

GRE – Graduate Record Examination

General Information

This test is usually required for students entering graduate school and planning to study subjects in the humanities and social sciences.

You can register for either the GRE General Test or the new Writing Assessment by phone, fax, or mail. Plan to register early to get preferred test dates and avoid the crowded testing period of November through January. Obtain registration and test center details from the GRE Information and Registration Bulletin or on the Web site.

For information on the GRE test, test dates and locations, fees and requirements, and practice questions go to www.gre.org

Online registration is available for the paper-based Subject Tests on the GRE Web site. Registration for the free GRE Search Service is also available on the Web site. This service matches prospective graduate students with participating graduate schools.

You can register for all tests by mail at: Graduate Record Examinations P. O. Box 6000 Princeton, NJ 08541-6000, USA.

Description of the Test

The computer-based GRE General Test measures verbal, quantitative, and analytical reasoning skills that have been developed over a long period of time and are not necessarily related to any particular field of study. Because test questions are tailored to ability level, less time is spent answering questions that are either too easy or too difficult. The computer-based General Test is offered year-round in the United States and most locations around the world.

The GRE Writing Assessment consists of two complementary analytical writing tasks: a 45-minute "Present Your Perspective on an Issue" task and a 30-minute "Analyze an Argument" task. For the first, you construct your own argument by making claims and providing evidence supporting your position on the issue; for the second, you critique someone else's argument by assessing its claims and evaluating the evidence it provides. This assessment is not a test of specific content knowledge, and there is no single best way to respond. Because it is an optional test and independent of the GRE General Test and Subject Tests, you should check with your prospective graduate schools to determine whether they require or recommend that applicants take it. You can visit the GRE Web site for additional information.

Subject Tests in fourteen subjects measure achievement in a particular subject area. Those taking a Subject Test should have an undergraduate major or extensive background in that discipline. Subject Tests are available only as paper-based tests. The Subject Tests will be offered on test dates. (NOTE: the Economics, Geology, History, and Sociology Subject Tests will not be offered on the November test date. The Music subject test will not be offered on the December test date.)

Scoring

The GRE consists of three graded sections and one research or experimental section that is not included in the reported score. Multiple-choice response sections are graded on a scale of 200-800, in 10 point increments. The writing section is graded on a scale of 0-6, in half-point increments. Sections may appear in any order on the test, with the exception of the Analytic Writing section, which always appears first.

One graded multiple-choice section is always a verbal section, consisting of analogies, antonyms, sentence completion, and reading comprehension passages. This section primarily tests vocabulary, and average scores in this section are substantially lower than those in the quantitative section.

The quantitative section, the other multiple-choice section, consists of problem solving and quantitative comparison questions that test high-school level. Each essay is scored by at least two readers on a six-point holistic scale. If the two scores are within one point, the average of the scores is taken. If the two scores differ by more than a point, a third reader examines the response.

Test Fee and Registration

GRE Registration costs \$115 in the United States and \$140 in other countries.

Test Sites

In Yangon, you can take the GRE at USIS.

How to Prepare

The following site has practice test for no charge:

GRE Prep from Syvum

<http://www.syvum.com/s.pl/gre/>

The best way to prepare for the exam is to find out information about the exam such as:

- Ask the test center if they have any preparation materials, like books or CDs you can borrow.
- Find out what the sections on the exam are?
- What is the style of the exam: essay, multiple choice, short answer, true/false, etc?
- How long is the exam?
- Take a preparation course before the exam
- Take practice exams
- Look for information on their website

More Information

Go to the GRE website: www.gre.org for:

A variety of test preparation materials including: POWERPREP® Software - Test Preparation for the GRE General Test, Practicing to Take the GRE General Test - Big Book, and practice books for all Subject Tests.

A revised POWERPREP package, including test preparation for the Writing Assessment, is available on the GRE Web site. To try interactive sample questions, order the publications, or download the software with credit card payment.

You may also call ETS at 1-800-537-3160 (outside the United States and Canada, call 1-609-771-7243) to order test preparation materials.