summary.

CAT 2021 Slot 2 Exam Analysis of VARC

Based on the initial reaction of test-takers, the CAT 2021 Slot 2 Exam Analysis of VARC is provided below.

- A total of 4 sets of RC with 4 questions each were there in the Slot 2 paper.
- 8 questions were from Verbal Ability.
- Like Slot 1 paper, this slot also had 3 questions each asked from Para jumbles and para summary.
- 2 questions were asked from odd one out topic.

CAT 2021 Slot 3 Exam Analysis of VARC

Based on the initial reaction of test-takers, the CAT 2021 Slot 3 Exam Analysis of VARC is provided below.

- Like slot 1 and 2, slot 3 also had 4 sets of RC with 4 questions each.
- 2 RCs were rated difficult while the other two were doable and easy.
- Again, 3 questions each were asked from Para jumbles and para summary.

CAT 2020 VARC Analysis: Slot 1

Section	Number of Questions	Level
---------	---------------------	-------

VARC	26 (RC:3 passages with 4 questions each 1 passage with 5 questions) (VA: 8 Questions (PS-3, PJ-3 and OS-2))	Difficult
------	---	-----------

CAT Analysis 2020 for VARC: Slot 2

Section	Number of Questions	Level
VARC	26 (RC:2 passages Jumbled Sentence Rest	Moderate

CAT 2020 Slot 3 VARC Analysis

The VARC section was comparable in difficulty level in all the three slots and had the same segmentation. The bulk of the questions was of medium difficulty, and even difficult for quite a few questions. There were very few simple questions. There were 4 passages in Comprehension: 2 passages with 4 Qs each and 2 passages with 5 Qs each. Most of the questions were argumentative and application-based. Questions from the VA also did not offer much respite. To arrive at the response, they also required careful deliberation. The only consolation was that the forms of Summary, Odd Sentence, and Paragraph Jumble questions were answered by common questions.

Exam format Verbal Ability and Reading Comprehension Questions (CAT 2019)

Given in tabular form are the details of questions asked from the CAT verbal ability and reading comprehension syllabus which were asked in CAT 2019 (both slots). Questions from Grammar or Vocabulary topics were not asked last year.

CAT 2019 Slot 1 - VARC Section

Slot 1 Topics	Questions	Type
Passage- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cities being environment friendly • Use of digital info to restore archaeological sites • Capital cities and bureaucracy • Language and Culture 	5 in each passage	MCQ

Passage - British Policy	4	
Para Jumbles	4	TITA
Misfit	3	TITA
Summary	3	MCQ

CAT 2019 Slot 2 - VARC Section

Slot 2 Topics	Questions	Type
Passage - <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Squatter Colonies• Digital Colonialism by Google• Decentralization of Central Governments• British Colonialism	5	MCQ
Passage - Language and Cultural Identity	4	
Para jumbles (4 sentences)	3	TITA
Out of Context sentence	3	TITA
Summary	3	MCQ

How to prepare for CAT Verbal Ability and Reading Comprehension Syllabus 2023?

As mentioned earlier, the official CAT 2023 syllabus will not be released officially. On the basis of previous year's question papers of CAT, sample papers and expert advice candidates can get to know what topics are to be asked from the CAT verbal ability and reading comprehension syllabus of CAT 2023. Every registered candidate wants to make it to IIMs but the question is [How To Crack CAT 2023?](#) If we look closely, a few topics in the VARC section are very important and repeated every year in the question paper differently. As per the exam pattern of CAT 2023, out of all questions in this section, some questions will be in a non-MCQ format which means candidates will have to answer the questions without any choices. Here are some major tips of [CAT toppers](#) that will help the candidates to score well in CAT 2023 Verbal Ability and Reading Comprehension section:

1. One of the toppers of CAT suggests future candidates to read more and more newspapers and novels on a daily basis. This would surely help in improving vocabulary for the VARC section. No doubt that the VARC section could be a tough nut to crack.

- 2. Carefully solve [sample papers of CAT](#) to get a gist of the types of questions that are likely to be asked.
- 3. Take the [CAT 2023 mock test](#) on a regular basis to gauge the preparation level or to know [CAT 2023 important topics for preparation](#).
- 4. Try to add new 5-10 words new on a daily basis to improve your vocabulary along with its synonyms and antonyms.
- 5. Keep in mind to focus on [time management of CAT 2023](#) as this can swap the game completely if not hold onto carefully.
- 6. If you feel bored reading all the time, try watching movies with English subtitle to make VARC section preparation effective.

Quick Links -

- [Sectional Time Management Tips for CAT 2023](#)
- [How to prepare for CAT without coaching](#)

Best Books for CAT Verbal Ability and Reading Comprehension Syllabus 2023

Book Title	Author/Publisher
Verbal Ability and Reading Comprehension for CAT	Nishit Sinha
High School Grammar and Composition	Wren and Martin
How to Prepare for Reading Comprehension and Verbal Ability for the CAT	Arun Sharma and Meenakshi Upadhyay

Also Read-

- [Best Books for CAT Preparation](#)
- [How to prepare for CAT VARC \(Verbal and Reading Comprehension\)](#)

Frequently Asked Question (FAQs) - CAT Verbal Ability and Reading Comprehension Syllabus 2023

Question: How many questions are there in VARC CAT?

Answer:

The number of questions expected in VARC CAT are 24 in CAT 2023.

Question: What is the syllabus of the CAT?

Answer:

The syllabus of CAT includes verbal ability & reading comprehension (**VARC**), data interpretation & logical reasoning (**DILR**), and quantitative aptitude (**QA**).

Question: How to prepare for Reading Comprehension and Verbal Ability?

Answer:

The ways to prepare for Reading Comprehension and Verbal Ability:

- read more and more newspapers and novels on a daily basis
 - solve sample papers of CAT to get a gist to types of questions
 - try to add new 5-10 words new on a daily basis
-

Question: What are the topics in Verbal Ability for CAT exam?

Answer:

The topics in Verbal Ability for CAT exam are:

- Inferential Logical Reasoning
- Para Jumbles
- Summary
- Contextual usage

- Idioms
 - One word substitution
 - Sentence completion
 - Misfit/Out of Context sentence
 - Paragraph Completion
 - Vocabulary
-

Question: What are the topics in Verbal ability and reading comprehension?

Answer:

The topics include:

- Inferential Logical Reasoning
 - Para Jumbles
 - Summary
 - Contextual usage
 - Idioms
 - One word substitution
 - Sentence completion
 - Misfit/Out of Context sentence
 - Paragraph Completion
 - Vocabulary
-

Question: What is the syllabus of VARC in CAT?

Answer:

The syllabus of VARC in CAT have both MCQs and TITA (Non-MCQs) where every year 10 questions are from Verbal Ability and the remaining are from the reading comprehension part. The topics have been discussed in the article.

