

CAT Syllabus 2026

CAT syllabus includes all the important topic of Verbal Ability & Reading Comprehension, Data Interpretation & Logical Reasoning and Quantitative Aptitude. It is prescribed by the IIM and topics included test the candidate's English Comprehension, Analytical skills and Reasoning Abilities.

The weightage of these three sections is as follows:

- Verbal Ability & Reading Comprehension – 24 questions, 72 marks
- Data Interpretation & Logical Reasoning – 22 questions, 66 marks
- Quantitative Aptitude – 22 questions, 66 marks

CAT VARC Syllabus

CAT [VARC](#) section is the first section of the CAT question paper. The section has two parts - [Verbal Ability](#) and [Reading Comprehension](#). Take a look at important VARC topics for CAT exam syllabus.

CAT VARC Topics 2026		
Fill in the blanks	Para completion and inference	Verbal logic
Verbal reasoning	Subject-verb agreement	Parajumbles
Sentence completion	Foreign language words used in English	Different usage of same word
Grammar	Reading comprehension	Idioms
Syllogisms	Analogies	Antonyms
Jumbled paragraphs	Sentence correction	One word substitution
Parts of speech	Preposition	Types of clauses

Phrases modifiers	Errors in tenses	Articles usage
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CAT DILR Syllabus

[Data Interpretation & Logical Reasoning \(DILR\)](#) is the second section of the **CAT question paper** having 20 questions to be solved in 40 minutes. There are two sub sections - [Data Interpretation](#) and [Logical Reasoning](#). Take a look at important **CAT Logical Reasoning and Data Interpretation topics**.

CAT syllabus DILR		
Blood Relations	Clocks and Calendars	Syllogism
Series	Statements	Venn Diagram
Proposition	Data Arrangement	Data Structures
Direction Sense	Family Tree	Tables
Coding-Decoding	Binary Logic	Pie Charts
Assumptions	Seating Arrangement	Data Sufficiency
Puzzles	Sets & Caselets	Bars & Line Graphs

Check Out:

- [Logical Reasoning topics for CAT](#)
- [CAT Data Interpretation \(DI\) solved questions for practice PDFs](#)
- [CAT Data Interpretation \(DI\) solved questions for practice PDFs- Part 2](#)
- [CAT Logical Reasoning \(LR\) solved questions for practice PDFs](#)
- [CAT Logical Reasoning \(LR\) solved questions for practice PDFs - Part 2](#)

CAT Quantitative Aptitude Syllabus

[Quantitative Aptitude](#) is the last section of CAT question paper. It is usually the toughest questions. To master this section, candidates need to be thorough with the fundamentals of Arithmetic, Algebra, Geometry and Mensuration. It

is a calculation heavy section and thus one need a lot of practice to crack it. Take a look at the important topics of [CAT Quantitative Aptitude syllabus](#):

CAT Quantitative Aptitude Syllabus		
Geometry	Ratios and Proportion	Inequalities
Trigonometry	In-equations Quadratic and linear equations	Work and Time
Algebra	Surds and Indices	Percentages
Mensuration	Time-Speed-Distance	Logarithms
Partnership (Accounts)	Number System	Square Root and Cube Root
Profit & Loss	Geometric Progression	Probability
Mean, mode, median	Binomial theorem	Simple interest and compound interest

CAT Quant Important Topics

Check the table below for chapter wise important topics that are a part of CAT Quantitative Aptitude syllabus.

CAT Syllabus: Important Topics for Quantitative Aptitude	
Arithmetic Topics for CAT	Averages, Mean Median Mode, Percentages, Ratio and Proportion, Simple and Compound Interest, Profit and Loss Mixtures and Allegations, Time and Work, Time Speed and Distance

Algebra Topics for CAT	Basics Algebraic Formulae, Linear Equations, Problems on ages, Number of integer solutions, Quadratic Equations, Finding out roots, Maxima and Minima, Higher Degree Equations, Descartes Rule of Signs, Inequalities, Logarithm, Functions, Modifications of Graphs, The Smallest Value in a Maximum Function
Number System Topics for CAT	Basics of Numbers, Properties of Numbers, Divisibility Rules, Divisibility and Factors, Highest Common Factor and Lowest Common Multiple, Finding Out the Last Digit, Finding Out Last Two Digits, Number of Trailing Zeroes, Finding out Remainders based on, Basic Divisibility Rules, Binomial Theorem, Simplifying the Dividend (Single and/or Multiple Divisors), Fermat's Theorem, Euler's Theorem, Pattern Recognition and Cyclicity of Remainders, Wilson's Theorem, Base Systems, Conversion of Bases, Addition / Subtraction / Multiplication in different bases
Geometry Topics for CAT	Lines and Angles, Triangles – Basic Concepts, Area, Angles, Similar Triangles, Polygons, Circles, Solids / Mensuration – 3D Geometry, Coordinate Geometry, Trigonometry
Modern Maths Topics for CAT	Sequence and Series, Binomial Theorem, Set Theory, Permutation and Combination, Probability

CAT Reading Comprehension Passages of Previous Years

CAT Reading Comprehension questions form the two-third of the first section of [CAT question paper](#). There are about four to five RC passages with 12-14 questions. Check below, the Reading Comprehension topics of CAT 2024, 2023, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018:

CAT RC Passages	Slot 1	Slot 2	Slot 3
CAT 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utility & Human Economics • Entertainment/Netflix • Australian Species • Craftsmanship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spice Trade • Unintended Consequences of Technology • Peer Review of Research • Carnivore-Human Conflict 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact of AI • Languages • Chinese Moutai • Saving outer space and other planets
CAT 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wolf → Environmentalists vs Farmer • Philosophy → Change in Work Culture • Indian Ocean-based Geographical Literature • Human Behavior 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Garments, Fashion Industry & Pollution • Netflix Dubbing of titles for Europe → Good or Bad for Europe? • Liberalism is Dying • Facts & Interpretation in History 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Romantic Aesthetics/Philosophy • Cultural Property Law → Exploration of Sites • Nutmeg Curse → Environment Degradation • Rational Thinking
CAT 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ghosts & their mysteries how we can't find their history • Chinese Copy of articles • Two levels of emotional thinking • STOICS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Music • Engineering technology • Octopus • Philosophy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social reorganization increasing crime rate • Software if more easy humans are not capable to get solutions) • Indian history • American migration / urbanization increasing

<p>CAT 2021</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mayan Civilization • Utopia and Dystopia • Marshmallow Experiment • Evolution of Tea as a Drink 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Language/ Indigenous People • Why Fiction Trumps Truth • Colonialism/Nationalism • Knowledge and Problems of Knowledge is a Scandal to Philosophy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nanotechnology • Language Instinct • Time Accuracy Entropy • Unconscious and Psychoanalysis
<p>CAT 2020</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anarchism • Migration of Northern Seals • Currency of Tang Dynasty • Grammar/Vocabulary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investing in Renewable Energy Technologies • Piracy in International Trade • Freudian Models of Aggression • A Study of Visualisation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Travel Writing and Feminism During Colonial Times • The Need for Economic Literacy in the General Population • Screen Time and Undercurrents of Social Class • An Analysis of Human Nature
<p>CAT 2019</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • British Folk Music • Topophilia • Emperor Penguins • Internet Shopping and Choice Anxiety • Origin of Story of Alladin 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dense Cities • Google and Archaeology • Distributing Bureaucracy • Language & Culture • British Colonial Policy 	<p>No exam</p>

CAT 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Genetics• India's View on its Legacy of Second World War• Plastic Pollution• Elephant Society• Consumer Behaviour Studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grover Snails• Meritocracy and Diversified Teams• Use of Technology in Essential Services• Rings of Saturn and Their Age• Human Resource and Learning	No exam
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Check Out: [CAT Verbal Ability \(VA\) questions with answers for practice PDFs](#)

