<u>CAT Syllabus 2020</u>

The CAT 2020 Exam Pattern gives us a good idea about how to explore the CAT Exam Syllabus 2020.By conducting this exercise, the candidate will be able to clearly distinguish between the topic in the CAT Exam Syllabus 2020 which can help him/her identify their strengths and hence determine their CAT 2020 Exam Strategy.

VARC CAT Exam Syllabus 2020

The VARC CAT Exam Syllabus is:

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

While it is a common spiel at every Coaching that Vocabulary is not tested in the CAT Exam 2020, it is not necessarily true. The manner of testing Vocabulary has changed over the years and now CAT generally asks for vocabulary question through the Reading Comprehension passages so that students also stand a chance to deduce the meaning of the word from context. Apart from this, the synonyms and antonyms are regularly asked in other MBA Entrances Exams due to which they have to be prepared for as well.

Similarly, Fill in the Blanks, Grammar Usage, Facts, Inferences and Judgments and Correction in Sentence are loosely part of the CAT syllabus as they have been asked in the past but are no longer tested although they do play a significant role in other MBA entrance Exams.

Verbal Ability CAT Exam Syllabus 2020

The Verbal Ability section over the past 3-4 years has focused majorly on 3 types of questions:

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

The Summary questions usually consist of:

- Small passage (80-100 words) with 4 options
- Objective is to find the best summary for the passage
- In these types of questions usually, the key is to find the options which does not contradict the passage in any manner
- Once you are able to eliminate the other options, the right answer would emerge.

The Jumbled Paragraph questions are usually TITA which means that there is no margin for error.

- In these types of questions, there are 4-5 sentences given out of order
- Together they form a paragraph and the aspirant has to find the order which best suits the group of sentences. In order to solve these types of questions
    - o The first thing that each aspirant needs to do is identify the first and last sentence of the paragraph.
    - o This is usually quite easy since the first sentence introduces a topic while the last sentence makes some kind of a judgment or conclusion.
    - o Following this, the first sentence should lead to the second sentence and so and so forth.

The Odd Sentence in Paragraph Jumbles is also a TITA questions for the past 3-4 years:

- The objective for this type of question is to identify the sentence which does not match with the theme established in the rest of the paragraph.
- These questions may be easy or difficult depending on how it is presented.
- For easy questions, the sentence will talk about something completely different from the theme of the rest of the passage.
- On the other hand, in difficult questions, the sentence will be on the same topic as the rest of the passage but will differ slightly in terms of the opinion being offered or the theme being set.

- It is also possible for the sentence to introduce a topic within the theme which is not pursued further.

Overall, they can be quite tricky to deal with.

Reading Comprehension CAT Exam Syllabus 2020

The Reading Comprehension consists of questions based on passages in the exam. The questions are generally of three types: Fact-based, Inference-based and Vocabulary-based. The Vocabulary based questions have already been discussed above.

The fact-based questions, as the name suggests, demand answers on the basis of facts mentioned in the passage. They are usually the easiest questions in the section.

The Inference-based questions are slightly trickier since the aspirant has to deduce the tone and theme of the author before answering these questions. In CAT 2018 and CAT 2019, these types of questions have been fairly limited.

DILR CAT Exam Syllabus 2020

DILR was the trickiest section for aspirant in CAT 2016 and CAT 2017 but the difficulty level was reduced in CAT 2018 and CAT 2019. One of the reasons for this difficulty is the unpredictability of the sections in terms of where the sets could be taken from. The CAT syllabus for the DILR section for CAT 2020 is:

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

Data Interpretation CAT Exam Syllabus 2020

From the above syllabus mentioned, the DI CAT Syllabus consists of caselets and tables. These caselets have data in the form of bar graphs, column graphs, venn diagrams, lines and pie charts.

This data has to be interpreted in order to solve the questions in the CAT exam 2020. In order to solve these questions, the data has to be structured in the most intuitive manner so that the questions can be solved. In certain questions, there will be variables that have to be left untouched since they may be provided in the questions. The only way to prepare for this section in the CAT exam is to solve as many problems as possible.

Logical Reasoning CAT Exam Syllabus 2020

The topics for Logical Reasoning in the CAT syllabus across the years consists of numbers and sequences, arrangements, syllogisms, logical sequences, blood relations, calendars, cubes and clocks. The questions are usually arrangements with a combination of the other topics. As can be seen, the number of topics for reasoning is quite numerous and the combination can lead to very tricky sets. This can one of the reasons that CAT 2015 and CAT 2016 were considered to have difficult DILR sections. The reasoning topics can lead to very complicated sets when combined with each other.

The major concern with solving LR questions is not to solving them but solving them as expeditiously as possible.

Conclusion

In this section, solving a limited number of questions with great accuracy would be enough to get a good percentile in this section.

Quantitative Ability CAT Exam Syllabus 2020

The QA syllabus is quite vast and has been compiled according to CL's experts:

- Number Systems
- LCM & HCF
- Profit, Loss & Discount
- Percentages
- Speed, Time & Distance
- Time & Work
- Simple & Compound Interest
- Ratio & Proportion
- Averages
- Quadratic & Linear Equations

- Complex Numbers
- Logarithm
- Binomial Theorem
- Sequences & Series
- Surds & Indices
- Inequalities
- Probability, Permutation and Combination
- Set Theory
- Functions & Geometry
- Mixtures & Allegations
- Trigonometry
- Coordinate Geometry & Mensuration

The vast number of topics in the CAT syllabus means that it needs to be broken up into more manageable chunks. The sub-sections in the QA CAT syllabus include:

- Commercial Math
- Arithmetic
- Geometry
- Algebra
- Trigonometry
- Sequences and Series
- Alligations and Mixtures

Commercial Mathematics is reasonably easy to prepare for since the number of questions is limited and the formulae to be learnt are fairly straightforward.

Arithmetic is also fairly basic and should be easy to prepare for. Most of the topics in Arithmetic are of Class X level and the only trick is to solve them as fast as possible.

Geometry has several rules and finding the most important Geometry rules would allow the aspirant to solve these problems as fast as possible.

Algebra and Trigonometry may be used in conjunction with other topics or may be tested in the CAT 2020 Exam. Sequence and Series is a topic which is occasionally tested in CAT and regularly in other MBA Entrance Exams. With practice, the questions in this topic can be easily solved.

Alligations and Mixtures are similar to Sequence and Series in the sense that it is occasionally tested in CAT. It is fairly easy to solve problems of this type with the right guidance.

Conclusion

There is no CAT syllabus which is explicitly mentioned in the CAT Official Website due to which CAT does occasionally pull a surprise on the candidates. However, every question in the CAT Exam is solvable since it tests the candidates on knowledge of the basics. Therefore, every candidate should ensure that they are thorough in terms of their preparation of the basics. If the aspirant prepares according to the CAT syllabus, the room for unpleasant surprises is greatly reduced.