**STRATEGIES FOR GMAT PREPARATION**

Meta Description:

An article about preparing for GMAT, and how to do it efficiently.

Keywords:

strategies for GMAT, planning ahead for GMAT, prepare for GMAT

GMAT Introduction:

GMAT, abbreviated from Graduate Management Admission Test, is a computer-adaptive test (CAT) that is utilized as a tool to assess a candidate’s verbal, quantitative, reading, and analytical writing skills in English (standard).

It is an examination conducted for candidates that are looking for opportunities to get into business and management schools, or highly specialized master’s programs. The test is conducted by the Graduate Management Admission Council, termed as GMAC. The exam is approximately three and a half hours long, including optional breaks in-between.

Planning ahead for GMAT:

When it comes to any examination, let alone GMAT, preparation is key. To obtain the knowledge beforehand gives you an upper hand when it comes to time management – and in GMAT, time management is one of the determining factors of your final percentile scores.

While you can schedule a test appointment as far as six months in advance, a good time period of preparation for GMAT is three months – while this is not the general rule, or even popular, here is why three months is the most effective time you can take off to focus on nothing but GMAT.

Before we delve into the steps to prepare for GMAT effectively, there are some prerequisites that you will have to obtain. One of the essentials is a GMAT handbook, which includes all essential information about GMAT, some full-length practice tests, preparation guide books, an online calendar, and a prep class if needed.

**Take a GMAT diagnostic test.** When it comes to preparing for an examination, the best way to know if you are prepared for sure is to take up a sample test. When it comes to GMAT, it is no different. A practice GMAT test helps you to understand where you currently stand in your Verbal, Integrated Reasoning, and Quantitative skills.

Realistic practice tests are not to scare you, but to rather assure you that from that point onward, you can only improve.

**Set a study schedule**. Plan your reading time, your practice test days. Make sure that when you get into the preparation, you are 100% concentrating on the preparation only. Make sure to leave ample time to remove distractions away, lest your mind wander during the preparation.

Over the three month period, your schedule should consist six hours of study a week and five completed practice tests.

**Finally, have a positive mindset.** You can prepare all you want, and focus all of your concentration on the preparation – but if your mindset is pessimistic, all of the sweat goes to waste. Ensure that you understand the road ahead – tell yourself that you are confident in what you are doing.

A positive mind is a happy mind, and happy minds never waver. So, stay positive.

Three steps – it is as simple as three steps when it comes to GMAT preparation. But remember, the real ambition lies in cracking the final GMAT examination. And for that, good luck.