

Conquering the New

GRE 语文 与写作 Verbal and Writing

- 2 practice GRE verbal tests with explanations
- Tips for writing outstanding GRE essays
- Test-smart strategies for answering every question type

【美】Kathy A. Zahler Judy Unrein 编著

按照新GRE考试要求编写，洞悉新GRE考试出题思路
方法与内容的完美结合，考生备考新GRE的必备参考用书
全面系统地梳理、归纳并精析考点，分题型全面破解

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GRE

语文
与写作

Verbal and Writing

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图书在版编目(CIP)数据

GRE 语文与写作 / (美) 扎勒, (美) 安林编著; 孙晓明, 贾爱光译. —
北京: 群言出版社, 2011. 12
ISBN 978-7-80256-287-5

I. ①G… II. ①扎… ②安… ③孙… ④贾… III. ①GRE—自学参考
资料 IV. ①H310.41

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2011)第 247416 号

版权登记: 图字 01—2011—7857 号

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This authorized Bilingual edition is jointly published by McGraw-Hill Education (Asia) and Qunyan Publishing House. This edition is authorized for sale in the People's Republic of China only, excluding Hong Kong, Macao SAR and Taiwan.

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GRE 语文与写作

McGraw-Hill's Conquering the New GRE Verbal and Writing

出版人 范芳
责任编辑 孙春红
封面设计 大愚设计+黄蕊
出版发行 群言出版社(Qunyan Press)
地 址 北京东城区东厂胡同北巷1号
邮政编码 100006
网 站 www.qypublish.com
读者信箱 bj62605588@163.com
总 编 办 010-65265404 65138815
编 辑 部 010-65276609 65262436
发 行 部 010-62605588 62605019

经 销 新华书店
读者服务 010-65220236 65265404 65263345
法律顾问 中济律师事务所
印 刷 北京鑫海达印刷有限公司

版 次 2012年1月第1版 2012年1月第1次印刷
开 本 880mm×1230mm 1/16
印 张 14.75
字 数 200千
书 号 ISBN 978-7-80256-287-5
定 价 45.00元

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如有缺页、倒页、脱页等印装质量问题, 请拨打服务热线: 010-62605166。

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PART I

GETTING STARTED

CHAPTER 1 THE GRE ANALYTICAL WRITING AND
VERBAL REASONING SECTIONS

CHAPTER 2 SCORING ANALYTICAL WRITING AND
VERBAL REASONING

CHAPTER 3 GRE ACTION PLANS

CHAPTER 1

THE GRE ANALYTICAL WRITING AND VERBAL REASONING SECTIONS

CHAPTER GOALS

- Learn about the two Analytical Writing essay-writing tasks.
- Learn about the GRE Verbal Reasoning question types.
- Study examples of essay-writing prompts and Verbal question types.

GRE普通考试并不是测试某一个具体的领域，而是测试考生的阅读、数学以及推理技能。言语技能——写作、阅读以及解释文字材料——在测试中占了最大的比重。考生需要阅读给定的材料，回答与其相关的一系列问题，还需要分析和完成句子，将自己已有的词汇知识运用到上下文当中，并且还要能够进行分析性写作。换句话说，无论考生们涉猎的是哪个学科领域，都需要运用每天用到的批判性思维技巧。

GRE FORMAT

The GRE revised General Test administered starting in August 2011 is available in two formats: a computer-based test and a paper-based test. The computer-based test is offered in the United States, Canada, and many other countries. The paper-based test is offered in areas of the world where computer-based testing is not available.

Whether computer-based or paper-based, the GRE includes these sections:

- **Analytical Writing:** This section includes two essay-writing tasks called “Analyze an Issue” and “Analyze an Argument”.
- **Verbal Reasoning:** There are two scored Verbal Reasoning sections, each of which includes these question types: Sentence Equivalence,

Text Completion, and Reading Comprehension. Part III of this book deals with each kind of Verbal Reasoning question in detail.

- **Quantitative Reasoning:** There are two scored Quantitative Reasoning sections, each of which includes a mix of different kinds of math questions. Some questions are multiple-choice; others require you to calculate your own answer.

The computer-based test is partly *computer adaptive*. This term means that at certain points in the test, the computer decides what questions to give you based on your performance thus far. Specifically, if you perform well on the first Verbal Reasoning section, the computer will give you a second Verbal Reasoning section that is more difficult than the one you would have gotten if you did not perform well. The same procedure is followed for the two Quantitative Reasoning sections. Within each section, however, the test is not computer adaptive; a specific set of questions is presented in a specific order. Within a section you are free to skip questions or to move forward or backward through the question order as you wish.

FORMAT TIP

To answer a multiple-choice question on the computer-based GRE, first click the oval or square beside your answer choice. Then click either "Next" to go to the next question or "Back" to return to the previous question.

You will have 3 hours and 45 minutes to complete the entire test, including the Quantitative (math) section and any unscored sections. You will always begin with the two Analytical Writing tasks. You will complete each essay using the word processor that is part of the GRE software.

The charts that follow show the time breakdown for the sections of the test. Except for the Analytical Writing, which is always first, the sections may appear in any order. If there is an unscored Research section, it will always be last.

The following charts show the formats of the computer-based and paper-based GRE revised General Test.

Typical Computer-Based Revised General Test

Section	Number of Questions	Time
Analytical Writing	1 "Analyze an Issue" task 1 "Analyze an Argument" task	30 minutes per task
Section 1: Verbal Reasoning	Approximately 20 questions	30 minutes
Section 2: Verbal Reasoning	Approximately 20 questions	30 minutes
Section 3: Quantitative Reasoning	Approximately 20 questions	35 minutes
Section 4: Quantitative Reasoning	Approximately 20 questions	35 minutes

Typical Paper-Based Revised General Test

Section	Number of Questions	Time
Section 1: Analytical Writing	“Analyze an Issue” task	30 minutes
Section 2: Analytical Writing	“Analyze an Argument” task	30 minutes
Section 3: Verbal Reasoning	Approximately 25 questions	35 minutes
Section 4: Verbal Reasoning	Approximately 25 questions	35 minutes
Section 5: Quantitative Reasoning	Approximately 25 questions	40 minutes
Section 6: Quantitative Reasoning	Approximately 25 questions	40 minutes

An unidentified unscored section may be included at any point in the test. An identified unscored research section may also be included at the end of the test.

GRE ANALYTICAL WRITING TASKS

The Analytical Writing measure consists of two tasks: Analyze an Issue (the Issue Task) and Analyze an Argument (the Argument Task). You must provide an essay to address each task. For each one, you will be given a single prompt and must respond directly to that prompt. Here are examples of each kind of prompt.

Issue Task

“It is often too easy to confuse power with greatness.”

Discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with the preceding claim. Use relevant reasons and examples to support your point of view.

Argument Task

A local school board put out this press release:

“Five years ago, we introduced the award-winning *Basic Math for Winners* as the math textbook to be used throughout our high school. Since that time, our four-year graduation rate has increased from 78 percent to 85 percent. It seems clear that this change in textbook has improved our academic success rate here at Markles Flats School District, and we look forward to purchasing *Basic Math for Winners* for our middle school students as well.”

Critique the reasoning used in this argument by examining assumptions, assessing evidence, and/or suggesting ways to make the argument stronger or easier to evaluate.

Strategies to assist you with essay writing appear in Chapter 10, “GRE Analytical Writing”.

GRE VERBAL REASONING QUESTION TYPES

The Verbal Reasoning sections of the GRE General Test include three main types of questions. There is no set number of each question type on the test, nor can the order of questions be predicted. Strategies to assist you with each of these question types appear in Chapters 7 through 9. The following are examples of each type.

Sentence Equivalence

Select *two* answer choices that (1) complete the sentence in a way that makes sense and (2) produce sentences that are similar in meaning.

Given her usual need for attention, we were _____ when Carole celebrated her birthday quietly and alone.

- A perturbed
- B optimistic
- C unconcerned
- D taken aback
- E enlightened
- F dumbfounded

The answers that create two coherent sentences with similar meanings are choices D and F.

Text Completion

Complete the text by picking the best entry for each blank from the corresponding column of choices.

The very first Russian *Matrioshka*, or nesting doll, was created in a workshop in Moscow in 1890. Russia was going through a period of artistic (i) _____. Artisans were searching for a new, (ii) _____ Russian craft.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
<input type="radio"/> A doldrums	<input type="radio"/> D distinctively
<input type="radio"/> B revitalization	<input type="radio"/> E politically
<input type="radio"/> C prudence	<input type="radio"/> F comprehensively

The answers that best complete the sentences are choices B and D.

Reading Comprehension

Read the passage and choose the best answer for each question.

Most people know that Francis Scott Key wrote “The Star-Spangled Banner.” Many of those people know it was written during the Battle for Fort McHenry in the War of 1812. However, this is where popular knowledge typically ends.

One unusual fact about the American national anthem’s history is that the tune to which it is set was not an original composition for the song. In fact, the music originated as a festive British folk song. Another is that while the song was composed and became popular in the first part of the nineteenth century, it was not treated as a song representing the United States for some time thereafter. At the first “modern” Olympics in 1896, it was played for American athletes, but it was not adopted as the country’s official song until 1931.

Which of the following best states the author’s main point?

- (A) The national anthem evolved from a song that celebrated war.
- (B) “The Star-Spangled Banner” was first sung at the Olympics.
- (C) There are facts about our national anthem that we may not know.
- (D) Our national anthem is really an old British folk song.
- (E) Many popular songs have a long and interesting history.

The answer that best expresses the passage’s main idea is choice C.

FORMAT TIP

You may skip questions, marking them in order to return to them later. A review screen allows you to see at a glance which questions you have not yet answered.

CHAPTER 2

SCORING ANALYTICAL WRITING AND VERBAL REASONING

CHAPTER GOALS

- Learn how the Analytical Writing essays are scored.
- Learn how the Verbal Reasoning sections are scored.
- Find out how to submit scores to schools.

招生部门或者是奖学金管理部门可能会根据你的分数来比较你与其他申请者的资格，因此你可能对GRE考试如何计分非常感兴趣。在GRE考试中有部分题目是不计分的；试题中包含一个Pretest，用来分析在以后的测试中可能包含的一些问题，还会包括一个Research板块。考生将不会知道自己所作答的题目是否计分，因此应当假设都是计分的。

HOW YOUR ANALYTICAL WRITING ESSAYS ARE SCORED

Two trained readers employed by Educational Testing Service (ETS) will read each of your essays. They will use a six-point scale developed by ETS to grade your writing. The scoring is holistic, which means that you are graded on the overall quality of your writing rather than on a checklist of specific points. Chapter 10 contains specific information on the six-point scale used by the essay readers.

Beginning in 2012, your essay will be evaluated by a single human reader and an e-rater, which is a computer program designed by Educational Testing Service to monitor readers' scoring. If this computerized score matches the human score, the original score is used. If it disagrees significantly, a second trained reader will be called in to score the essay, and the final score will be the average of the two readers' scores.

Once both essays are scored, the average of those scores is used as the score for the Analytical Writing section. Based on statistics released

by the Educational Testing Service, a score of 4.5 was approximately the median for students taking the GRE in the years 2002–2004.

It's important to note that Educational Testing Service uses software to search for plagiarism. They will apply this software to your essay. Only original work is acceptable.

HOW THE VERBAL REASONING SECTIONS ARE SCORED

Your score on the Verbal Reasoning sections of the test (and also on the Quantitative Reasoning sections) will depend on your specific performance on the questions given as well as the number of questions answered correctly in the allotted time. First, for each measure, a raw score is computed based on the number of questions answered correctly. Then, using statistical methods, each raw score is converted to a scaled score that takes account of small differences between test forms. For the computer-based test, the conversion process also takes account of the fact that the test is partially adaptive; that is, depending on how well you perform on the first Verbal and first Quantitative section, the computer may give you a second Verbal or Quantitative section that is more difficult. The purpose of statistically generating a scaled score is to make sure that scores achieved by test takers on one GRE test form are comparable to the same scores achieved on other GRE test forms. The Verbal and Quantitative scores are each reported on a 130–170 score scale, in 1-point increments. If you answer no questions at all in either section, a No Score (NS) is reported.

After you finish this book, it's worth trying some sample tests using the official POWERPREP II® software. This software scores your sample tests using the same complex scoring system that the official GRE exam uses. Using POWERPREP II, you can get a real sense of how you might score on the exam itself. You can download POWERPREP II from the GRE website: www.ets.org/gre.

HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR SCORES

At the time that you take the computer-based GRE, you may choose up to four institutions of higher learning or fellowship organizations to receive your score report. (If you take the paper-based test on paper, you may designate recipients when you register.) About two weeks after you complete the exam, your scores will be sent to you and to the institutions you selected. (This time period is closer to six weeks for paper-based tests and may be longer than that for any tests taken during the introductory test period between August and October 2011. If you need your scores before November 2011, you should take the *old* GRE test prior to August 2011.)

After you have received your scores, you may choose to send results to additional recipients. You may request this by phone by calling

1-888-GRE-SCORE (U.S., U.S. territories, and Canada) or 1-609-771-7290 (all others). You will need a credit card; there is a fee for each additional score report. You will also need your registration or confirmation number and the institution and department codes for the recipients you chose. The codes are available on the ETS website: www.ets.org/Media/Tests/GRE/pdf/gre_1011_tclist.pdf.