

IRMA Entrance Test November 09, 2008

The season of entrance tests for admission into the top B-schools has commenced with the IRMA entrance test held on 9th, November 2008 at 27 centers all over India.

Around 11,000 students appeared in the test to prove their candidature for a total 95 seats available in this elite Institute of Rural Management.

As previously declared in the IRMA brochure, the paper had four sections viz. **English Comprehension (EC)** – 40 Questions/Marks, **Quantitative Ability (QA)** – 50 Questions/Marks, **Analytical Reasoning (AR)** – 40 Questions/Marks and **Issue of social concern (ISC)** – 40 Questions/Marks.

Last year the test was easy and the entire paper (excluding the ISC part) was of a difficulty level of the Bank Clerical Recruitment Tests previously conducted by the **Banking Services Recruitment Boards**. This year also the paper was prepared by the Institute of **Banking Personnel Selection, Mumbai**, but the developments over the previous year were clear. **The Numerical Ability questions were reduced to 5 from 15 last year and topics like Permutation & Combination and Probability were introduced instead of only pure Arithmetic topics.**

In EC there were only two passages and only Vocabulary and Reading Comprehension were tested. There were no questions based on English Grammar.

As usual the ISC part was the speciality of the IRMA entrance test paper. The questions were dynamic and 15-20 questions out of 60 were from Rural Indian Economy. The AR section was on traditional lines.

Bird's Eye View

Total Number of Questions – 200

Total Time – 120 minutes

The Marking Scheme – The weightage for the correct answer was not given in the test paper. Although the sectionwise marks for the test was given in the brochure. Negative marking of 25% of the weightage of the question was mentioned.

Total Marks – 200

Number of Options – 5

Number of sets Available – 4

Sections/Sectional Time Limit – There were four sections and there was no sectional time constraint.

Medium of marking – Pencil

Sectional Break-up–

Section	Topic	No. of Ques.	No. of Marks
I	English Comprehension	40	40
II	Quantitative Ability	50	50
III	Analytical Reasoning	50	50
IV	Issues of Social Concern	60	60

Expected Cut-Offs – Call from IRMA - 85+, Call from XIMB (Rural Management) - 80+.

Detailed Analysis

Section	Topic	Areas Tested	No. of Ques.	No. of Marks	Difficulty Level	Ideal Attempts	Time suggested	Ideal Marks (Assuming one mark for each question and 90% accuracy)
I	English Comprehension	English Vocabulary and Reading Comprehension	40	40	Easy to Moderate	20+	25 min.	18+
II	Quantitative Ability	Numerical Ability, Mathematical Ability, Data Interpretation, Data Sufficiency	50	50	Easy to Moderate	35+	40 min.	31+
III	Analytical Reasoning	Logical Reasoning, Decision Making	50	50	Easy to Moderate	30 +	35 min.	26+
IV	Issues of Social Concern	General Awareness to current rural and economic panorama	60	60	Moderate to Tough	25+	20 min	15+
	Total		200	200		110+	120 min.	90+

English Comprehension Total number of questions : 40

This year the section was concentrated on Reading Comprehension and Vocabulary. The section consisted of only two passages. The first passage was of around 200 words on **Indian Economy** with an innovation that there were fifteen questions based on it; out of this **ten questions** were on missing words from the passage, **three questions** on contextual antonyms of the bold word marked in the passage and the remaining **two questions** were on comprehension of the passage.

The other passage was of around 1200 words and was an excerpt from a renowned economist addressing a convocation. There were 25 questions on comprehension and contextual synonyms/antonyms of the words marked in the passage itself. The questions were of easy to moderate level of difficulty and an attempt of 20+ question in a time limit of 25 minutes with a 90% accuracy would be a decent one. A bird's eye view of the section is as follows.

Theme of the passage	Length (approx.)	Questions	Question type	Difficulty level
Indian Economy	200 words	15	Cloze test, contextual antonyms, comprehension	Easy
Excerpt of a renowned economist addressing a convocation	1200 words	25	Comprehension, contextual synonyms/antonyms	Moderate

Quantitative Ability Total number of questions : 50

In QA section there were five questions on Numerical Ability, fifteen on Arithmetic and Maths, 20 on Data Interpretation, five on Maths based Data Sufficiency. The Maths questions were on Arithmetic topics like Percentage, Profit and Loss, SI and CI, Fractions, Numbers etc. Three questions were on Permutation & Combination and Probability. The section was easy. An attempt of 35+ questions in a time span of 40 minutes with an accuracy of 90% should be good.

Topic	Questions	Difficulty level
Numerical Ability	5	Easy
Arithmetic and Maths	15	
Data Sufficiency	5	
Data Interpretation (Two tables containing 5 ques. on each set, one line graph and bar graph containing 5 ques. each.)	20	

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

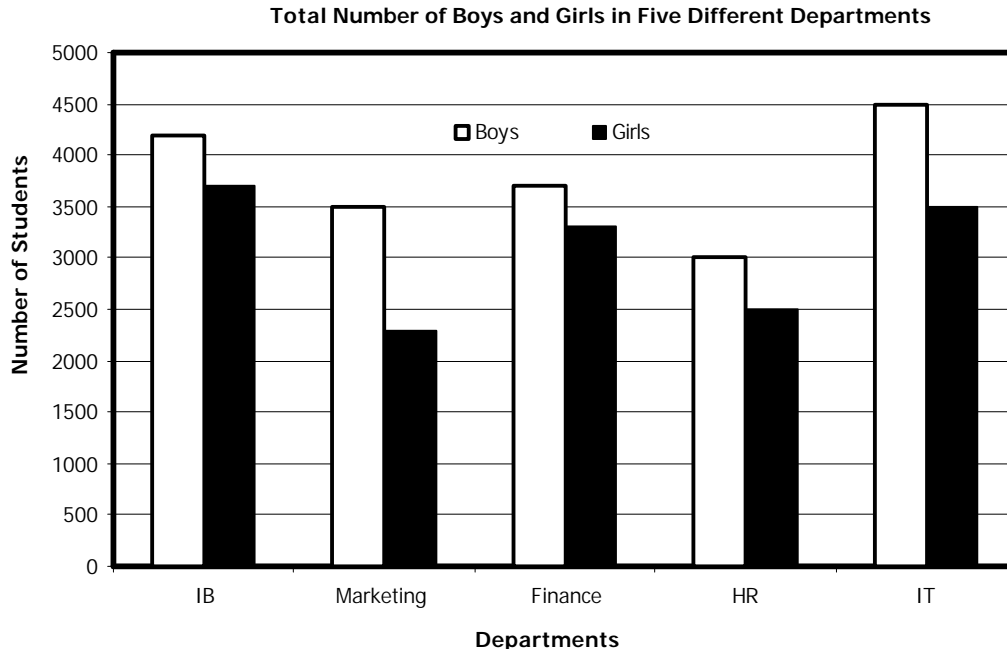
1. $(6659 + 4408 + 1782) \div (729 + 142 + 619)$
2. $67.32 + 12.43 \times 56.98$
3. $982\% \text{ of } 404 + 1239.40$
4. $(289.44)^2$
5. $1284 \times 72 = ? \times 7905$
6. In an urn there are 6 Red, 5 Blue and 2 Green balls. If total three balls to be picked out, then what is the probability that atleast one of these three balls will be a Blue ball?
7. In an urn there are 6 Red, 5 Blue and 2 Green balls. If total two balls to be picked out, then what is the probability that these two balls will be a Red?
8. A person invest Rs. 1600 in a scheme providing 15 pcpa of simple interest for two years after that he invest the principle amount in a scheme providing 12% pcpa of compound interest. What is the total interest earned by the person in four years?
9. The multiplication of two consecutive numbers is 9132, the bigger number is

For Q.10 to 14: Refer to the following table and answer the questions that follow.

Coursewise Number of students in different cities					
Course	MBA	B.Ed	D.Ed	M.Phil	MCA
Bangalore	1150	2000	1500	1400	1450
Chennai	1800	1650	100	1200	1200
New Delhi	1650	1700	2000	1200	1500
Hyderabad	1200	1800	1500	1300	1250
Kolkata	1450	1600	1000	1000	1000
Lucknow	1150	1200	1500	1050	1750
Mumbai	1600	1800	2000	1600	1200

10. What is the approximate average number of students enrolled in MCA course from all the cities together? – 3600, 1493, 3300, None of these.
11. What is the difference between total number of MBA and MCA students from all the cities together? – 575, 650, 450, None of these.
12. In Lucknow, the number of MBA students is approximately what percent of that of MCA students? – 66, 96, 77, 52, 69.
13. In New Delhi, the number of M.Phil students is what percent of that of Ph.D students? – 83, 96, 77, 60, None of these.

For Q.15 to 19: Study the following graph carefully to answer the questions that follow.



15. The total numbers of boys from HR & Marketing Departments together are what percent of the total number of boys from IT, Finance and IB Department together? – 52, 83, 69, 25, 99.
16. What is the average number of boys from all the Department together? – 3600, 3800, 3300, 3000, None of these.
17. What is the respective ratio of number of girls from Finance Department to the number of girls from IB Department? – 15 : 14, 15 : 16, 5 : 7, 13 : 15, None of these.
18. What is the difference between the total number of boys and the total number of girls from all the Departments together? – 1000, 3150, 3750, 500, None of these.

19. The number of girls from IT Department is approximately what percent of the total number of girls from all the Departments together? – 47, 38, 23, 13, 30.

Analytical Reasoning
Total number of questions : 50

In Analytical Reasoning section, there were questions from Data arrangement, Statement–Consequence, Odd one out, Statement–Assumption, LR Based Data Sufficiency, Statement–Argument, Statement–Course of Action, Statement–Inference and Decision Making. The section was moderately tough and an attempt of 35+ questions in a time span of 30 minutes with 90% accuracy should be good. A bird's eye view of the section is as follows.

Topic	Questions	Difficulty level
Data Arrangement	5	Moderate
Statement-Consequence	5	
Statement Assumption	5	
Odd one out	5	
Data Sufficiency	5	
Statement Argument	5	
Statement - Course of Action	5	
Statement-Inference	5	
Decision Making	10	

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

- Statement : A severe storm is likely to hit major part of the state during the next few days.
Which of the following can be a possible consequence of the above situation? – Majority of the people living in the area may leave their home and go elsewhere, Many people living in shanties may take shelter in Govt. buildings, People may ignore the storm threat, People may still carry out their daily routine without paying much attention to the forecast, None of these.
- Statement : A major accident has occurred between a trailer and a truck on the main national highway.
Which of the following can be a possible consequence of the above situation? – Vehicular traffic movement on the highway may be adversely affected, Highway patrol staff may not be able to reach the spot of the accident, The Govt. may not be able to reach relief supplies to the accident spot, People living around the spot of accident may not help the accident victims, None of these.
- Statement : The Govt. is considering reduction in subsidy on fertilizers to some extent.
Which of the following can be a possible consequence of the above situation? – The farmers may be benefited to some extent, The farmers may be forced to stop cultivating their fields, The farmers may be forced to sell their land, The farmers may be able to survive though the margin will be quite low, None of these.
- Statement : Many parts of the country have received less than normal level of monsoon rains.
Which of the following can be a possible consequence of the above? – Agricultural activities will be normal as usual, Farmers may not be able to grow their crops, Govt. may procure more foodgrains from the farmers, The Govt. may declare drought in all parts of the country, None of these
- Statement : Majority of the employees applied for one day's casual leave on Monday.
Which of the following can be a possible consequence of the above situation? – The organization may declare holiday on Monday, The organization may cancel all the leave applications, The organization may request the employees to report to duty on Monday, The remaining employees may report sick and absent from office on Monday, None of these

For Q. 6-10: Study the following information carefully and answer the questions given below:

P, Q, R, S, T, V, W and Z are eight final year students of a management institute. Each of them have opted for one of the specializations from – Finance, Marketing and HR. There are at least two and not more than three students with any of the specializations. Each of them has a different choice of game from – Football, Hockey, Badminton, Tennis, volleyball, Cricket, Basketball and Billiard, not necessarily in the same order.

Q likes Basketball and does not have Marketing specialization. T's specialization is HR and likes Badminton. the one who likes Football has Finance specialization. W has specialization in Marketing and he likes Cricket. The one who likes Hockey does not have HR specialization. S does not like either Volleyball or Hockey. V's specialization is HR and Z's specialization is Marketing. R's specialization is HR and he does not like Tennis. P's specialization is not Marketing. None of the students with Finance specialization likes Hockey or Tennis. Z likes Billiard.

- Which of the specializations is opted for by only two students? – Finance, Marketing, HR, Data inadequate, None of these.

For Q.11-15: Odd one out –

11. River, Lake, Pond, Puddle, Canal
12. 17, 19, 21, 23, 29
13. Brinjal, Cabbage, Mango, Guava, Gourd
14. Dollar, Yuvan, Yen, Dirham
15. Wheat, Corn, Sesame, Paddy, Millet.

Issues of Social Concern
Total number of questions : 60

The fourth and the last section was the biggest section of the paper. It contained 60 questions based on Indian Economy, Rural Indian Economy and Agriculture. The section was balanced between these three topics. Ten questions of this section were easy, another 20 questions were moderate and remaining questions required a sharp eye on current events related to agriculture and rural economy. An attempt of 20+ questions in a time span of 20 minutes with a accuracy level of 90% should be decent. We have recalled some of the questions which are as follows.

1. Small Loans provided by the banks to very poor families most often without any collateral is popularly known as – personal finance, project finance, micro finance, macro finance, None of these
2. How can the productiveness of land be increased?
(A) By use of chemical inputs. (B) By rainwater harvesting. (C) By facilitating surface irrigation –
Only (A), Only (A) & (B), All (A), (B) & (C), Only (C), None of these
3. The agricultural activities in which of the following states are NO MORE dependent on rains only? – Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Orissa, Bihar, Jharkhand
4. As per the recent reports the growth in agriculture in the last few decades has substantially contributed towards food security in terms of per capita food availability and reduce dependency on food imports except few items. Which are those items for which India is still dependent on imports?
(A) Wheat (B) Rice (C) Edible Oil (D) Pulses – Only (A) & (B), Only (B) & (C), Both (C) & (D), All (A), (B), (C) & (D), None of these
5. Which of the following states falls under “High Poverty Group”? – West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Kerala, Karnataka.
6. Which of the following is certainly a part of the measures for “Financial Inclusion”? – Introduction of no Frill Accounts by the Banks, Special Economic Zones, National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, Look East Policy, None of these.
7. Which of the following will help the poors in a country to come out of their poverty?
(A) If they get good Health Services. (B) If they have freedom from illiteracy.
(C) If the nation attains optimum Sex Ratio. – Only (A), Only (B), Both (A) & (B), Only (C), All (A), (B) & (C)
8. The World Environment Day is celebrated every year on which of the following days? – 5th August, 5th July, 5th June, 15th June, 15th July.
9. Which of the following is NOT a Green House Gas? – Carbon di Oxide, Carbon Monoxide, Methane, Nitrous Oxide, Sulfur hexafluoride.
10. Late Nirmala Deshpande who died recently was a noted – Gandhian, Agricultural scientist, Economist, Marxists, None of these
11. There has been a significant increase in the output of agriculture in recent decades in India. How has this been achieved? Mainly by –
(A) increasing the area of cultivation (B) raising multiple crops from same land
(C) increasing the yields of crops. – Only (A), Only (B), Only (C), All (A), (B) & (C), Only (B) & (C)
12. As per the World Development Report 2008 Developing countries should make more and more investment in which of the following sectors? – Agriculture, Infrastructure Development, Transport, Mining, None of these.
13. Which of the following factors is considered one single major factor responsible for under development of an economy? – Lack of planning, Foreign Investment, High Rate of Savings, Low rate of Capital Formation, None of these.
14. Which of the following reports is/are the major source of knowing about various aspects of “global well being and depriving”? – Human Development Report of the UNO, Annual Report of the world Bank, Approach Paper prepared by the Planning Commission of India every year, Inflation in major countries of the world, All of these.
15. Which of the following statement(s) about the National Income is/are True?
(A) National Income is the annual income of each and every citizen of the country taken together for a year.
(B) National Income estimate measures the volume of commodities and services made available during a given period, counted without duplication.
(C) National Income is the total of all sorts of revenue collected by the Govt. agencies every year or for a particular period of time. – Only (A), Only (B), Only (C), All (A), (B) & (C), None of these
16. Which of the following programmes was introduced/launched by the Govt. of India to ensure that almost all households get a specified quantity of foodgrains and essential commodities at a subsidized price?
(A) Antyodaya Anna Yojana. (B) Public Distribution System. (C) Food for work programme –
Only (A), Only (B), Only (C), All (A), (B) & (C), None of these
17. As we all know Govt. of India has introduced a large number of programme aimed at reduction of poverty. Which of the following is NOT ONE of them? – Integrated Rural Development Programme, Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana, National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, Voluntary Disclosure scheme for tax payers.

18. Which of the following is considered the main and primary asset in rural areas in India?
(A) Manpower (B) Land (C) Cattle – Only (A), Only (B), Only (C), All (A), (B) & (C), None of these
19. Which of the following is/are the major issues of economic development in India?
(A) Low per Capita Income. (B) Low Rate of Economic Growth.
(C) High Proportion of people living below poverty line. – Only (A), Only (B), Only (C), All (A), (B) & (C), None of these
20. "India is a vast country with varying climatic conditions and soil types. Hence all agricultural activities cannot be supported equally in all the regions". Which of the following Support the above statements?
(A) Rice and Sugarcane requires plenty of water to grow. (B) Jowar, Bajra and Cotton does not need much water.
(C) India is self sufficient in production of pulses but Indian climate is not suitable for the production sugarcane. – Only (A) & (B), Only (B) & (C), Only (A) & (C), All (A), (B) & (C), None of these
21. What percentage of the total volume of the child labour is engaged in rural areas –
22. India's first genetically modified crop was –
23. Who is the writer of the book 'Gandhis Emissary'
24. Who is the writer of the book 'A week with Gandhi'
25. Who is the chairman for the committee formed for 'Finance Sector Reforms' –
26. GDP growth of Agriculture sector of Indian during 2007-08 –
27. Which of the following is the book on 'Bhopal Gas Tragedy' –
28. Which of the following is not related to Dalit Budgeting –
29. Which of the following is the main vision of vision 2020 –
30. Which of the following is not correct about the National action plan for climate change –
31. Many countries of the world now accepted comprehensive human rights treaty of persons with disabilities, which of the following is the base draft/ convention/norms –

Apart from this there were questions from TRIPS, UNO issue of Neutrality, etc.

Overall the paper was good and an attempt of 110 to 115 questions with 85-90% accuracy will be ideal to get a call for GD/PI. Final selection will be done on the basis of overall performance in Written Test, PI and GD. The marks obtained in PI and GD will be normalised across evaluating panels. The marks obtained in the Written Test and the normalised marks obtained in PI and GD will be reduced to equivalent marks out of **50, 40 and 10 marks**, respectively. An overall merit list will be prepared based on total marks obtained out of these 100 marks. Such listing will be done separately for different categories of the applicants and the required number of candidates will be selected from different categories in their order of merit.

The cut off marks used for final selection of candidates and some general facts are shown below.

Section	Actual Cut-Off for 2007 batch (in marks)	Actual Cut-Off for 2008 batch (in marks)	Estimated Cut-Off for 2009 batch (in marks)		
English Comprehension (40)	16	16	18	Total number of students appeared	11000 (estimated)
Quantitative Ability (50)	18	20	22	Total No. of seats (PRM)	95
Analytical Reasoning (50)	11	20	15	Reservation Status	Yes
Issues of Social Concern (60)	13	15	15	Intake ratio for GD/PI	1:4
Overall Cut-off (200)	76	80	85	Cut-Off Marks (Last Year)	85 Marks (overall)
Assuming one mark for each question.				Fees	3 lacs
				Average Salary	6.09 lacs
				Source: IRMA Brochure 2008	

Important Dates	
Announcement of entrance test results	Dec. 27, 2008
Personal interviews and group discussions	Feb. 09–21, 2009
Announcement of final results	Mar. 16, 2009
Beginning of remedial classes	June 01, 2009
Beginning of the programme	June 08, 2009

Expected Cut-Offs

**85+ call from IRMA
80+ call from XIMB (Rural Management)**

"Beginning is easy - continuing hard", be well prepared for CAT next Sunday.

Best Wishes!