

Management Aptitude Test (MAT)

December 06, 2009

Bird's Eye View

The MAT held on 06 December, 2009 (Sunday) at various centres of 65 different cities, all over India.

MAT was the fourth entrance test of the MBA entrance test season after, IRMA, IIFT and CAT. Lakhs of students prepare and appear for the test each year. More than 400 institutes are affiliated with the test. Considering December 2009 MAT particularly there are 201 institutes that taking this MAT scores.

The evolution of MAT is clear - after removing sections in December 2007, in September 2008 first time the MAT was with jumbled questions. After that there is no change in CAT pattern.

December 2009 MAT was on traditional lines. There were total **200 questions** to be solved in a time span of **150 minutes**. Four alternative were provided for each questions. **40** questions each on **Reading Comprehension and English Usage (RC and EU), Quantitative Aptitude (QA), Logical Reasoning (LR), Data Interpretation and Data Sufficiency (DI and DS)** and **General Knowledge (GK)**. The questions were jumbled-up.

It was declared in the instruction provided in the paper at the last page that each correct answer will carry one mark, while there was a negative marking of 0.25 marks for each incorrect answer. Total thirteen different sets of test booklets were available there.

The overall difficulty level of the paper was easy compared to September 2009 MAT

Total Number of Questions – 200

Total Time – 150 minutes

The Marking Scheme – One mark for each correct answer. – 0.25 mars for each incorrect answer.

Total Marks – 200

Number of Options – 4

Number of sets Available – 13 (A-M)

Sections/Sectional Time Limit – There were no sections and the paper was jumbled.

Medium of marking – Pencil

Break-up–

Topic	No. of Ques.	No. of Marks	Difficulty Level
Quantitative Aptitude	40	40	Moderate
Logical Reasoning	40	40	Easy
Data Interpretation and Data Sufficiency	40	40	Mix of Easy and Moderate
Reading Comprehension	40	40	Moderate
General Knowledge	40	40	Mix of Easy and Moderate

Expected Cut-Offs – An score of 105+ (out of 160 i.e. excluding GK) should be good to getting AMITY, BIM Tech., Christ and some other top B- Schools.

Detailed Analysis

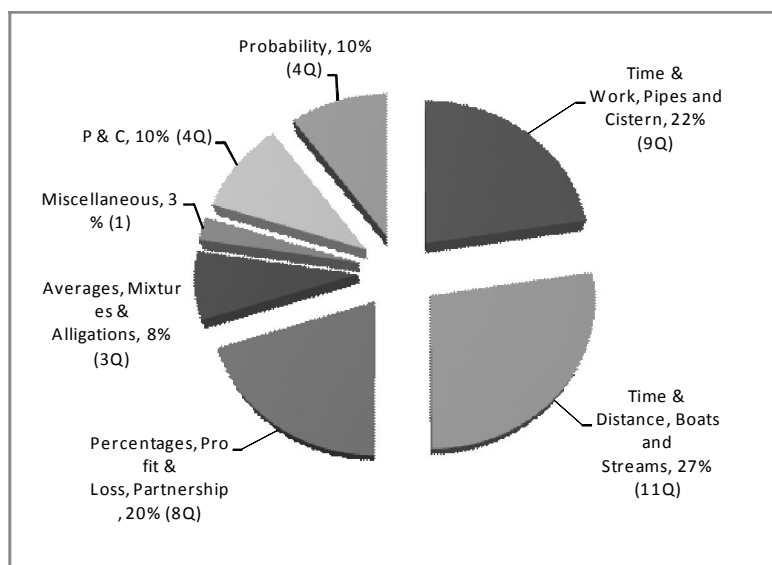
Section	Topic	No. of Ques.	Marks	Difficulty Level	Ideal Attempts	Time suggested	Ideal Marks to get a call from good college (Out of 160)
I	Quantitative Aptitude	40	40	Easy to Moderate	32 +	35 to 40 min.	32 +
II	Data Interpretation + Data Sufficiency	40	40	Moderate	30 +	35 to 40 min.	30 +
III	Reading Comprehension + English Usage	40	40	Moderate	27 +	25 to 30 min.	27 +
IV	Logical Reasoning	40	40	Moderate	30 +	35 to 40 min.	30 +
V	Indian and Global Environment	40	40	Moderate	22 +	10 to 12 min.	22 +
	Total	200	100	--	141 +	150 min.	141 +

Note: The ideal marks is out of 160, since the marks obtained in Indian and Global environment questions do not include in merit.

Exclusive Analysis

Overall level of difficulty of the paper can be rated as easy. 17 to 19 questions from LR, 14/15 questions from GK, 15/17 questions from QA, 17/18 questions from DI & DS and 6 to 8 questions from EU should have to attempted first. Ideally a student who is good to select the questions to solve, could attempt 68 to 72 questions in the first hour itself.

This time the fifty percent of the questions on QA were from four topics **Time Speed Distance, Boats and Streams, Work and Time and Pipes and cisterns. Other questions were from topics like Percentages, Profit and Loss, Partnerships, Averages and Mixtures and Alligations. There were four questions on Probability also.** The questions were of easy to moderate level of difficulty. For a well prepared student on an average **not more than 1-1.5 minutes** would be required to solve one question of this area.



To check the students' logical and analytical abilities there were questions on **Relations (2), Linear arrangements (4), Coding-Decoding (2), Number and Alphabet Series (5), Venn Diagram (2), Cubes (4), Mathematical Reasoning (4), Analogies (4), Assumptions-Statements (3), Input and Output (4), Assertion-Reason (2) and Decision Making (4).**

Excluding the questions based on Series, Analogies, Statement-Assumption and Assertion-Reason all other questions were easy. One could attempt 28-30 questions in a time span of 35 to 40 minutes from this area.

There were total **five RC** passages. Total **20 questions** were asked on these passages. The themes of the RC passages were on **The Discovery of water on Moon, International Monetary Fund, 2016 Olympics, Cost cutting in Power Sector and Natural Calamities.** The length of the passages was between 800 to 1000 **words** and **4 questions were asked on each passages.** The questions asked were direct and easy.

Reading Comprehension				
Passage	Theme	Length	No. of Questions asked	Difficulty Level
I	The Discovery of water on Moon	800 to 1000 words approx.	4	Moderate
II	2016 Olympics		4	
III	International Monetary Fund		4	
IV	Natural Calamities		4	
V	Cost cutting in Power Sector		4	

From EU area there were questions on **Fill in the Blanks (4), Identify the Best way of Writing the Sentence out of the given four options (4), One Word Substitution (4), Para Jumble (4)** and **Zist of the Paragraph (4).** The questions on 'Zist of the paragraph' was difficult, rest of the questions were of moderate level of difficulty.

There were 28 questions from Data Interpretation, six questions on Data Sufficiency (Four options direct), and six questions on Data Comparison. The details of the DI questions are as follows –

Data Interpretation		
Type	No. of questions	Difficulty Level
1 Bar Graph + 2 Pie Charts	4	Moderate
Caselet	4	Moderate
2 Pie Charts	4	Easy
Bar Graph + Line Graph	4	Moderate
Line Graph	4	Moderate
Pie Chart and Table	4	Moderate
Table	4	Easy

Note: The figures in the bracket after the topic is representing the number of questions of that particular topic in the paper).

The GK questions were a mixture of easy and moderate level of difficulty. The questions were on dynamic as well as traditional GK. There were questions on Economics, Current Affairs, Awards and Prizes, Business and Sports. Since this area was only to pass and the marks of this will not be include in merit, **an attempt of 20-22 questions will be sufficient to achieve the cut-off for this area.**

Overall an score of 105+ (out of 160 i.e. excluding GK) should be good to getting AMITY, BIM Tech., Christ and some other top B- Schools.

At the end, as Zig Ziglar said "It is your attitude, not your aptitude, that determines your altitude." So keep your attitude right and well prepared for the tests ahead.

Best wishes!

