



nth Degree Tutoring

Between Now and Test Day – Short-Term Plan

Time management

Roughly 1.5 minutes / question is too fast-paced for most students. Try sets of 10 problems in 15 minutes. Try these strategies to find which one gives you the highest overall score.

Strategy	Fast	Medium	Slow
# problems solved	10	7 – 8	6
# problems guessed	0	2 – 3	4
Average min / problem	1.5	2	2.5
Max. time if making no progress	1	1	2
Max. time if making progress	2	3	3

If you skip problems, some good ones to skip are:

Triple-blank Text Completion problems (generally the hardest)

Quantitative Comparison problems (high chance of guessing right by chance)

Your time on a reading / data passage should be apportioned roughly 50% reading, 50% answering. Look at how many problems are in the set and multiply by your average time / problem.

Practice

Try to take all the timed practice tests, at least one section at a time.

Try to practice each type of essay once under the time limit.

Practice computer-based tests (CBT) at www.ets.org , so you can practice the calculator and marking answers / coming back to them. I demonstrate all of this in this week's homework video.

www.NthDegreeTutoring.com (or easy-spelling www.TutorInLosAngeles.com)

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The actual exam

1. AAI
2. AAA
3. 2 verbal + 2 math sections in random order
4. "Bonus" 3rd section of either math or verbal

Essentially no break (10 minutes after 3rd section)

The GRE is section-adaptive. The second section will be easier / medium / harder than the first section depending on how well you do.

Scoring and Reporting

Immediately after you finish, you will be asked if you want to save your scores.

Yes: Scores will be on your record for 5 years.

No: It's like you were never there.

Then you are given your math / verbal scores, and you will be asked if you want to report your scores to any schools. Your options:

- Report that day's scores
- Report all scores from the last five years, or
- Don't report any scores at this time.

Each exam date is \$205. You have to pay extra (\$27 each) to

- Report to more than four schools on test day
- Report scores after test day
- So you might as well report to four schools on test day

You must report scores from all sections for each reported test date.

Secret menu: If you leave all math or verbal problems blank, that section will be scored N/R (Not Reported).

You may retake the exam every three weeks, max. 5 x / year.

Stay in Touch!

I'm always available for further assistance with grad school applications or extra GRE tutoring.

If you would like to thank me, the best way is with a referral or review! I pay you the value of the student's first lesson for a successful referral (\$75 for the GRE class). Give friends my administrative contact info on this letterhead.

Longer-term students

The *prongs to sustained improvement* are:

- **Practice** real GRE problems without worrying about time. There are two official supplements. Study the hell out of the questions and answers.
- **Read** informative non-fiction, even outside of formal GRE studies.
- **Write**: Use the GRE essay bank to practice real essay topics.
https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/analytical_writing
- **Memorize**: Actively work on memorizing critical math facts and word roots.
- **Assess**: Take all the timed practice tests, at least one section at a time.

You should take the exam when you ...

- Reach your goal on a timed diagnostic test
- Stop improving
- Burn out

(whichever comes first)

Further studies

Consider my “GRE 2” follow-up class, which focuses on completing your math review.