



**GRE**

*Listening. Learning. Leading.*

How can  
you tell who's  
**cut out** for  
graduate school  
success?



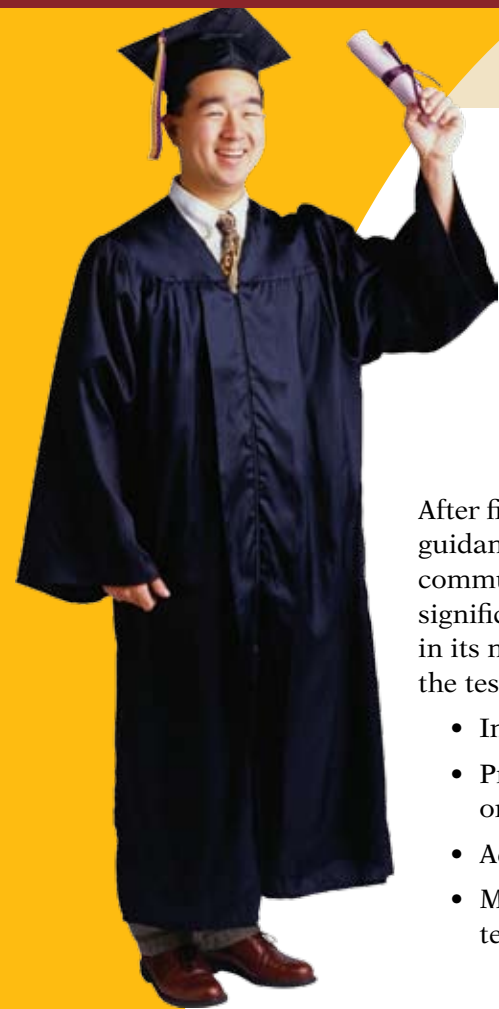
**The *Revised***

**GRE<sup>®</sup> General Test**

*Assess Ability.*

*Predict Performance.*

***Coming in September 2007***



# The Best Test Keeps Getting Better

**A significantly improved GRE® General Test is coming in September 2007!**

After five years of research, and with guidance from the graduate education community, ETS is completing the most significant revision of the GRE General Test in its nearly 60-year history. The changes to the test are being made to:

- Increase the validity of the test
- Provide faculty with better information on applicants' performance
- Address security concerns
- Make better use of advances in technology and psychometric design

## Test Content

The revised General Test will measure the same general skills that are measured on the current General Test: verbal reasoning, quantitative reasoning, critical thinking and analytical writing. However, each of the sections will be revised to better focus on skills that are necessary for success in graduate school. Specific changes to each of the three sections are listed below. Sample test questions for all three sections can be viewed on the GRE Web site at [www.ets.org/gre](http://www.ets.org/gre).

The New Verbal Reasoning Measure	The New Quantitative Reasoning Measure	The New Critical Thinking and Analytical Writing Measure
(two 40-minute sections)	(two 40-minute sections)	(two 30-minute sections)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Measure of ability to analyze and evaluate written material and synthesize information obtained from it, analyze relationships among component parts of sentences, and recognize relationships between words and concepts in context</li> <li>• Emphasis on skills related to graduate work such as complex reasoning               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Greater emphasis on higher cognitive skills; less dependence on vocabulary knowledge alone</li> <li>- More text-based materials, such as reading passages</li> <li>- A broader selection of reading passages</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Expansion of computer-enabled tasks (e.g., highlighting a sentence in a passage that serves the function described in the question)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Measure of ability to reason quantitatively and solve problems in a quantitative setting</li> <li>• Measure of basic mathematical skills and understanding of elementary mathematical concepts of arithmetic, algebra, geometry, probability and statistics</li> <li>• Quantitative reasoning skills that are similar to skills typically used in graduate school               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Proportion of questions involving real-life scenarios and data interpretation increased</li> <li>- Proportion of geometry questions decreased</li> <li>- On-screen, four-function calculator with square root</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Inclusion of question types other than multiple-choice, including computer-enabled tasks such as entering a numeric answer via the keyboard</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A new name to more accurately reflect the skills being measured</li> <li>• A performance-based measure that integrates the assessment of critical thinking and analytical writing</li> <li>• Measure of ability to articulate complex ideas clearly and effectively, examine claims and accompanying evidence, support ideas with relevant reasons and examples, sustain a focused, coherent discussion, and control the elements of standard written English</li> <li>• New, more focused prompts will reduce the possibility of reliance on memorized materials</li> <li>• Essay responses will be made available to institutional score recipients</li> </ul>

*Assess Ability. Predict Performance.*

## Test Fairness

The GRE® Board has long been concerned that examinee groups not be disadvantaged by any major changes in the General Test. In response to that concern, extensive analyses of subgroups were performed in pilot testing and field trials. Based on the pilot tests, there is no indication that subgroup performance will be substantially different on the revised General Test than on the current General Test. Subgroup performance will be monitored closely once the test is operational. Examinees whose native language is not English and whose reading comprehension skills are weak may find the Verbal measure more challenging.

## Test Administration

The revised General Test is changing from an adaptive test format, where the questions presented to each examinee vary according to his or her performance, to a linear test format, where all examinees testing at the same time receive the same questions. The primary reason for this change is test security. Linear tests allow for less reuse of test questions, which greatly enhances test security.

The revised General Test will be administered on computer on approximately 30 test dates worldwide. The number of administrations in any given region will be based on the test volume in that region. In addition, to address possible security concerns, starting times for the test will be staggered across time zones. A test administration schedule for the 2007-2008 testing year will be available in the Spring of 2007.

The network of test centers for the revised General Test will include many of the current test centers. In addition, hundreds of new test centers will be opened at colleges, universities and commercial sites around the world. By the Fall of 2007, there will be over 3,500 testing centers worldwide.



## Scores and Score Use

Three scores will be reported on the revised General Test: a Verbal score, a Quantitative score, and a Critical Thinking and Analytical Writing score. The score scales for the Verbal and Quantitative sections will change. The mean for the new score scale will be 150, with an expected range of 130 to 170, in one-point increments. Final specification of the precise score scale will be determined based on data from the initial revised General Test administrations, before scores are reported. The Critical

Thinking and Analytical Writing section will continue to be scored using a six-point holistic scale.

Percentiles for each of the three sections of the revised General Test, based on data from the first three administrations, will be printed on score reports and available on the GRE Web site: [www.ets.org/gre](http://www.ets.org/gre).

A concordance table will be available to assist score users in understanding the relationship between old and new scores. For Verbal and Quantitative scores earned prior to September 2007, approximate score equivalents on the new scale will be included on score reports to help users compare old and new scores.

## GRE Essay Distribution

Beginning with tests taken in the Fall of 2007, Critical Thinking and Analytical Writing essay responses will be made available to institutional score recipients. Once scores are reported, essays will be made available electronically to designated score recipients. Details of this new service will be announced in the Fall of 2006.

## Test Preparation

Sample test questions for the revised General Test are on the GRE Web site at [www.ets.org/gre](http://www.ets.org/gre). A free, full-length revised General Test (in PDF format) will be available on the GRE Web site in the spring of 2007. In addition, beginning in July 2007, individuals who register for the test will have access to a free, full-length computer-based version of the revised General Test. ETS is collaborating with McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc., on the development of a paper study guide that will be available in the Summer of 2007.

## For More Information

To get the most up-to-date information about the revised GRE General Test, please visit the GRE Web site at [www.ets.org/gre](http://www.ets.org/gre), or contact us via e-mail at [gretests@ets.org](mailto:gretests@ets.org) or by phone at (609) 683-2002.



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[www.ets.org](http://www.ets.org)

Educational Testing Service

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