**WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW TO ACE YOUR GMAT READING**

Meta Description:

An article exploring the ways to crack GMAT reading.

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GMAT Reading:

When it comes to the GMAT reading comprehension overview, there are an estimated 9 to 16 questions in accordance to Reading and Comprehension, out of the 36 total questions in the Verbal section of GMAT. Hence, it is safe to assume that roughly one-third of the section is always attributed to reading comprehension.

The usual format of questions with respect to reading comprehension are short passages of approximately 250 words with three questions each, and long passages of 350 words with four questions each. As of until now, there has always been three short passages and one long passage in the Verbal section of GMAT.

Reading comprehension is designed to test your skills and ability to understand, analyze, and apply information and concepts in written form. For this to be accomplished, you should be able to understand the vocabulary, draw inferences from the given questions, identify logical relationships between concepts, and point out flawed reasoning and assumptions.

Types of reading comprehension questions:

There are various kinda of questions that you can be met with when it comes to reading comprehension. To be able to achieve this, you must be fluent in reading the passage both with scrutiny and with a big picture vision. Here are the following types of questions you will encounter:

* **Main idea questions** are those where you will be asked to sum up a passage as a whole, or identify with the author’s purpose in writing said passage. Questions may ask you to pick out the central idea around which the prose revolves, concerning you with what the author was primarily involved with.
* **Supporting ideas and details** will require you to identify facts, details, and sub-topics from the paragraph. Whatever the questions ask you about will be explicitly stated in the prose. One of the better practices that help with these kinds of questions is highlighting and making notes, making it easier to find.
* **Inference questions** require you to identify the implications presented by the author in the paragraph. These questions require your knowledge about what the prose suggests, rather than what the prose states. The correct answer for these kinds of questions is usually supported by the passage.
* **Out-of-context questions** ask you to apply the information given in the current passage to a different, distinguished context. It is often required of you to analyze a parallel context or situation when applying the contextual information provided. There is not necessarily any support provided by the prose when it comes to out-of-context questions.

Tips to approach reading comprehension:

Practice your pacing when it comes to reading. 65 minutes for 36 questions gives the candidate a little under two minutes per question. Rigorously utilize this method in your full-length practice tests, they are of great help.

Prior knowledge of transition words and phrases give a helping hand in reading comprehension. Tracking the relationships among ideas and bits of logic in the passage is a great way to keep answers at hand for logical questions.