

Verbal Magic for the GRE

Introduction

The GRE Verbal Reasoning section is a challenging component of the Graduate Record Examination, designed to assess your critical thinking skills, analytical abilities, and command of the English language. To succeed in this section, you need a comprehensive understanding of various question types, effective test-taking strategies, and a strong vocabulary foundation.

This book, "Verbal Magic for the GRE," is your ultimate guide to conquering the GRE Verbal Reasoning exam. With its engaging and accessible approach, this book provides a thorough exploration of all aspects of the verbal section, empowering you with the knowledge and skills necessary to achieve your target score.

We begin by introducing you to the structure and format of the GRE Verbal Reasoning exam, familiarizing you with the different question types and providing invaluable time management techniques to help you optimize your performance on test day. We then delve into each question type in detail, providing step-by-step strategies for tackling sentence equivalence, text completion, reading comprehension, and critical reasoning questions.

Furthermore, we recognize the importance of vocabulary in the GRE Verbal Reasoning exam. We equip you with effective strategies for building a strong vocabulary foundation, utilizing context clues, and mastering word roots, prefixes, and suffixes. With our comprehensive vocabulary section, you'll expand your vocabulary and enhance your ability to comprehend complex passages and answer challenging questions.

To ensure your success, we provide ample practice opportunities throughout the book. Each chapter

concludes with a comprehensive practice set, complete with detailed answer explanations. These practice sets allow you to assess your understanding of the material, identify areas for improvement, and refine your test-taking strategies.

Additionally, we dedicate a chapter to the Analytical Writing Assessment (AWA) section of the GRE, providing guidance on developing a strong thesis statement, organizing and structuring your essay, and using evidence effectively. With our expert tips and strategies, you'll be well-prepared to tackle the AWA and showcase your writing proficiency.

As you embark on your GRE preparation journey, remember that success is achievable with dedication, perseverance, and the right resources. "Verbal Magic for the GRE" is your trusted companion, providing you with the knowledge, strategies, and practice you need to conquer the GRE Verbal Reasoning section and achieve your graduate school aspirations. Embrace the

challenge, unleash your verbal magic, and open doors
to your future.

Book Description

"Verbal Magic for the GRE" is the ultimate guide to conquering the GRE Verbal Reasoning section, empowering you with the knowledge, strategies, and practice you need to achieve your target score.

This comprehensive book provides a thorough exploration of all aspects of the verbal section, including sentence equivalence, text completion, reading comprehension, and critical reasoning questions. With its engaging and accessible approach, "Verbal Magic for the GRE" makes complex concepts easy to understand and provides step-by-step strategies for tackling each question type.

Recognizing the importance of vocabulary in the GRE Verbal Reasoning exam, this book includes a comprehensive vocabulary section that equips you with effective strategies for building a strong vocabulary foundation. You'll learn how to utilize

context clues, master word roots, prefixes, and suffixes, and expand your vocabulary through targeted study.

To ensure your success, "Verbal Magic for the GRE" provides ample practice opportunities throughout the book. Each chapter concludes with a comprehensive practice set, complete with detailed answer explanations. These practice sets allow you to assess your understanding of the material, identify areas for improvement, and refine your test-taking strategies.

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Written by a team of experienced GRE instructors, "Verbal Magic for the GRE" is your trusted companion on your GRE preparation journey. With its clear and

concise explanations, engaging examples, and targeted practice, this book will help you unlock your verbal magic, conquer the GRE Verbal Reasoning section, and achieve your graduate school aspirations.

Chapter 1: Mastering the Verbal Challenge

Deciphering the GRE Verbal Reasoning Exam

The GRE Verbal Reasoning exam is a critical component of the Graduate Record Examination, designed to assess your ability to analyze and evaluate written material, reason logically, and express yourself clearly. To succeed in this section, you need a comprehensive understanding of its structure, format, and various question types.

Understanding the Structure and Format

The GRE Verbal Reasoning section consists of two main question types:

1. **Multiple-choice questions:** These questions present you with a passage or a statement followed by several answer choices. You must

select the answer choice that best completes the passage or answers the question.

2. **Analytical writing assessment (AWA):** This section requires you to write two essays. In the first essay, you will analyze and critique an argument. In the second essay, you will take a position on an issue and support it with evidence.

Identifying Question Types

The GRE Verbal Reasoning section covers a wide range of question types, including:

- **Sentence equivalence:** These questions test your ability to identify two words or phrases that are synonymous or have similar meanings.
- **Text completion:** These questions present you with a passage with one or more missing words. You must select the answer choice that best

completes the passage and makes it grammatically and semantically correct.

- **Reading comprehension:** These questions require you to read a passage and answer questions about its main idea, supporting details, and author's purpose.
- **Critical reasoning:** These questions present you with an argument or a statement and ask you to evaluate its validity, identify its flaws, or draw inferences from it.

Mastering Test-Taking Strategies

To succeed in the GRE Verbal Reasoning section, you need to develop effective test-taking strategies. These strategies include:

- **Time management:** The GRE Verbal Reasoning section is timed, so you need to manage your time wisely. Quickly read the passages and

questions, and allocate sufficient time to each question.

- **Active reading:** When reading the passages, don't just skim the words. Actively engage with the material by highlighting key points, making notes, and questioning the author's purpose and perspective.
- **Elimination:** When answering multiple-choice questions, eliminate answer choices that are clearly incorrect or irrelevant. This will increase your chances of selecting the correct answer.
- **Guessing:** If you are unsure of the answer to a question, make an educated guess. You have a 25% chance of getting it right, and it's better than leaving the question blank.

With the right strategies and practice, you can decipher the GRE Verbal Reasoning exam and achieve your target score.

Chapter 1: Mastering the Verbal Challenge

Unveiling the Structure and Format

Understanding the structure and format of the GRE Verbal Reasoning exam is crucial for effective preparation and successful performance. The exam consists of three main question types: Sentence Equivalence, Text Completion, and Reading Comprehension. Additionally, there is a separate section called Analytical Writing Assessment (AWA), which evaluates your writing skills.

Sentence Equivalence

Sentence Equivalence questions present you with a sentence with one or two blanks. Your task is to choose the pair of words that best completes the sentence, making it grammatically correct and meaningful. These questions assess your vocabulary, understanding of

word relationships, and ability to deduce the meaning of words from context.

Text Completion

Text Completion questions provide you with a passage with several blanks. You need to select the words or phrases that best fit the blanks, making the passage coherent and grammatically correct. This question type evaluates your reading comprehension, ability to identify key information, and proficiency in understanding the structure and flow of a text.

Reading Comprehension

Reading Comprehension questions present you with a passage followed by a series of questions. You need to read the passage carefully and answer the questions based on the information provided. These questions assess your ability to understand the main idea, identify supporting details, draw inferences, and analyze the author's argument or perspective.

Analytical Writing Assessment (AWA)

The AWA section consists of two tasks. In Task 1, you need to analyze an argument and present your critique. In Task 2, you need to develop an argument and support it with evidence. This section evaluates your critical thinking skills, writing proficiency, and ability to organize and express your thoughts clearly and coherently.

By thoroughly understanding the structure and format of the GRE Verbal Reasoning exam, you can develop targeted strategies for each question type and allocate your time effectively during the actual test. This knowledge will help you approach the exam with confidence and maximize your chances of achieving a high score.

Chapter 1: Mastering the Verbal Challenge

Identifying Question Types and Strategies

Mastering the GRE Verbal Reasoning section requires a strategic approach to identifying and tackling different question types. Each question type presents unique challenges and requires specific strategies to solve them efficiently and accurately.

Sentence Equivalence: This question type tests your ability to understand the relationship between words and phrases. To solve sentence equivalence questions, focus on identifying the relationship between the two words or phrases and choose the answer choice that best completes the sentence while maintaining that relationship.

Text Completion: Text completion questions assess your ability to comprehend a passage and identify missing information. The key to answering these

questions is to carefully read the passage, paying attention to context clues and grammatical structure. Identify the type of information that is missing and select the answer choice that best fits the context.

Reading Comprehension: Reading comprehension questions evaluate your ability to understand and analyze written passages. To excel in this question type, practice active reading, identifying the main idea, supporting details, and the author's purpose. Utilize context clues to infer the meaning of unfamiliar words and phrases.

Critical Reasoning: Critical reasoning questions test your ability to evaluate arguments, identify logical fallacies, and draw inferences. To answer these questions effectively, break down the argument into its premises and conclusion. Identify any assumptions or biases and assess the validity of the argument. Choose the answer choice that best addresses the argument's strengths and weaknesses.

Strategies for Success: 1. **Time Management:** - Allocate time wisely, spending more time on questions you are confident in and returning to challenging questions later.

1. Read Actively:

- Read passages carefully, paying attention to key details and context clues.

2. Eliminate Incorrect Answers:

- Identify answer choices that are clearly incorrect or irrelevant, narrowing down your options.

3. Review and Revise:

- After answering a question, review your choice and ensure that it is the best answer based on the evidence provided.

Remember, success in the GRE Verbal Reasoning section comes with practice and strategic preparation. Familiarize yourself with each question type, develop

effective strategies, and utilize practice tests to hone your skills and boost your confidence.

This extract presents the opening three sections of the first chapter.

Discover the complete 10 chapters and 50 sections by purchasing the book, now available in various formats.

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