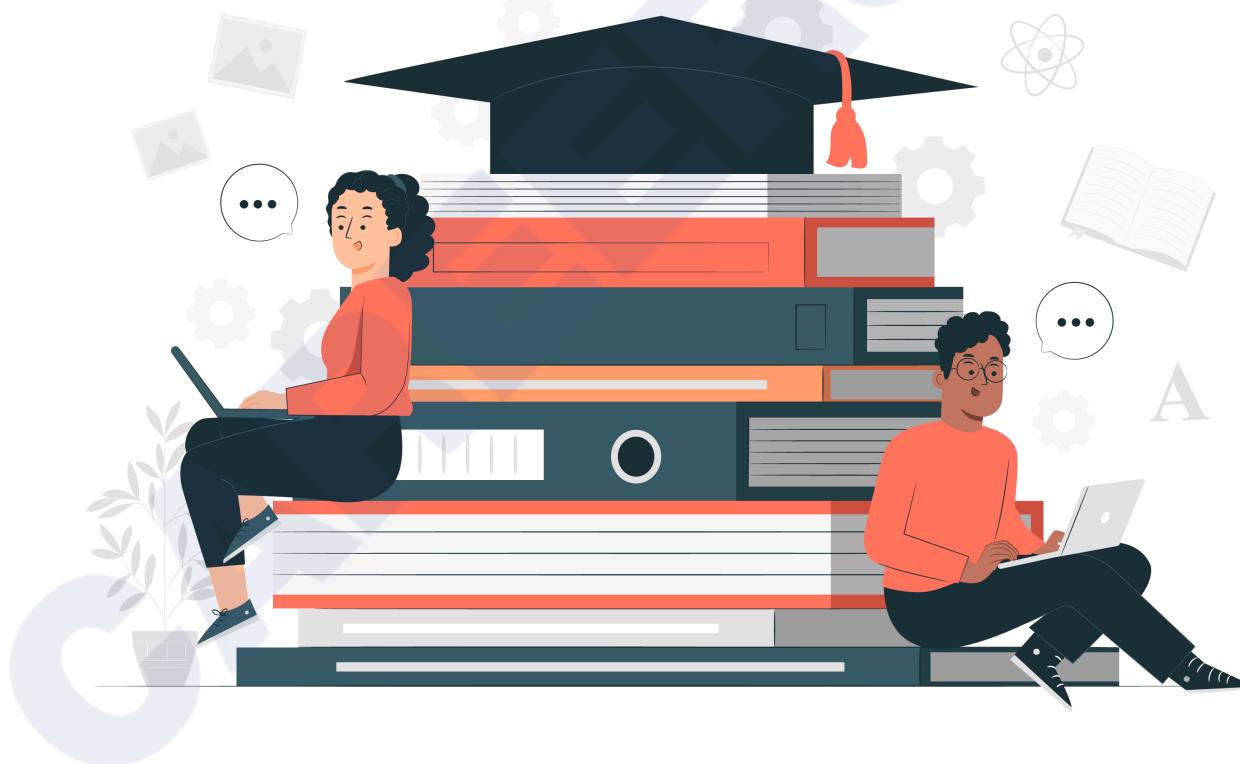# CAT 2024

Exam Syllabus

IIM does not officially release the CAT 2024 syllabus. So to learn about the CAT syllabus for MBA, candidates can go through the previous years' CAT question papers which will give them a glimpse into the types of questions to be asked, question topics, difficulty level, and much more.

The questions asked in the CAT are mainly based on advanced middle school math i.e. class 9 and class 10 and English. CAT 2024 exam date will be probably November 26. Candidates who will be appearing for the CAT 2024 can download the CAT admit card once it is issued by the authorities. The admit card will be available at the CAT 2024 official website- iimcat.ac.in.

CAT Syllabus for MBA

CAT syllabus 2024 includes all CAT important topics of Verbal Ability & Reading Comprehension (VARC), Data Interpretation & Logical Reasoning (DILR), and Quantitative Aptitude (QA).

The CAT syllabus and pattern are very general and broad. The Common Admission Test is a computer-based test (CBT). The CAT exam syllabus for MBA gives us a good idea of how to prepare for CAT 2024. Before beginning the CAT 2024 preparation, candidates must know the CAT syllabus and pattern. This article talks about the section-wise CAT syllabus for MBA exam.

CAT Syllabus 2024 - Overview

Before reviewing the comprehensive CAT syllabus 2024 for MBA, it is important to get an overview of the important topics from each section asked in the previous years' CAT exam. Below is a table that outlines important topics from the CAT syllabus and patterns that the candidates must focus on.

On our Careers360 site, we also provide the CAT syllabus pdf. By visiting the appropriate link, candidates can easily get the CAT syllabus and pattern in pdf format. With the help of the CAT syllabus pdf, students can easily know the topics and sections which will be asked in the CAT exam 2024.

CAT Subjects and Topics for MBA 2024

Sections	Major Topics	Sectional Time Duration
Verbal Ability & Reading Comprehension (VARC) (CAT VARC Syllabus)	- Para-jumbles - Sentence completion - Inferences - Odd one out - Syllogism and Analogies - One-word substitution - Sentence Correction - Questions based on reading comprehension and etc	- For General: 40 Minutes for each section - For PwD: 53 Minutes 20 Seconds for each section
Data Interpretation & Logical Reasoning (DILR) (CAT DILR Syllabus)	- Graphs - Tables - Seating Arrangement - Syllogism - Blood Relation - Data Caselets and etc - Clocks - Calenders	
Quantitative Aptitude (QA) (CAT Quant Syllabus)	- Time and Work - Geometry - Algebra - Mensuration - Number System	

Each section has important topics that are part of the CAT syllabus for MBA 2024. Following the syllabus of last year's CAT, one can determine that the first section includes questions from VARC, followed by DILR, and QA. Topics that are part of the CAT exam syllabus for MBA typically come from class 9 to class 12 study materials.

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CAT Section Wise Topics 2024

The section-wise topics that are part of the CAT syllabus for MBA will help candidates get an idea of how to prepare for the exam and which topic will consume the maximum time. By conducting this exercise, the candidate will be able to clearly distinguish the topic in the CAT syllabus 2024, which will help him/ her identify their strengths, thus helping to determine their CAT 2024 exam strategy.

CAT Syllabus 2024- Verbal Ability and Reading Comprehension (VARC)

The VARC section of the CAT syllabus for MBA consists of all the sub-topics asked questions. The VARC section is the first section of the CAT paper and is to be solved first. Vocabulary testing methods have changed over the years, and now CAT usually asks the vocabulary question through readable comprehension passages so that students also have the opportunity to exclude the meaning of the word from the context.

Apart from this, synonyms and antonyms are frequently asked in other MBA entrance exams, due to which they should be prepared. Similarly, filling in the blanks, grammatical application, facts, assumptions and judgments, and correction in sentences were part of the CAT syllabus 2024 as they were asked in the past, but they are no longer being tested even though they play a significant role in other MBA gateways.

Grammar or English Usage	Synonyms Antonyms (Vocabulary Based)	Fill in the blanks
Meaning/Usage Match	Jumbled Paragraph and Close Passage	Verbal Reasoning
Reading Comprehension	Analogies and Reverse Analogies	Summary Questions
Facts Inferences Judgments	Verbal Logic	One word substitution

CAT Syllabus 2024: Verbal Ability

Over the past 3 to 4 years, the VARC section of the CAT syllabus 2024 has focused mainly on 3 types of questions:

- Jumbled Paragraphs
- Summary Questions
- Odd sentences in Paragraph Jumbles.

The jumbled paragraph questions are from TITA, which means there is no margin for error.

- Together they form a paragraph and the candidates must find the most appropriate order for the sentence group in order to solve these types of questions.

- In these types of questions, 4 to 5 sentences are out of order.

- The first thing every candidate should do is identify the first and last sentence of the paragraph.

- This is usually much easier because the first sentence introduces a topic, while the last sentence makes some sort of judgement or decision.

- Following this, the second sentence should lead to the first one.

Summary questions are usually as follows:

- Small passages with 4 options (around 80-100 words)

- The goal is to find the best summary of the paragraph. Usually, in these types of questions, it is important to find options that do not conflict with the passage in any way.

- Once you have eliminated the other options, the correct answer will appear.

An odd sentence in the paragraph jumps TITA questions for the last 3 to 4 years:
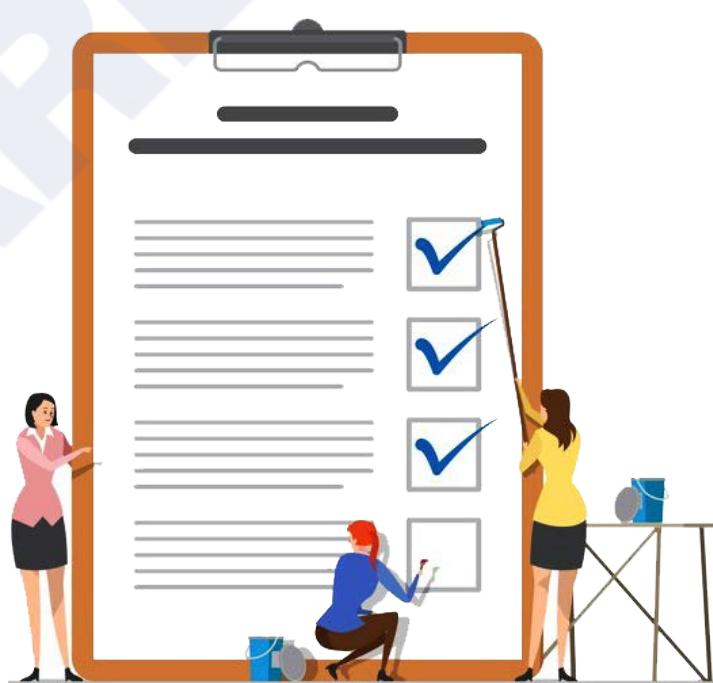
- The purpose of this type of question is to identify the sentence that does not match the theme established in the remaining paragraph.

- These questions can be easy or difficult depending on how they are presented.

- For easy questions, the sentence will talk about something completely different from the theme of the rest of the paragraph.

- On difficult questions, on the other hand, the sentence will be on the same topic as the rest of the paragraph but will differ slightly depending on the concept or theme presented.

- It is also possible for a sentence to introduce a topic within an unrelated theme.\

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Key points related to the CAT exam VARC syllabus

- The total number of questions asked is usually 6 to 8, and a similar weightage is given for this section.

- As part of the CAT exam, in the VARC syllabus section, Non-MCQ questions will be asked.

- Going by past year trends and as per the CAT syllabus for MBA in the VA section usually, questions are asked from para-jumbles, error correction in a para, context sentence in para, and vocabulary.

The number of topics and expected questions in the CAT exam VARC syllabus

Topics	Number of questions expected
Para-Jumbles	2-4
Sentence Completion & Correction	2-3
Odd Sentences	1-2
Others (Fill in the blanks, Vocabulary Based, etc.)	1-2

Reading Comprehension in CAT Syllabus 2024

As per the CAT 2024 syllabus, Reading Comprehension (RC) consists of questions based on the passages in the CAT exam. Questions are generally of three types: Inference-based, Fact-based, and Vocabulary-based. Vocabulary-based questions have already been discussed above.

Fact-based questions, as the name implies, demand answers based on the facts mentioned in the paragraph. They are usually the easiest questions in the section.

Assumption-based questions are a bit tricky because the candidates must reduce the tone and theme of the writer before answering these questions. In CAT 2019 and CAT 2020, these types of questions were very rare.

Key points related to Reading Comprehension for CAT 2024

- The total number of questions asked can be anything between 20-24.
- Since the questions asked in this are multiple choices (MCQs), it will indicate a negative marking.
- In the Reading Comprehension section, there will be at least four long paragraphs and one short paragraph.
- According to the course of the past years, the long comprehension passage will have at least 900 words and the short passage will have about 500-600 words.
- Comprehension passages mainly revolve around topics such as politics, environment, literature, and society.
- As per the CAT syllabus and pattern, a negative marking of -1 mark is applicable for every incorrect answer.

The number of topics and expected questions in CAT Reading Comprehension

Total Number of Passages	Total Number of Questions
3 to 6 Passages	At least 24 questions

CAT Syllabus 2024 - Data Interpretation & Logical Reasoning (DILR)

According to the CAT DILR syllabus, there are two subdivisions which are (i) Data Interpretation and (ii) Logical Reasoning. Candidates must complete this section within 40 minutes (53.20 minutes for PwD), without which they will not be allowed to proceed further.

The CAT exam DILR syllabus was a tricky section for candidates in CAT 2018 and CAT 2019, but the difficulty level was reduced in CAT 2020 and CAT 2021. One reason for this difficulty is the unpredictability of sections based on where the set can be taken. CAT 2024 syllabus for DILR section has been discussed below:

Topics covered under the CAT exam DILR syllabus

Bar Graphs and Column Graphs	Caselets and Tables	Venn Diagrams
Combination of two or more types linked to each other	Line Charts & Pie Chart	Calendars, Cubes, and Clocks
Number and Letter Series	Binary Logic	Seating Arrangement
Connectives	Matching/ Puzzles	Logical Sequence
Blood Relations	Syllogism	Coding-Decoding

CAT exam syllabus for Data Interpretation

From the above-provided syllabus of the CAT exam, the CAT exam DILR syllabus contains cassettes and tables. These cassettes contain data in the form of column charts, bar charts, Venn diagrams, lines, and pie charts. We need to understand this data to solve the questions in the CAT exam 2024.

To solve these questions, the data must be structured very intuitively so that the questions are solved. In some questions, there will be variables that should not be touched on as they may be presented in the questions. The only possible way to prepare for this DI section of the CAT exam 2024 is to solve as many problems as possible.

Key points related to Data Interpretation for CAT 2024

- In the Data Interpretation, there are both multiple-choice questions (MCQs) and non-multiple-choice questions (MCQs).

- MCQ and Non-MCQ are no standard numbers.

- If the MCQ is answered incorrectly, there is a negative marking.

- If the non-MCQ responds incorrectly, there is no negative mark.

CAT Syllabus 2024 for Logical Reasoning

Over the years the CAT syllabus for MBA has included topics for logical reasoning such as arrangements, numbers and sequences, logical sequences, syllogisms, calendars, clocks and cubes, and blood relations. Questions are usually a combination of other topics. As can be seen, the number of topics for rationality is numerous and the combination can lead to very tricky compilations.

This may be one reason why CAT 2018 and CAT 2019 are considered to have difficult DILR sections. Reasoning topics can lead to more complex sets when linked to each other. The main concern in solving LR questions is not to solve them, but to solve them as quickly as possible. In this section, solving a certain number of questions with the utmost accuracy will suffice to get a good percentage in this section.

Key points related to Logical Reasoning for CAT 2024

- The total number of questions asked may be between 15 to 20.

- For each incorrect answer, negative marks will be provided.

- There are both MCQ and Non-MCQs questions for logical reasoning.

- If the candidates answer incorrectly for MCQs, then there is a negative marking.

- No negative mark for Non-MCQs.

The number of topics and expected questions in the CAT DILR Syllabus and Section

Topics	Total Number of Questions
Graph, Bar diagram	6-8
Tables & Charts	5-8
Graphs, Charts	7-10
Tables, Pie chart	4-5

CAT Syllabus 2024 - Quantitative Aptitude (QA)

As part of the CAT 2024 syllabus for Quantitative Aptitude (QA), questions will be asked from arithmetic, mathematics, trigonometry, and algebra. Check out some topics from the syllabus of CAT Quant syllabus.

The wide number of topics in the CAT syllabus 2024 means that it should be further broken down into manageable areas. Subdivisions of the CAT QA syllabus of CAT 2024 include:

Arithmetic	Algebra	Number System	Modern Maths	Geometry
Mixtures & Alligations	Higher Order Equation	LCM & HCF	Permutations	Circles
Averages	Graphs	Base System	Combinations	Quadrilaterals
Percentage	Linear Equations	Factors	Probability	Mensuration
Races	Inequalities	Divisibility	Functions	Trigonometry
Profits and Loss	Logarithms	Digits	Sequences & Series	Triangles
Pipers and Cisterns	Maxima and MInima	Complex Numbers	Progressions	Polygons
Ratio & Proportion	Quadratic Equations	Higher Powers	Set Theory	Coordinate Geometry
Time & Work		Remainder Theorem	Venn Diagram	
Speed, Time & Distance		Trailing Zeroes		
Trains and Boats		Surds and Indices		
Simple & Compound Interest				

Some tips to ace this exam:

- Preparing commercial maths is reasonably easy because the number of questions is small and the formulas to be learned are very straightforward.

- Arithmetic should also be very basic and easy to prepare. Most topics in arithmetic are of class 10 and the only trick is to solve them as quickly as possible.

- There are many rules in geometry and finding the most important geometric rules will allow the candidates to solve these problems as quickly as possible.

- Trigonometry can be used in conjunction with other topics or tested in the CAT 2024 exam.

- Sequence and Series is a topic that is occasionally tested in CAT and other MBA entrance exams. In practice, the questions on this topic can be easily solved.

- Alligations and Mixtures are likely to be similar to the topic Sequence and Series in the sense that it is occasionally tested in CAT. It is fairly easy to solve questions of this type with the correct guidance.

Key points related to the CAT exam QA syllabus

- A total of 22 questions will be asked in the CAT exam QA syllabus.

- There are both MCQ and Non-MCQ questions in this section. 16 MCQs asked and 6 non-MCQs.

- Candidates will lose marks if they respond incorrectly to MCQ. For Non-MCQ, there are no negative markings.

The number of topics and expected questions in the CAT QA Section

Topics	Total Number of Questions
Arithmetic Questions	9-11
Geometry & Mensuration	6-7
Algebra	5-6
Number System	3-4
Others	1-2

Best Books for CAT 2024 Preparation - VARC, DILR, and QA

There are a lot of books available for CAT exam preparation 2024. Also, Careers360 provides links to some CAT exam book 2024 along with CAT Syllabus 2024. By visiting the appropriate link, the candidates can easily get the Common Admission Test syllabus and books. With the help of books and CAT 2021 question papers, and CAT sample papers the students can easily clear the exam and get MBA admission in IIMs. Here is the list of CAT exam books mostly used by CAT toppers.

Name of the Book	Name of the Author
Verbal Ability & Reading Comprehension (VARC)	
The Pearson Guide to Verbal Ability and Logical Reasoning (VARC)	Nishit Sinha
Word Power Made Easy	Norman Lewis
How to Prepare for the VARC for the CAT	Arun Sharma and Meenakshi Upadhyay (Tata McGraw-Hill)
Data Interpretation & Logical Reasoning (DILR)	
Data Interpretation & Data Sufficiency	Ananta Ashisha
How to Prepare for DILR for CAT (Tata McGraw-Hill)	Arun Sharma
Logical Reasoning and Data Interpretation for the CAT	Nishit K. Sinha
Quantitative Aptitude (QA)	
QA for CAT and Other MBA Entrance Exams	Trishna Knowledge Systems (Pearson)
How to Prepare for Data Interpretation for CAT	Arun Sharma
The Complete CAT Digest, by Tata McGraw-Hill	Arun Sharma
Quantitative Aptitude for Competitive Examinations	Abhijit Guha (Tata McGraw-Hill)

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CAT Exam Pattern 2024

Along with the CAT syllabus 2024, candidates also need to be well aware of the CAT exam pattern prior to starting to prepare for CAT 2024. Apart from the CAT syllabus and pattern, it is a must to keep note of the following points.

- CAT exam will be held in online mode

- Each question will carry 3 marks

- A negative marking of -1 mark will be applicable for MCQs

- As per last year's CAT question paper, the number of questions in the CAT 2024 question paper is likely to reduce to 66. The official notice is to be out yet.

Section Name	Number of Questions
Quantitative Ability (QA)	24
Data Interpretation and Logical Reasoning (DILR)	20
Verbal Ability and Reading Comprehension (VARC)	22
Total	**66**