

CAT – 2016 Review (Morning Session)

CAT exam was conducted on 4th December 2016 in two slots. The pattern of the examination was same as that of the previous year.

The entire question paper was divided into three sections:

Section 1: Verbal Ability (34 Questions)

Section 2: Data Interpretation & Logical Reasoning (32 Questions)

Section 3: Quantitative Aptitude (34 Questions)

Section 1: Analysis of Verbal Ability

The verbal section was of moderate level. There were four questions on Parajumbles rearrangement type and 3 questions on Parajumbles odd one out identification. All the questions based on Parajumble were TITA (Type in the answer) type. The Parajumbles in which correct order was to be written in the box could have been answered in 120 ways out of which only one would be correct. This made parajumble arrangement type very difficult and time consuming. The odd one out Parajumbles were having only 5 possibilities to answer as odd statement was to be selected and the number was to be registered in the fill in box. This was comparatively easier. There were 3 summary based questions which were scoring. There were 5 Reading comprehension questions consisting of 24 questions altogether. Two passages had 3 questions each and other 3 passages had 6 questions each. The passages could have been understood easily. One of the passage was based on “future of the languages” whereas another passage was on “rituals – a painful way to unity”. In Reading Comprehension, a candidate was tested to have a very clear thought process and verbal reasoning being developed through extensive reading habit.

The overall difficulty level of the paper was medium. There were no sentence correction question or fill in the blanks. Overall ideal attempt could be 20 – 24 with 85 to 90 percent accuracy to clear the cut off for IIMs.

Section 2: Data Interpretation & Analytical Reasoning (DI & AR)

This section was a demanding one as it consisted of 8 heavy sets. Every DI or AR set was made combining multiple sets of conditions. A student was in fact challenged to handle multiple data altogether with the flair of deductive reasoning skills. One could have scored fairly in this section if he was able to complete the data table with more analytical approach. There were 8 questions which were TITA type. Also, few questions could have been done easily as a part of the question.

The ideal number of attempt would be 12 – 16 with 90 % accuracy to clear the cut offs of IIMs.

Section 3: Quantitative Aptitude

In Quantitative Aptitude questions were asked from all most all spheres like Numbers, Arithmetic, Algebra, Geometry and Permutation & Combination. The difficulty level of the section was medium.

Overall Cut-offs:

Questions were approachable but were time consuming. Few questions could have been easily cracked through substitution. Ideal number of attempts range from 18 to 22 questions with 90 % accuracy.

Overall paper would be rated to be tough. With overall 25 TITA based questions which would make the attempts go higher can lead to lesser accuracy and more time consumption. Hence, TITA would make the cut offs go at lower end. Further difficult DI and unpredictable verbal Ability could lower the overall cutoffs. Only respite was quantitative Aptitude which required more time to address every question.

An overall attempt of 50 to 60 questions with 90 % accuracy would be suffice to clear the cut off for IIMs.

