

ICFAI Business School Admission Test December 21, 2008

Two important MBA entrance examinations were conducted on November 21, 2008 (Sunday) at various cities all over India. One was the IBSAT - for the ICFAI B-schools and the other was the SNAP for the colleges affiliated to the Symbiosis International University

The IBSAT was conducted in the morning at 143 test centers located in 84 cities across India.

At the end of the test, after submitting the test booklets, answer sheets and leaving the test rooms, students were heard wishing not **Bye** but **Best of Luck** to each other. Yes, it was for the **SNAP Test** - which was scheduled at 2:00 O'clock.

From early in the morning the - 'young hearts' were ready to prove their candidature over 3500 (approx.) seats distributed across 22 campuses of ICFAI Business School.

The **MAJOR NEW FEATURES** that were introduced this year (as far as written test is concerned) was -

1. **writing of ESSAY in English** on a general topic not exceeding 400 words in 2 pages immediately after the IBSAT test.
2. Reduction in total time allotted for written test to **two hours** from **two and half** hours last year.
3. Reduction in total no. of questions to **125** compared to the **200** last year
4. **Elimination of sectional time limits.**

The table showing the changes in the IBSAT compared to the last year is as follows.

Head	IBSAT	
	2007	2008
Total Time Alloted	150 minutes	120 minutes
Total No. of questions	200	120
No. of Sections	2	4
Choices per question	4	5
Elimination of Sectional time limits		
Introduced Essay Writing		

Please refer to the pages ahead for the detailed analysis of the test.

Bird's Eye View

Total Number of Questions - 125

Total Time - 120 minutes

The Marking Scheme - Marks per questions were not declared. There was no negative marking.

Total Marks - Not specified

Number of Options - 5

Number of sets Available - 4

Sections/Sectional Time Limit - Four sections without any sectional time limit.

Sectional Cut-Offs - Yes (It was clearly written in the instructions that there will be sectional cut-offs in the paper)

Medium of marking - Pencil

Sectional Break-up-

Section	Topic	Number of Questions	Difficulty Level
I	Verbal Ability	50	Moderate to tough
II	Reading Comprehension	25	Moderate to tough
III	Quantitative Aptitude	25	Easy to Moderate
IV	Data Interpretation and Data Sufficiency	25	Moderate to tough
		125	

Expected Cut-Offs - A score of 65 + for good campuses (Assuming one mark for each question)

Detailed Analysis

Section	Topic	No. of Ques.	No. of Marks	Difficulty Level	Ideal Genuine Attempts	Time suggested	Ideal Marks (Assuming one mark for each question and 90% accuracy)
I	Verbal Ability	50	ND	Moderate to Tough	25+	20 min.	22+
II	Reading Comprehension	25	ND	Moderate to Tough	16+	30 min.	13+
III	Quantitative Aptitude	25	ND	Easy to Moderate	17+	35 min.	15+
IV	Data Interpretation and Data Sufficiency	25	ND	Moderate to Tough	18+	35 min	16+
	Total	125	ND		76+	120 min.	(67+) + 10 = 77 + marks

1. Since there was no negative marking the ideal attempt should have been ALL 125.
2. + 10 marks average correct marks for accurate / lucky GUESSWORK

Verbal Ability

Total number of questions : 50

The **Verbal Ability** section had the highest no. of questions. There were questions on **Idiom/phrases, Cloze Test, Para Jumbles, Sentence Corrections** (two varieties), **One word substitution, Fill in the Blanks, Synonyms, Antonyms** and **Analogies**.

The words on which the **Synonyms** and **Antonyms** were asked were tough. Some of the words for example were – **Incertitude, Contrived, Eugorge, Sanguine, Repugnant, Occlude, Parsimonious, Restive, Tenacious, Husbandry**.

The questions on **Analogies, Idioms and Phrases, Cloze test** were moderate. For example some the analogies asked in the paper were – **Bouquet:Flower::Chain:?, Spasm:Muscle::Flash:?, Clasp:Bracelet::Buckle:?, Money:Embezzlement::Writing:?** etc.

The questions on the **first type of Sentence Correction** (in which the sentence was divided into four parts), **Para Jumbles, One word substitutions** were on easier side. The detail breakup of the test is as follows.

Topic	Questions	Difficulty level
Sentence Correction (type I)	5	Easy
Sentence Correction (type II)	5	Tough
Synonyms	5	Tough
Antonyms	5	Tough
Analogies	5	Moderate
Para Jumbles	5	Easy
One Word Substitutions	5	Easy
Idiom/Phrases	5	Moderate
Cloze Test	5	Moderate
Fill in the blanks (two blanks)	5	Moderate

An attempt of 25 + questions in a time span of 20 minutes with an accuracy of 90% will sufficient in this section.

We have recalled some of the work which are as follows –

1. P: Each taking out a leaf or two out of the political notebook, dealing with a tumultuous period
Q: As we are given by a function in New Delhi last week meant to felicitate the former Prime Minister, Chandra Sekhar on his 75th birthday
R: Which brought together certain leading political figures of the country
S: Rarely does a single event provide such vivid flashes of the past panorama – PSRQ, QRPS, SQRP, RQPS, QSPR
2. P: It seems that women are well on their way to internalizing
Q: Talking to housewives and not just the affluent metropolitan type
R: Some of the changes that have been brought
S: About by liberalization in the mass culture of India – QPRS, PSRQ, PRQS, SQPR, RSPQ
3. P: The International Criminal Court (ICC) is the first forum mooted at an international level to deal with individual perpetrators, not States, committing the most serious breaches under international humanitarian and human rights law crimes against humanity, war crimes and genocide
Q: The primary responsibility for taking action, therefore, vests with the government
R: The ICC is a means of encouraging the national legal machinery to address these crimes, as it will intervene only in cases in which a State is either unwilling or unable to prosecute an offender
S: The ICC is a safety net to tackle situations where perpetrators escape the clutches of domestic law – PRSQ, PRQS, QRPS, SPQR, SRPQ

Directions: Choose a suitable one-word substitute for the given phrase from the options under each question.

4. A man, especially one who is strong – Norse, Hombre, Lupus, Jullet, Boll
5. Place for keeping birds – Museum, Sanctuary, National Park, Coliseum, Aviary
6. A situation in which a plan does not happen in the way it should – Quarry, Gall, Corollary, Ravel, Snafu
7. A person who predicts the future by magical intuitive means – Hedonist, Chiropodist, Prognosticator, Narcissist, Astrologer
8. A reference to something supposed to be known but not explicitly mentioned – Subtlety, Indent, Nuance, Gable, Allusion

Directions: Choose the option that best expresses the meaning of the given idiom/phrase.

5. The boy **turned a deaf** ear to the pleadings of all his well-wishers. – Listened carefully, Did not pay any attention, Posed indifference, Strictly opposed, Was not keen on listening,
6. He had the press **eating out of his hand**. – Tamed, Ridiculed, Praised, Mauled, Admired
7. We should give **a wide berth** to bad characters. – Agree with, Publicly condemn, Give publicity, Not sympathize with, Keep away from
8. "I'm really behind with my project. Can you help me? I'm afraid **I bit off more than I could chew!**" – Falling short of skills, Have dental problem, Tucked into a big piece, Have a tendency to procrastinate, Assuming more responsibility than one's ability
9. He is always **picking holes** in every project that we take up. – Asking irrelevant questions, Suggesting improvement, Finding fault, Creating problems, Defying everybody

Directions: Fill in the blank(s) with the word(s) that best fit(s) the meaning of the passage as a whole.

Do women exercise leadership differently than men do? And if so, will feminine leadership(10)..... where masculine leadership does not? A recent study suggests somewhat(11)..... that female managers outdo their male counterparts even when the personal characteristics of both are very similar. Of the two schools of thought, the structuralist theory argues that men and women do not receive the same treatment in the workplace and that stamping out gender(12)..... would end the observed discriminations. In contrast, the socialization theory contends that men and women experience work differently because men see work as more(13)..... to their lives. These(14)..... explanations apart, today, business appears to be undergoing a feminization of leadership.

10. Affect, succeed, compete, progress, transcend
11. Necessary, Compulsory, Obligatory, Trivial, Central
12. Sardonicly, Relatively, Culturally, Psychologically, Paradoxically
13. Identical, Contradictory, Analogical, Diverse, Incompatible
14. Bias, Bigotry, Prejudice, Chourinism, Parallel

Reading Comprehension
Total number of questions : 25

In this section there three RC passages of medium length. The questions asked on passages were easy and direct. Couple of the questions were on tone, title of the passage etc. Detailed breakup of the section is as follows.

Passage	Theme	Length (approx.)	Questions	Question type	Difficulty level
I	Philanthropy and its limitations	700 words	8	Direct	Easy
II	Emission Trading	450 words	8	Tone, Inference, Direct	Easy
III	Creations of great works through transcending boundaries	45 words	9	Direct	Easy

An attempt of 16 + questions in a time span of 30 minutes with an accuracy of 90% would be sufficient in this section.

Quantitative Aptitude
Total number of questions : 25

In QA section there were questions on Numbers, Work and Time, Pipes and Cisterns, Sequence and Series, Ratio and Proportion, Partnerships, Time, Speed and Distance, Set Theory, Races, SI and CI, Percentages, Probability, Profit and Loss, Mensuration and Trigonometry. Overall the section was easy to moderate level of difficulty. Detail break up of the section is provided in the adjacent table.

An attempt of 17 + questions in a time span of 30 minutes with an accuracy of 90% would be sufficient in this section. We have recalled some of the questions which are as follows –

Some of the students were able to recall actual IBSAT 2008 questions, which are given as follows. (Questions based on memory)

- 60% of children in a sports club play basketball, 70% play football and 80% play volleyball. What is the smallest percentage of children playing all the three games? – 1%, 5%, 10%, 15%, 20%.
- In a race of 200 m, A beats B by 8 metres and A beats C by 4 metres. by how many metres would C beat B in a 200 metres race? (approx.) – 3 m, 3.6 m, 4.1 m, 4.4 m, 4.8m.
- A certain amount was lent at $r\%$ p.a. at simple interest for 3 years. Instead, if the amount was lent at $(3r)\%$ p.a. simple interest for x more years, then the interest would have been six times the earlier interest. What is the value of x ? – 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
- Machine A and machine B are each used to manufacture 660 bolts. It takes machine A 10 hours more than machine B to produce 660 bolts. Machine B produces 10 percent more bolts per hour than machine A. How many bolts per hour can machine A produce. – 6, 6.6, 60, 100, 110.
- Each cell of a certain kind of bacteria produces two more cells. The life span of each cell is 10 minutes and each cell multiplies only once in its lifetime when it is exactly one minute old. If a new cell is placed in an empty box at time $t = 0$, then how many live cells will be there in the box just after $t = 20$ minutes? – (2048×1023) cells, (1024×1023) cells, (1024×1024) cells (1023×1025) cells.
- 20 passengers are to travel by a double decker bus which can accommodate 13 on the upper deck and 7 on the lower deck. The number of ways that they can be distributed if 5 refuse to sit on the upper deck and 8 refuse to sit on the lower deck is – 25, 21, 18, 15, 20.
- Two identical cubical dice A and B are rolled simultaneously. What is the probability that the number which appears on one dice is on the opposite face of the number that appears on the other dice? – $1/2$, $1/3$, $1/4$, $1/6$, $1/9$.

Topic	No of Questions	Difficulty level
Work and Time, Pipes and Cisterns	2	Easy to Moderate
Numbers	6	
Sequence and Series	1	
Ratio and Proportion, Partnership	3	
Time, Speed and Distance	1	
Set Theory	1	
Races	1	
SI and CI	2	
Percentages	2	
Probability	1	
Profit and Loss	1	
Mensuration	3	
Trigonometry	1	

8. A greedy merchant sells a mixture of two different qualities of coffee powder in the ratio 3 : 1 at Rs. 80.50 per kg and gains a profit of 15%. If the coffee of the second quality costs Rs. 8 more per kg than the coffee of the first quality, then what is the cost per kg of the coffee of first quality? – Rs. 60, Rs. 62, Rs. 64, Rs. 66, Rs. 68.
9. Two pipes A and B can fill a tank in 15 hours and 20 hours respectively. Today morning, as soon as the pipes were opened, air bubbles were generated in both the pipes due to which pipe of its capacity. After some time, the bubbles in both the pipes bursted simultaneously and then time were the air bubbles present in the pipe? – 1 hour 30 minutes, 1 hour 45 minutes, 2 hours 15 minutes, 2 hours 30 minutes, 2 hours 45 minutes.
10. A football and a tennis ball are such that the surface area of the football is 8 times greater than the surface area of the tennis ball. If the volume of the tennis ball is a% lower than the volume of the football, then what is the value of 'a'? (approx.) – 88.4%, 91.2%, 93.6%, 96.3%, 98.2%
11. There are three wires A, B and C different metals, one is 25 m 60 cm long, second is 9 m 60 cm long and the last wire is 15 m 36 cm long. Maximum length is equally cut from each wire in such a way that the total length of each wire is exactly divisible by it. How many such largest possible pieces are available in each kind of wires A, B and C respectively? – 30, 25, 24 - 40, 10, 30 - 40, 15, 24 - 30, 10, 12 - 30, 8, 16
12. Ashok obtained a loan of Rs. 2,500 against some security. If the rate of interest is 8% per annum compounded half-yearly, then how much amount should he pay approximately at the end of 18 months? – Rs. 2,704, Rs. 2,813, Rs. 2,936, Rs. 3,124, Rs. 3,225
13. A farmer has four children. One day he decides to divide his field among his sons such that each one get equal share and constructs a fence dividing the field into triangular forms. The farmer's field is in the shape of a rhombus and has the distance between the pairs of opposite vertices as 120 m and 22 m. What would be the cost of fencing the field at Rs. 20 per meter? – Rs. 7,320, Rs. 7,720, Rs. 8,520, Rs. 9,560, Rs. 10,340
14. Two partners A and B invested Rs. 20,000 and Rs. 15,000 respectively in a business (for the same period). Of the total profit, 70% is equally shared between A and B and the rest is distributed in the ratio of their investments. If one partner received Rs. 1,200 less than the other, then what is the total profit? – Rs. 32000, Rs. 28000, Rs. 25000, Rs. 21000, Rs. 18000
15. The ratio of sum to n terms of two arithmetic progression is $(n + 2) : (n - 3)$. What is the ratio of their fifteenth terms? – 17 : 12, 19 : 14, 22 : 17, 31 : 26, 33 : 28
16. If ABCD is a cyclic quadrilateral, then what is the value of $\cos A + \cos B + \cos C + \cos D$? – 0, 1, 1/, 1/2
17. In 1966, the operative mortality rate in open heart surgery in a certain hospital was 8.1 per 100 cases. By 1974, the operative mortality rate had declined to 4.8 per 100 cases. If the rate declined by 20 percent from 1973 to 1974, by what percent approximately did it decline from 1966 to 1973? – 6%, 21%, 26%, 41%, 49%
18. While visiting a town in Maharashtra, a person lost his bag in a bus. When he reported the matter to the bus company, he was asked to give the number of the bus. Though he did not remember the exact number, he remembered that the bus number had a certain peculiarity about it. The number plate showed the bus number was a perfect square and also if the plate was turned upside down, the number would still be a perfect square. The person came to know from the bus company they had only seven hundred buses and they were numbered in the natural number sequence. What is the bus number? – 81, 100, 691, 196, 169

Data Interpretation and Data Sufficiency
 Education *PT education*
 Total number of questions : 25

There were 15 questions DS, five questions each on Line and Bar diagram in this section. DS questions were based on Numbers, Sequence and Series and Plane Geometry. Overall the section can be rated as moderate to tough.

An attempt of 16 + questions in a time span of 30 minutes with an accuracy of 90% would be sufficient in this section.

Essay Writing

At the end of the multiple choice test each student have to write an essay on one of the five topics given. The time provided for the Essay writing was 30 minutes. It was to test the applicant's **English writing skills, understanding of the topic and logical flow in presentation** etc.

The topics given were –

1. India lobbies for support to host 2020 olympics. If India succeeds in its bid to host the game it is expected to bring tremendous economic benefits to the country. Will hosting the games benefit India or is it going to become an Olympic-sized pain? Take a stand and state the reasons logically.
2. Most of the Indian politicians are octogenarians and nonagenarians. It is only a recent phenomenon that young graduates and Post Graduates are forced in politics in India. Are aged-politicians an asset to the country or should new blood be infused to pep up the political system? Attempt a critical analysis and put forth your perspective correctly?
3. The government of India is considering an increase in the retirement age in Government Service be restricted to 60 should senior citizens be given two more years? Give reasons in support of your view point?
4. None can say exactly what it looks like when a planet takes ill. With the effects of global warming, its probably looks a lot like the earth. Global warming is like a time bomb, can we diffuse it and save our beautiful planet from further defacement or have we lost the grace period and reached a point of no return? State your stand point convincingly on this issue.

5. International migration can take place for economic as well noneconomic (e.g. political, religious) reasons. Should migration be encouraged or should developed and developing countries restrict the flow of migrants? Examine the pros and cons of the issue.

It was clearly mentioned at the IBSAT website that – **THE APPLICANTS WHO DO NOT WRITE THE GENERAL ESSAY AS REQUIRED FOR ANY REASON WILL NOT BE CALLED FOR INTERVIEW.**

Overall the paper was good and an **attempt of 76 + questions with 90% accuracy will be ideal to get a call from reputed IBS campus.**

Final selection will be done on the basis of overall as well as sectional performance in Written Test, Essay Writing, the General Knowledge Test (at Hyderabad, when called for the Second Round), Micropresentation, PI and Past Academic Records.

The weightage allotted to different components in the IBS admission process and the important dates are as follows:

Criteria Weightage (%)	
IBSAT	25
General Essay (in English)	5
Past Academic Record	20
X Class Marks	7
XII Class Marks	7
Degree Marks	6
General Knowledge Test	10
Micropresentation	20
Interview	20
Total	100

Important Dates	
Dispatch of Selection process Call letters	Jan. 06, 2009
Selection process & Admission Decision	Feb. 07–22, 2009
Preparatory Classes	1-May-09
Regular Classes	June 01, 2009

Expected Cut-Offs

70+ for call from the Top ICFAI campuses

Best Wishes! for NMAT next week!!

Disclaimer: All this information has been memorised by PT students. We are merely reproducing it here in fragments to ensure that the huge community of students eagerly waiting to see an objective comparison of their performance gets the right picture. We have taken adequate measures to ensure the correctness of this information provided here. However we are not responsible for any inadvertent error that may have crept in. It is therefore recommended that every student must cross-check this data from relevant sources before taking any action. Please report any errors at pthq@pteducation.com