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# 新GRE® General Test

## 官方指南及全真试题

美国教育考试中心 (ETS) 著



科学出版社

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美国教育考试中心 (ETS) 著

科学出版社

北京

## 图字:01-2003-8982号

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### 图书在版编目(CIP)数据

新 GRE 官方指南及全真试题/美国教育考试中心(ETS)  
著. —影印本. —北京:科学出版社, 2004  
ISBN 7-03-012660-2

I. 新... II. 美... III. 英语-研究生-入学考试  
-美国-自学参考资料 IV. H310.41

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2003)第 121621 号

策划:向安全 胡升华 / 监制:柯 霖 邹晓东  
责任编辑:侯俊琳 / 责任印制:赵德静 / 封面设计:张 放

科学出版社 出版

北京东黄城根北街16号

邮政编码:100717

<http://www.sciencep.com>

中国科学院印刷厂印刷

科学出版社发行 各地新华书店经销

\*

2004年1月第 一 版 开本:787×1092 1/16

2004年1月第三次印刷 印张:27 3/4

印数:12 501—20 000 字数:800 000

定价:66.00 元

(如有印装质量问题,我社负责调换〈科印〉)

## Preface

Educational Testing Service (ETS) is pleased to participate in a joint effort with Tide Time to sub-license Science Press to publish *Practicing to Take the GRE General Test 10<sup>th</sup>, Edition* in China. This publication is designed to help students prepare for the Graduate Record Examinations® (GRE®) General Test.

For more than 50 years, ETS has been devoted to advancing quality and equity in education. As the world's largest private, nonprofit educational testing and measurement organization, ETS administers 12 million tests worldwide each year. ETS is at the forefront in expanding access to education for all people, serving the needs of individuals, educational institutions, businesses, and governmental agencies in more than 190 countries.

We are committed to assisting Chinese students in their pursuit of higher education. The GRE General Test, developed and administered by ETS, plays an important role in the graduate school admissions process by contributing meaningful information that can help assess the qualifications of applicants. It measures verbal reasoning, quantitative reasoning, and analytical writing skills, acquired over a long period of time, that are not related to any specific field of study.

This edition of *Practicing to Take the GRE General Test* helps Chinese students become familiar with the structure of the test, questions types, and directions. It also provides tools and strategies for approaching the test with confidence. We hope you find this publication helpful and easy-to-use.

ETS looks forward to continuing its support of higher education in China.

**Paul A. Ramsey**

**Senior Vice President, International Division, Educational Testing Service**

## 序

今天,在我们的共同努力下,由 ETS 授权的 GRE 考试辅导用书——《新 GRE 官方指南及全真试题》第一次在中国大陆出版发行了。我们衷心地希望读者喜欢这本书,发现它确实有助于您的学习、备考。

GRE(the Graduate Record Examinations)始于 1937 年,它是 Carnegie Foundation 为推进英语教育事业而创建的项目,由美国教育考试中心(Educational Testing Service, 简称 ETS)命题和推广。

ETS 是目前世界上最大的私营非盈利性教育考试评估机构,也是教育考试研究领域的领导者。该组织致力于为近 200 个国家的个人、教育机构和政府部门提供服务,每年管理着 1200 多万人次的考试,包括我们所熟悉的 TOEFL、GRE、GMAT 考试等。其中 TOEFL 和 GRE 考试在中国落户已长达十几年的时间,但是由于种种原因,与上述各考试相对应的原版教材和备考辅导材料却迟迟没有在中国市场上出现。

泰德教育集团本着“服务于中国英语学习者”的宗旨,经过不懈的努力,于 2003 年 4 月与 ETS 签署了合作协议,得到了 TOEFL 原版备考材料在中国地区的独家授权,并于 2003 年 9 月正式出版发行了《托福全真试题集》,填补了我国无原版 TOEFL 教材的空白状况。

现在,我们又与 ETS 签署了 GRE 原版备考教材在中国的独家授权协议,并转授权给科学出版社出版这本《新 GRE 官方指南及全真试题》。本书的主要内容是 GRE 考试介绍、考试策略和真题解析等,其中包含 7 套 GRE 考试真题和两套作文真题。希望它能让广大英语爱好者和 GRE 考试的准备者在熟悉 GRE 考试的同时进一步提高英语能力。

今后,泰德教育集团还将与美国教育考试中心继续合作,不断推出 TOEFL 和 GRE 的更多备考资料,为广大中国考生及英语学习者提供更多帮助。

柯霖  
泰德教育集团总经理

## **Educational Testing Service**

Is pleased to certify that

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publication.

#### **EDUCATIONAL TESTING SERVICE**

By: Sheree Johnson-Gregory  
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## IMPORTANT

ETS sends free test preparation material to each individual who registers for the GRE General Test. A CD-ROM containing *GRE POWERPREP Software – Test Preparation for the GRE General Test* is sent to individuals who register for the computer-based GRE General Test. The *GRE Practice General Test* book is sent to individuals who register for the paper-based GRE General Test. A free downloadable version of each is also available to anyone who visits the GRE Web site at [www.gre.org/pracmats.html](http://www.gre.org/pracmats.html).

This publication contains the same information about how to prepare for the General Test, test-taking strategies, question strategies, etc., that is included in the free test preparation materials mentioned above. It also provides you with additional practice. It contains the verbal and quantitative sections from seven full-length paper-based GRE General Test editions, including two sections of each that are complete with explanations. It also contains two sample analytical writing topics and two analytical writing sections complete with scored sample essays at selected score points.

The verbal and quantitative sections in the GRE General Tests in this book contain questions written and administered prior to 1995. For this reason, some of the material covered in the questions may be dated. For example, a question may refer to a rapidly changing technology in a way that was correct in the 1980s and early 1990s, but not now. In addition, ETS has revised and updated its standards and guidelines for test questions so some questions may not meet current standards. Questions that do not meet current ETS standards, and would not appear in GRE tests administered today, are marked with an asterisk.

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## Purpose of the GRE General Test

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The GRE General Test is designed to help graduate school admission committees and fellowship sponsors assess the qualifications of applicants to their programs. It measures verbal, quantitative, and analytical writing skills that you have acquired over a long period of time.

Any accredited graduate or professional school, or any department or division within a school, may require or recommend that its applicants take the GRE General Test. The scores can be used by admissions or fellowship panels to supplement undergraduate records and other qualifications for graduate study. The scores provide common measures for comparing the qualifications of applicants and aid in the evaluation of grades and recommendations.

## Structure of the General Test

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### Computer-Based General Test

The computer-based General Test contains four sections, one of which is an unidentified pretest section that can appear in any position in the test after the analytical writing section. Questions in the pretest section are being pretested for possible use in future tests and answers will not count toward your score. An identified research section that is not scored may also be included and this section would always appear at the end of the test. Questions in the research section are included for the purpose of ETS research and answers will not count toward your score.

Total testing time is up to 3 1/4 hours, not including the research section. The directions at the beginning of each section specify the total number of questions in the section and the time allowed for the section. The analytical writing section will always be first. For the Issue task, two essay topics will be presented and you will choose one. The Argument task does not present a choice of topics; instead, one topic will be presented. The verbal and quantitative sections may appear in any order, including an unidentified verbal or quantitative pretest section. Treat each section presented during your test as if it counts.

### Typical Computer-Based General Test

Section	Number of Questions	Time
Analytical Writing	1 Issue task*	45 min.
	1 Argument task*	30 min.
Verbal	30	30 min.
Quantitative	28	45 min.
Pretest**	Varies	Varies
Research***	Varies	Varies

\* For the Issue task, two essay topics will be presented and you will choose one. The Argument task does not present a choice of topics; instead, one topic will be presented.

\*\* An unidentified verbal or quantitative pretest section may be included and may appear in any order. It is not counted as part of your score.

\*\*\* An identified research section that is not scored may be included and it will always be at the end of the test.

### Paper-Based General Test

In certain areas of the world, where computer-based testing is not available, the General Test is offered at paper-based administrations. The paper-based GRE General Test contains five sections. In addition, one unidentified

pretest section may be included and this section can appear in any position in the test after the analytical writing section. Questions in the pretest section are being tested for possible use in future tests and answers will not count toward your score.

Total testing time is up to 3 3/4 hours. The directions at the beginning of each section specify the total number of questions in the section and the time allowed for the section. The analytical writing section will always be first. For the Issue task, two topics will be presented and you will choose one. The Argument task does not present a choice of topics; instead, one topic will be presented. The verbal and quantitative sections may appear in any order, including an unidentified verbal or quantitative pretest section. Treat each section presented during your test as if it counts.

### Typical Paper-Based General Test

Section	Number of Questions	Time
Analytical Writing	1 Issue task*	45 min.
	1 Argument task*	30 min.
Verbal (2 sections)	38 per section	30 min. per section
Quantitative (2 sections)	30 per section	30 min. per section
Pretest**	Varies	30 min.

\* For the Issue task, two essay topics will be presented and you will choose one. The Argument task does not present a choice of topics; instead, one topic will be presented.

\*\* An unidentified verbal or quantitative pretest section may be included and may appear in any order after the analytical writing section. It is not counted as part of your score.

## Scores Reported

Three scores are reported on the General Test:

1. a verbal score reported on a 200-800 score scale, in 10-point increments,
2. a quantitative score reported on a 200-800 score scale, in 10-point increments, and
3. an analytical writing score reported on a 0-6 score scale, in half-point increments.

If you answer no questions at all in a section (verbal, quantitative, or analytical writing), that section will be reported as a No Score (NS).

Descriptions of the analytical writing abilities characteristic of particular score levels are available in this publication on page 400, in the interpretive leaflet enclosed with your score report, in the *Guide to the Use of GRE Scores*, and on the GRE Web site at [www.gre.org](http://www.gre.org).

If you take the computer-based General Test, you will receive your unofficial verbal and quantitative scores at the test center; however, because of the essay scoring process, you will not receive your analytical writing score at that time. Official verbal, quantitative, and analytical writing scores will be sent to you and score recipients within 10 to 15 days after you take the test. However, the score reporting timeframe for test takers who choose to handwrite essay responses is up to six weeks.

If you take the paper-based General Test, scores will be sent to you and score recipients within six weeks after you take the test.

Beginning in July 2003, essay responses on the analytical writing section of the General Test will be sent to designated score recipients. If you test on or after July 1, 2003, your essay responses from your current and previous General Test administrations will be sent as part of your cumulative score record.

# Preparing for the GRE General Test

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Preparation for the test will depend upon the amount of time you have available and your personal preferences for how to prepare. At a minimum, before you take the GRE General Test, you should know what to expect from the test, including the administrative procedures, types of questions and directions, the approximate number of questions, and the amount of time for each section.

The administrative procedures include registration and appointment scheduling, date, time, test center location, cost, score-reporting procedures, and availability of special testing arrangements. You can find out about the administrative procedures for the computer-based General Test in the *GRE Information and Registration Bulletin*. You can find out about the administrative procedures for the paper-based General Test in the *Supplement to the Bulletin*. Information is also available online at [www.gre.org](http://www.gre.org), or by calling Educational Testing Service (see the *GRE Information and Registration Bulletin* for telephone information).

Before taking the GRE General Test, it is important to become familiar with the content of each of the sections of the test. You can become familiar with the verbal and quantitative sections by reading about the skills the sections measure, how the sections are scored, reviewing the strategies for each of the question types, and reviewing the sample questions with explanations. Determine which strategies work best for you. Remember — you can do very well on the test without answering every question in each section correctly.

Everyone — even the most practiced and confident of writers — should spend some time preparing for the analytical writing section before arriving at the test center. It is important to review the skills measured, how the section is scored, scoring guides and score level descriptions, sample topics, scored sample essay responses, and reader commentary.

To help you prepare for the analytical writing section of the GRE General Test, the GRE Program has published the entire pool of topics from which your test topics will be selected. You might find it helpful to review the entire Issue and Argument pools and to discuss some of the topics with a friend or teacher. You can view the published pools on the GRE Web site at [www.gre.org/pracmats.html](http://www.gre.org/pracmats.html) or you can obtain a copy by writing to GRE Program, PO Box 6000, Princeton, NJ 08541-6000.

The topics in the analytical writing section relate to a broad range of subjects — from the fine arts and humanities to the social and physical sciences — but no topic requires specific content knowledge. In fact, each topic has been field-tested to ensure that it possesses several important characteristics, including the following:

- GRE test takers, regardless of their field of study or special interests, understood the topic and could easily discuss it.
- The topic elicited the kinds of complex thinking and persuasive writing that university faculty consider important for success in graduate school.
- The responses were varied in content and in the way the writers developed their ideas.

## Test-Taking Strategies for the Computer-Based GRE General Test

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**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Test-taking strategies appropriate for the verbal and quantitative sections of the computer-based GRE General Test are different from those that are appropriate for the verbal and quantitative sections of the paper-based GRE General Test. Be sure to follow the appropriate strategies for the testing format in which you will be testing. Computer-based testing strategies should not be used if you take the paper-based test.

## Tutorials

The computer tutorial is included in the *GRE POWERPREP* software that will be sent to you when you register for the computer-based General Test. The tutorial teaches you how to use the features of the computer system to your advantage. You will find the system very easy to use, even if you have no prior computer experience. The ability to type is not necessary to the computer-based General Test. The tutorial shows you how to use a mouse to click on the appropriate area of your screen.

When you arrive at the test center on the test day, you will have the opportunity to complete an untimed computer tutorial before the actual test begins. Take all the time you need with the tutorial *before* you begin the test — even if you feel quite comfortable using computers; there might be differences between the testing software and software you normally use. You may return to any part of the tutorial, even after you begin work on the test sections, by clicking on the “Help” box at the bottom of your screen. However, any time you spend on the tutorial *after* you begin a test section will reduce the amount of time available for work on that section.

Some questions, graphs, or passages are too large to appear completely on the computer screen. In that case a “scroll bar” appears to the right of the material and the word “Beginning” appears on the information line at the top of the screen. These are your cues to scroll for more information. During the tutorial, make sure you learn how to scroll both slowly (line by line) and quickly (page by page) so that you can move to areas of text at the speed you desire.

If you choose to type your responses in the analytical writing section, pay attention to the tutorials for that section. It describes the question area, the typing box, and word processing tools.

## Verbal and Quantitative Sections

In the computer-based GRE General Test, the verbal and quantitative sections are adaptive. At the start of each section, you will be presented with a test question of medium difficulty. If you answer that question correctly, the next question typically will be one of greater difficulty. If you answer the first question incorrectly, the next question typically will be one of lesser difficulty. As you answer each question, the computer scores the question and uses that information, as well as your responses to any preceding questions and information about the test design, to determine which question will be presented next. The computer does not always select a harder question when you answer a question correctly or an easier question when you answer incorrectly. This is because the test design includes several factors in addition to the difficulty level of the questions. The computer-adaptive sections are designed so that the questions you see are influenced by three factors:

- the difficulty level of the questions already answered (correctly and incorrectly)
- the required variety of question types
- the coverage of specific content

After answering any question, your next question will be the one that best reflects both your previous performance and the requirements of the test design. This means that different test takers will be given different questions.

Answering a question is a three-step process. First click on the oval next to your answer choice or click on any part of the text of that answer choice. Finish answering the question by clicking on “Next” and, then, “Answer Confirm.” You can change your answer by clicking on a different answer choice any time before clicking on “Answer Confirm.”

Because each question the computer selects for you is determined by your answers to previous questions, you cannot move on to the next question before you answer the question that appears on your screen. If you do not know the answer to a question, the only way to continue your test is to eliminate as many answer choices as possible and then select the answer you think is best. Remember — do not spend too much time on any one question.

Also, once you answer a question and confirm your response, you cannot return to that question and change your answer. The computer has already scored that answer and used it as a factor in selecting succeeding questions.

Budget enough time for each question so you can complete the test without having to rush at the end of each section. Some question types, such as reading comprehension, may take more time than others. The practice tests in the *GRE POWERPREP* software should help you determine the average amount of time you may want to spend per question as well as how much time to spend on each type of question.

Use your time wisely; don't rush. Remind yourself that answering one question correctly is better than hurrying to answer three questions and answering them incorrectly.

Read each question carefully to determine exactly what is being asked. Eliminate the wrong answers and select the best choice. Don't spend too much time on any one question. The last thing you want to do is waste valuable time on any one question. If, after you've given a question a reasonable amount of thought, you don't know the answer, eliminate as many answer choices as possible and then select and confirm the answer you think is best.

If you are running out of time at the end of a section, make every effort to complete the test. Data indicate that most test takers get higher scores if they finish the test. In fact, based on analyses of test takers, a majority will score higher if they finish the test than if they do not attempt to answer all of the questions. There is a chance that guessing at the end of the test can seriously lower your score. The best strategy is to pace yourself so you have time to consider each test question, and won't have to guess.

## **Analytical Writing Section**

On the computer-based GRE General Test the two issue topics from which you will choose to write your response will appear on the computer screen. You will be given the option to type or handwrite your essay responses. In deciding whether to type or handwrite your responses, be aware that it may take significantly longer (up to six weeks) to report scores for handwritten responses. In the testing session, once you have confirmed your choice of whether to handwrite or type, you cannot change your response mode and you will utilize that mode for both the Issue and the Argument tasks.

It is important to budget your time. Within the 45-minute time limit for the Issue task, you will need to allow sufficient time to choose one of the two topics, think about the issue you've chosen, plan a response, and compose your essay. Within the 30-minute time limit for the Argument task, you will need to allow sufficient time to analyze the argument, plan a critique, and compose your response. Although GRE readers understand the time constraints under which you write and will consider your response a "first draft," you still want it to be the best possible example of your writing that you can produce under the testing circumstances.

Save a few minutes at the end of each timed section to check for obvious errors. Although an occasional typographical, spelling, or grammatical error will not affect your score, severe and persistent errors will detract from the overall effectiveness of your writing and thus lower your score.

Following the analytical writing section, an on-screen message will inform you of the opportunity to take a 10-minute break. There is a one-minute break between the other test sections. You might want to replenish your supply of scratch paper during each scheduled break. Section timing will not stop if you take an unscheduled break, so you should proceed with your test without interruption once it begins.

## **Test-Taking Strategies for the Paper-Based GRE General Test**

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### **Verbal and Quantitative Sections**

When taking a verbal or quantitative section of the paper-based GRE General Test, you are free, within any section, to skip questions that you might have difficulty answering and to come back to them later during the time provided to work on that section. You may also change the answer to any question you recorded on the answer sheet by erasing it completely and filling in the oval corresponding to your desired answer for that question.

Each of your scores will be determined by the number of questions for which you select the best answer from the choices given. Questions for which you mark no answer or more than one answer are not counted in scoring. Nothing is subtracted from a score if you answer a question incorrectly. Therefore, to maximize your scores on the verbal and quantitative sections of the paper-based test, it is better for you to answer each and every question and not to leave any questions unanswered.

Work as rapidly as you can without being careless. This includes checking frequently to make sure you are marking your answers in the appropriate rows on your answer sheet. Since no question carries greater weight than any other, do not waste time pondering individual questions you find extremely difficult or unfamiliar.

You may want to work through a verbal or quantitative section of the GRE General Test quite rapidly, first answering only the questions about which you feel confident, then going back and answering questions that require more thought, and concluding with the most difficult.

During the actual administration of the GRE General Test, you may work only on the section the test center supervisor designates and only for the time allowed. You may not go back to an earlier section of the test after the supervisor announces, "Please stop work" for that section. The supervisor is authorized to dismiss you from the center for doing so. All answers must be recorded on your answer sheet. Answers recorded in your test booklet will not be counted. Given the time constraints, you should avoid waiting until the last five minutes of a test administration to record answers on your answer sheet.

Some questions on the GRE General Test have only four response options (A through D). All GRE answer sheets for the paper-based test contain response positions for five responses (A through E). Therefore, if an E response is marked for a four-option question, it will be ignored. An E response for a four-option question is treated the same as no response (omitted).

### **Analytical Writing Section**

In the paper-based GRE General Test, the topics in the analytical writing section will be presented in the test book and you will handwrite your essay responses on the answer sheets provided. Make sure you use the correct answer sheet for each task.

It is important to budget your time. Within the 45-minute time limit for the Issue task, you will need to allow sufficient time to choose one of the two topics, think about the issue you've chosen, plan a response, and compose your essay. Within the 30-minute time limit for the Argument task, you will need to allow sufficient time to

analyze the argument, plan a critique, and compose your response. Although GRE readers understand the time constraints under which you write and will consider your response a "first draft," you still want it to be the best possible example of your writing that you can produce under the testing circumstances.

Save a few minutes at the end of each timed task to check for obvious errors. Although an occasional spelling or grammatical error will not affect your score, severe and persistent errors will detract from the overall effectiveness of your writing and thus lower your score.

During the actual administration of the GRE General Test, you may work only on the particular writing task the test center supervisor designates and only for the time allowed. You may not go back to an earlier section of the test after the supervisor announces, "Please stop work" for that task. The supervisor is authorized to dismiss you from the center for doing so.

Following the analytical writing section, you will have the opportunity to take a 10-minute break. There is a one-minute break between the other test sections.

## **Review of the Verbal Section**

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### **Overview**

The verbal section measures your ability to analyze and evaluate written material and synthesize information obtained from it, to analyze relationships among component parts of sentences, to recognize relationships between words and concepts, and to reason with words in solving problems. There is a balance of passages across different subject matter areas: humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences.

The verbal section contains the following question types:

- Antonyms
- Analogies
- Sentence Completions
- Reading Comprehension Questions

### **How the Verbal Section is Scored**

#### **Computer-Based General Test**

On the computer-based General Test your score on the verbal section will depend on your performance on the questions presented and on the number of questions you answer in the time allotted. Because this section is computer adaptive, the questions are selected to reflect your performance on preceding questions and the requirements of the test design. Test design factors that influence which questions are presented include (1) the statistical characteristics (including difficulty level) of the questions already answered, (2) the required variety of question types, and (3) the appropriate coverage of content. Additional scoring information is provided in the *GRE POWERPREP* software and in the interpretive leaflet enclosed with your score report.

#### **Paper-Based General Test**

On the paper-based test scoring of the verbal section is essentially a two-step process. First, a raw score is computed. The raw score is the number of questions for which the best answer choice was given. The raw score is then converted to a scaled score through a process known as equating. The equating process accounts for differences in difficulty among the different test editions; thus, a given scaled score reflects approximately the same level of ability regardless of the edition of the test that was taken.



## ANTONYMS

Antonyms measure your

- vocabulary
- ability to reason from a given concept to its opposite

### Strategies for Answering

- Remember that antonyms are generally confined to nouns, verbs, and adjectives.
- Look for the word that is most nearly opposite to the given word.
- Try to define words precisely.
- Make up a sentence using the given word to help establish its meaning.
- Look for possible second meanings before choosing an answer.
- Use your knowledge of prefixes and suffixes to help define words you don't know.

**Directions:** Each question below consists of a word printed in capital letters followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly *opposite* in meaning to the word in capital letters. Since some of the questions require you to distinguish fine shades of meaning, be sure to consider all the choices before deciding which one is best.

1. **DIFFUSE:** (A) concentrate (B) contend  
(C) imply (D) pretend (E) rebel

2. **MULTIFARIOUS:**  
(A) deprived of freedom  
(B) deprived of comfort  
(C) lacking space  
(D) lacking stability  
(E) lacking diversity

### Answer to Question 1

The best answer is (A). *Diffuse* means to permit or cause to spread out; only (A) presents an idea that is in any way opposite to *diffuse*.

### Answer to Question 2

*Multifarious* means having or occurring in great variety, so the best answer is (E). Even if you are not entirely familiar with the meaning of *multifarious*, it is possible

to use the clue provided by “multi-” to help find the right answer to this question.

## ANALOGIES

Analogies measure your ability to recognize

- relationships among words and concepts they represent
- parallel relationships

### Strategies for Answering

- Establish a relationship between the given pair before reading the answer choices.
- Consider relationships of kind, size, spatial contiguity, or degree.
- Read all of the options. If more than one seems correct, try to state the relationship more precisely.
- Check to see that you haven't overlooked a possible second meaning for one of the words.
- *Never* decide on the best answer without reading *all* of the answer choices.

**Directions:** In each of the following questions, a related pair of words or phrases is followed by five lettered pairs of words or phrases. Select the lettered pair that best expresses a relationship similar to that expressed in the original pair.

3. **COLOR : SPECTRUM ::** (A) tone : scale  
(B) sound : waves (C) verse : poem  
(D) dimension : space (E) cell : organism

4. **HEADLONG : FORETHOUGHT ::**  
(A) barefaced : shame  
(B) mealymouthed : talent  
(C) heartbroken : emotion  
(D) levelheaded : resolve  
(E) singlehanded : ambition

### Answer to Question 3

The relationship between *color* and *spectrum* is not merely that of part to whole, in which case (E) or even (C) might be defended as correct. A *spectrum* is made up of a progressive, graduated series of *colors*, as a *scale* is of a progressive, graduated sequence of *tones*. Thus, (A) is the correct answer choice. In this instance, the best answer must be selected from a group of fairly close choices.