

University of Pittsburgh
PSYCHOLOGY ADVISING OFFICE
GRE General Exam Information

WHY TAKE IT?	Most graduate schools require it
HOW LONG IS IT?	3 hours and 45 minutes
HOW TO REGISTER?	www.gre.org
HOW IS IT SCORED?	Scoring is based on your: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verbal Reasoning: 130 – 170, in 1 point increments • Quantitative Reasoning: 130 – 170, in 1 point increments • Analytical Writing Assessment: 0 – 6, in half point increments
WHEN ARE THE SCORES REPORTED?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Score reporting for the computer-based test is sent to the test taker and designated recipients approximately 10 to 15 days after the test date. http://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/scores/get/
VERBAL REASONING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two sections: 30 minutes per section (approximately 20 questions per section) <p>The Verbal Reasoning section measures your ability to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • analyze and draw conclusions from discourse; reason from incomplete data; identify author's assumptions and/or perspective; understand multiple levels of meaning, such as literal, figurative and author's intent • select important points; distinguish major from minor or relevant points; summarize text; understand the structure of a text • understand the meanings of words, sentences and entire texts; understand relationships among words and among concepts <p>Featuring new types of questions, the Verbal Reasoning section measures your ability to understand what you read and how you apply your reasoning skills.</p>
QUANTITATIVE REASONING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two sections: 30 minutes per section (approximately 20 questions per section) <p>The Quantitative Reasoning section measures your ability to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • understand quantitative information • interpret and analyze quantitative information • solve problems using mathematical models • apply basic mathematical skills and elementary mathematical concepts of arithmetic, algebra, geometry, probability and statistics <p>With increased emphasis on data interpretation and real-life scenarios, this section has new types of questions that require you to show your quantitative reasoning ability. To reduce the emphasis on computation, the computer-based test includes an on-screen calculator. And, if you are taking the paper-based test, a calculator will be provided at the test center.</p>
ANALYTICAL WRITING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One section with two separately timed tasks: 30 minutes per task <p>The Analytical Writing section measures your ability to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • articulate complex ideas clearly and effectively • support ideas with relevant reasons and examples • examine claims and accompanying evidence • sustain a well-focused, coherent discussion • control the elements of standard written English <p>The Analytical Writing section requires you to provide focused responses based on the tasks presented, so you can accurately demonstrate your skill in directly responding to a task.</p>

University of Pittsburgh PSYCHOLOGY ADVISING OFFICE

GRE General Exam Information

Quick facts

- Scores could take a few weeks to arrive at designated institutions. Make sure to allow enough time for institutions to receive your scores by the application deadlines.
- During your testing, you can choose to send your scores to up to 4 institutions without paying additional fees. If you choose to send your scores to more than 4 schools, you will have to contact ETS (Educational Testing Service www.ets.org) to request additional reports. Each additional score report costs \$23.
- GRE scores are reported for up to five years.

FAQS

Retaking the GRE revised General Test

You can take the GRE revised General Test (computer-based and paper-based) **only once every 21 days**, and no more than **five times** within any continuous rolling 12-month period. This applies even if you canceled your scores on a test taken previously. If you take only the paper-based GRE revised General Test, you can take it as often as it is offered.

Note: The retaking a test policy will be enforced even if a violation is not immediately identified (e.g., inconsistent registration information). If the violation is identified after registration but before the test administration, the testing appointment will be canceled and test fees will be forfeited. If the violation is identified after test scores have been reported, the invalid scores will be canceled, score recipients will be notified of the cancellation and test fees will be forfeited.

Where can I register for the exam? You can register online at <http://mygre.ets.org/> or visit this site for information about phone, fax, and mail registration.

Where can I take the test? You can take the both the general and subject exam at a number of sites, including the Office of Measurement and Evaluation of Teaching located in G35 of the Cathedral of Learning is an official testing site. You can choose this site (code 7705) for the exam, or choose a more convenient site when registering.

How much does the GRE exam cost? The general exams cost \$160 and the subject exams cost \$140 in the U.S.

I've heard there is a fee reduction program. Is this true? Yes, there is a fee reduction program for part of the cost of the exam to those who qualify. To learn more, visit: http://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/about/fees/reductions/

When can I view my scores?

You will be able to view your unofficial Verbal Reasoning and Quantitative Reasoning scores at the test center on the new 130 – 170 score scale. Because of the essay scoring process, you will not be able to view your Analytical Writing scores at the time you test.

Can I cancel my scores? Yes, but this option is only available before you view your scores.

Can I choose which scores to send to potential graduate schools? Beginning in July 2012, the new *ScoreSelect* option lets you decide which GRE scores to send to the institutions you designate.

How do I interpret my scores? Many schools will publish GRE averages each year to give you an idea of how you measure up with other applicants. ETS includes information to help you interpret your scores with your mailed score report:

http://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/scores/understand

How can I find out if there are practice exams held in my area? Kaplan offers a number of practice exam sessions throughout the year. In order to view the practice exams in your area visit: <http://www.kaptest.com/GRE/Explore-the-GRE/gre-practice-test.html> and for free events: <http://www.kaptest.com/enroll/GRE/15260/events>.

How can I prepare for the General Test? There are many materials available including private tutoring, courses (classroom and online), books, software, and online materials. These materials can range from \$0-\$4,000. Although some students opt for private tutoring and enrolling in courses, there are just as many students who prepare with books and free online materials. When you register for the exam, you will receive a CD-ROM containing test prep materials. You can also access the following free resources:

GRE POWERPREP software and other online practice materials: http://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/powerprep2/

GRE Issue topics pool: http://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/analytical_writing/issue/pool

GRE Argument topics pool: http://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/analytical_writing/argument/pool

GRE test taking strategies: http://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/tips/

Free online ETS resources: http://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/

