

INTEGRATED REASONING

A NEW SECTION MEASURING NECESSARY SKILLS

On June 5, 2012, the GMAT® exam will introduce a groundbreaking section designed to measure test takers' ability to convert data from multiple sources and in different formats into relevant information to solve problems. The Integrated Reasoning section will measure skills identified as important for incoming students to have based on a survey of 740 management faculty worldwide:

- Synthesizing data presented in graphics, text, and numbers
- Converting data from multiple sources into meaningful information
- Organizing information to see relationships and solve multiple, interrelated problems
- Combining and manipulating data from one or more sources to solve complex problems

INNOVATIVE QUESTION FORMATS

Techniques | Artifacts | Budget

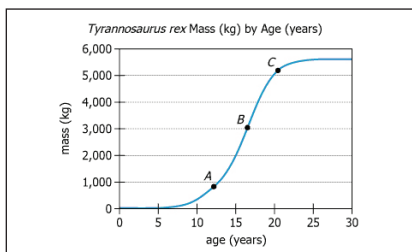
Island Museum analyzes historical artifacts using one or more techniques described below—all but one of which is performed by an outside laboratory—to obtain specific information about an object's creation. For each type of material listed, the museum uses only the technique described:

Animal teeth or bones: The museum performs *isotope ratio mass spectrometry* (IRMS) in-house to determine the ratios of chemical elements present, yielding clues as to the animal's diet and the minerals in its water supply.

Multi-Source Reasoning:
Different data from two or three tabbed pages must be used to answer questions.

Number of faculty in Fall 1999	Students per faculty member in Spring 2004	
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	5,500 <i>R</i>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	$\frac{5,500}{R}$
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	$\frac{1}{R}$
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	$\left(\frac{100 - S}{100 - F}\right)$
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	$\left(\frac{100 - S}{100 - F}\right)$
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	$\left(\frac{100 - F}{100 - S}\right)$

Two-Part Analysis:
Solutions involve two components, and possible answers will be in a table format with a column for each component.



Graphics Interpretation:
Graphs or graphical images must be interpreted to fill in the blanks of answer statements accurately.

Sort By:

Commodity	Production, world share (%)	Production, world rank	Exports, world share (%)	Exports, world rank
Beef	16	2	22	1
Chickens	15	3	38	1
Coffee	40	1	32	1
Corn	8	4	10	2
Cotton	5	5	10	4
Orange juice	56	1	82	1
Pork	4	4	12	4
Soybeans	27	2	40	2
Sugar	21	1	44	1

Table Analysis:
A sortable table, similar to a spreadsheet, has to be analyzed to determine whether statements are accurate.

TIMELINE

April 2: *The Official Guide for GMAT® Review, 13th edition* (Wiley paperback with access to online section, US\$42.95) is available.

Throughout April and May	June 5	June 25
Free updated GMATPrep® software (for Windows and Macintosh products, mba.com/gmatprep) and <i>GMAT Handbook</i> (formerly <i>GMAT Information Bulletin</i>) are available, mba.com/gmathandbook	Webinars on using Integrated Reasoning score scale are held. gmac.com/conferencesandevents	Next Generation GMAT exam launches worldwide.
		First Official Score Reports with Integrated Reasoning are posted.

TEST STRUCTURE AND SCORES

The GMAT exam will remain 3 hours, 30 minutes (approximately four hours with breaks).

- The GMAT Verbal, Quantitative, AWA, and Total scores will not change.
- The Analytical Writing Assessment will consist of one 30-minute essay (Analysis of an Argument) rather than two.
- The 12-question Integrated Reasoning section will immediately follow the essay.
- Test takers will receive a separate Integrated Reasoning score, on a scale of 1-8, in single-digit intervals. As with the AWA, performance on the Integrated Reasoning section will not count toward the Total score.

Current GMAT exam		Next Generation GMAT Exam	
Analytical Writing Assessment		Analytical Writing Assessment	
Analysis of an Argument	30 minutes	Analysis of an Argument	30 minutes
Analysis of an Issue	30 minutes	Integrated Reasoning	30 minutes
Optional 8 minute break		Optional 8 minute break	
Quantitative	75 minutes	Quantitative	75 minutes
Optional 8 minute break		Optional 8 minute break	
Verbal	75 minutes	Verbal	75 minutes
Total	Approximately 4 hours	Total	Approximately 4 hours

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Why is Integrated Reasoning being added?

A: Since 1953, the GMAT exam has been developed for business schools, by business schools, and it has evolved along with their needs. In a 2009 survey, 740 management faculty worldwide indicated that Integrated Reasoning skills are a prerequisite for 21st century management students.

Q: How is the scoring changing?

A: The Quantitative, Verbal, and Total scores are not changing, and the Analytical Writing Assessment score will remain separate but be based on one 30-minute essay rather than two. Like the AWA, the Integrated Reasoning will have a separate score and will not figure into the Total score, which is based only on performance on the Quantitative and Verbal sections. Integrated Reasoning scores will range from 1 to 8 in single-digit intervals.

Q: How will we learn what the Integrated Reasoning score means?

A: GMAC will hold free webinars for schools to go over the new scores. Go to gmac.com/conferencesandevents to sign up.

Q: What do we need to do to our systems to make sure we can receive the new score?

A: Go to gmac.com/NextGenScores for the new CSV and TXT data file format sheets, which include an Integrated Reasoning score. Other changes are being made to enhance the data you receive with scores. For technical support, email gmatprogram@gmac.com.

Q: How long will it take to get Next Generation GMAT scores?

A: Official Score Reports will be available within 20 days after the test date. GMAC has promised a 20-day score report turnaround for many years, but over the past few years, test takers and programs have experienced a quicker turnaround. With the launch of the Next Generation GMAT exam, GMAC continues to promise a 20-day score report turnaround, and test takers and schools will most likely experience a turnaround closer to the 20-day time frame. As usual, test takers should test well in advance of any application deadlines.

Q: Why is the writing section being streamlined?

A: Admissions directors have said, and recent research has shown, that most test takers get similar scores on both essays, making a single essay acceptable for predicting performance.

Q: Will the Next Generation GMAT exam allow calculator use?

A: An online calculator with basic functions will be available for Integrated Reasoning, but not for the Quantitative section. Test takers will not be allowed to bring calculators into the testing room.

Q: Is the new section computer adaptive?

A: No, but it is timed, and pacing is important. Test takers may not skip questions.

For more information, sample questions, and videos, go to gmac.com/nextgen