Gujarat Common Entrance Test (GCET) - July 20, 2008

The afternoon of **July 20, 2008 (Sunday)**, was not your typical lazy Sunday afternoon for ten cities of Gujarat. Since morning eager **GCET 2008** aspirants had been descending on these **ten test centres** from different parts of the state. As the time for the test neared, the test centers resembled some kind of a "camping ground" - what with nervous students, their anxious guardinans, assorted luggage - all contributing to the atmosphere. Tension was writ large on the faces of the aspirants and they were to be seen exchanging last minute notes and tips. This was THE BIG DAY, the one day that held the keys to a golden futire and everybody was determined to give his/her best. At stake were 2900 seats in more than 50 management institutes across the state of Gujarat, and everybody was determined to ensure a seat for self!.

Well,returning to the GCET, this was the **seventh** GCET since its inception in **2002**. GCET, in its initial days had been changing its pattern and format every year. However since the last two years, they had not tampered with the overall format of the paper. That, coupled with the fact that the total number of questions, the marking pattern and the testing areas had already been declared in the brochure, had significantly reduced the surprise element of the test.

The paper was jumbled one as expected. As usual the Logical Reasoning section had the maximum weightage. There were standard 40 questions on General Knowledge (GK) and 50 questions on Reading Comprehension and English Usage (RC and EU). **The only change that the GCET designers made this year was an increase in the number of Data Sufficiency questions compared to the previous years.**

The GCET paper did not break the hearts of the well prepared students **who had solved the Practice Papers and appeared for the STs and Mock GCETs of PT Education**. As all the topics had been exhaustively covered in the institute **there was nothing new or "shocking" for the students of PT.** Here is a bird's eye view of the paper.

Bird's Eye View

Total Number of Questions	:	250
Total Time	:	180 minutes
The Marking Scheme	:	25% negative marking.
Number of Options	:	4
Sections/Sectional Time Limit	:	No Sections. But the questions from the same area were together.
No. of sets	:	Four
Mode of marking the answers	:	Pencil

Test Structure

Area	No. of Questions	Difficulty Level	Ideal Attempts	Suggested Time
Reading Comprehension and English Usage	55		40 to 45	30
Arithmetic	43		32 to 38	55
Logical Reasoning	52	Easy to Moderate	40 to 45	55
Data Sufficiency	25		23 to 28	15
Data Interpretation	35		15 to 20	15
General Knowledge	40		28 to 33	10
Total	250		178 to 209	180

Reading Comprehension and English Usage

There were **55 questions from the RC and EU area**. There was one RC passage of eight lines, based on which seven questions had been asked. The theme of the passage was: **Philanthropy**. The passage was very easy and an average student could read and solve it in five minutes. Rest of the questions (48) were on EU. The questions on Analogies, Meaning of the words, Synonyms and Antonyms, Critical Reasoning, Logical Completion of Idea, Para Formation, Subject-Verb-Agreement, Idioms and Phrases were the representative of EU area. **Most of the vocab. based questions were directly from PT's wordlist. For example, "A person who is a good judge of music and arts. – Connoisseur, Epicurean …".** The break-up of this area is as follows

Type	No. of Questions	Difficulty Level
Vocabulary Based (Synonyms, Antonyms, Meaning of the words and Analogies	10	Very Easy
New Type : Meaning of the word was given and the student had to pick the word from the option	5	Easy
Critical Reasoning	5	Easy
Logical Completion of Idea	3	Moderate
Para Formation	9	Easy
Grammar	12	Moderate
Idioms and Phrases	5	Moderate

Based on the feedback of some of our students, who had appeared for the exam, we have reproduced some of the questions that appeared in this section.

Q. One who shows people to their seats in a cinema, theatre etc. – Steward, Waiter, **Usher**, Peon

Q. An official engagement of a couple announcing a prospective marriage – Half-marriage, **Nuptials**, Affiance, Betrothal

Q. An instrument for detecting earthquakes – **Seismograph**, Polygraph, Gyroscope, Manometer

Q. One who has special skill in judging art, music etc. – Critic, Connoisseur, Epicurean, Aesthete

Find the part in which the sentence has error –

Q. (A) Without hardly and doubt,   (B) all of these paintings,

    (C) are masterpieces of the highest order,   (D) No error.

Q. (A) The town, which is situated,

    (B) at the end of the windy and dry plain,

    (C) command a breathtaking view of the far away mountains,

    (D) No error.

Q. (A) All of contestants in the debating competition, (B) strived to do his best,

    (C) to win the first prize,   (D) No error.

Q. (A) Actions like market research,

    (B) praising employed accomplishments and managing resources efficiently,

    (C) can insure that a company will be successful and long-lived,

    (D) No error.

The students could have easily attempted at least 40-45 questions from the English Language area.

General Awareness (GA)

There were total **40 questions** in the GA section. The General Knowledge questions were on traditional lines. We have recalled some of the questions which are as follows –

Q. Which is India's first electric car?

Q. Who is the owner of Royal Challengers? -

Q. Where is the HQ of OPEC?

Q. Who wrote "Business At the Speed of Thought"?

Q. Who wrote "It Happens in India"?

Q. Which place is known as "God's own country"?

Q. To which company does Sunfeast belong to?

Q. With which company did Nissan enter into a joint-venture?

Q. Where was Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel born?

Q. When was Gujarat formed?

Q. When did Akbar invade India?

Q. Why was Shivaji a Great Leader?

Q. Which company has shown an upward trend in market capitalization from January to June this year?

Q. Which is the largest exporter of software in our country?

Q. To which company does Lux belong to?

Ideal attempt of these questions should be 28 to 33.

Numerical Ability (NA)

This area mainly consists of questions from various topics of Arithmetic and Geometry. There were total **43 questions** on topics like Numbers, Percentages, Averages, SI and CI, Profit and Loss, Work and Time, Time Speed and Distance, Set theory, Series, Ratio and Proportion, Equation and Inequalities, Geometry, Circles, Mensuration 3-D, etc. The questions ranged in difficulty from easy to moderate and on an average, there were 2 to 3 questions from each topic, except from Number Theory, from which topic there were 15 questions on various topics like: HCF and LCM, Fractions etc. One could attempt 32-38 questions from this area. We have recalled some of the questions which are as follows

Q. The least number 'n' divisible by 2 having a property that n = 3 mod 3, n = 4 mod 4 is – 12, 14, 6, 8

Q. In a group of 32 persons, 30 persons know Hindi or English or both, 30 persons know Gujarati or Hindi or both, 5 persons know Hindi, English and Gujarati, 19 persons know Gujarati only, 8 persons know Hindi and Gujarati both, and 4 persons know Hindi only. The number of persons knowing Hindi and English both is – 12, 16, 14, 11

Q. Which of following can not be expressed as a sum of two primes – 19, 31, 119, 49

Q. If x and y are least possible numbers whose LCM is a multiple of 45 and HCF is 14, then x and y are – 35 and 63, 70 and 126, 28 and 56, 42 and 420.

Logical Reasoning (LR)

The majority of the questions in the paper were from this area. There were 52 questions from LR. There were three sets of Data Arrangements comprising 12 questions. The other topics were Series, Completion of Series, Alphabet Test, Odd One Out, Visual Reasoning, Arguments, Critical Reasoning etc. An ideal attempt should be of 40 to 45 questions.

Some of the questions that we have recalled are as follows:

Directions: Refer to the following information and answer the question given below it.

The marketing team of a company has to arrange marketing session in 7 regions of a country - A, B, C, D, E, F and G during a week. Only 9 slots are available during that week: 1 on Monday, 3 on Tuesday, 1 on Wednesday, 2 on Thursday and 2 on Friday. Two Sessions must be held on Thursday, at least 1 on each of the other days except Saturday and no sessions on Saturday.

(i)   B and E must be fixed on the same day

(ii)   City A must be fixed on Monday

(iii)   C cannot be fixed for Friday

(iv)   G must be fixed for Thursday

Q. Which of the following is not an acceptable slot for two sessions mentioned? – D and G on Thursday, E and B on Tuesday, F and G on Thursday, C and D on Wednesday.

Q. Which of the following is must be true for a slot for session? – F on Tuesday, C on Tuesday, E and B on Thursday, Three days have each one session

Q. If B and E are fixed on Tuesday, how many different slot combinations are possible on Thursday? – 5, 3, 2, 4.

Q. 3, 7, 13, 19, …. – 26, 27, 28, 29.

Q. Find the odd man out – Aubin, Einstein, Newton, Radon

Q. Find the odd man out – 16294, 12348, 13239. 17874

Q. Given the d = ma + nb + pc for some integers m, n and p, find the missing value of

d in the adjacent table – 15, 16, 17, 18

a	b	c	d
1	7	3	10
4	8	5	14
3	4	3	8
4	3	4	6
7	2	1	?

Data Interpretation (DI)

In DI there were **35 questions**, which were based on Tables, Pie-Chart and Line Graph. There were 3 sets based on tables and a total of 15 questions were from that. Rest of the questions were based on Pie-Chart and Line Graph. The questions were of moderate difficulty level and an ideal attempt would be 23 to 28. We have recalled some of the questions which are as follows

Answer the following questions on the basis of the below data giving speed of the train at different times during a 3 hour journey.

Time Period (In Minutes)	0	30	45	60	90	120	150	180
Speed at time (In m.p.h.)	40	45	47.5	50	55	60	65	70

Q. How fast was the train travelling hours after the beginning of the time period? – 50 mph, 55 mph, 60 mph, 65 mph

Q. During the three hours shown in the table, the speed of the train has – increased by 25%, increased by 50%, increased by 75%, increased by 100%.

Data Sufficiency (DS)

There were total 25 DS questions in the paper. The 15 DS questions were of 4-options-direct type, where as in the rest of the ten questions the directions were changed to check the candidate's presence of mind. Most of the questions were based on Arithmetic topics and were of easy to moderate difficulty level. The ideal attempt in this question should have been between 15 and 20.

We have reproduced some of the questions from thissection below:

For the following questions mark you answer as –

(A)   If the question can be answered with the help of statement (A) alone.

(B)   If the question can be answered with the help of both the statements, but not with the help of either statements alone.

(C)   If the question cannot be answered even with the help of both the given statements.

(D)   If the question can be answered with the help of either (A) or (B).

Q. Find the value of the expression $x^5 y^2 - (x^5/y^2)$ –

(A)   x = 3   (B) y = 1

Q. Is X an integer ?

(A)   x + 6 is an integer.   (B) 3x + 7 is an integer.

Q. Is Y an integer ?

(A)   X + Y is an even integer.   (B) X – Y is an odd integer.

Q. X is a prime number. Is Y a prime number ?

(A)   Y = 9x + 7   (B) XY is even.

Q. Is x > y ?

(A)   x > 2y   (B) y is positive.

Overall an attempt of 175 to 200 questions will be sufficient to get good marks in written test.

The weightages for preparing the merit lists will be as under

No.	Component	Weightage
1	Written Test	80%
2	Group Discussion	10%
3	Personal Interview	10%
	Total	100%

Best wishes! for the procedure ahead.

Best of Luck!