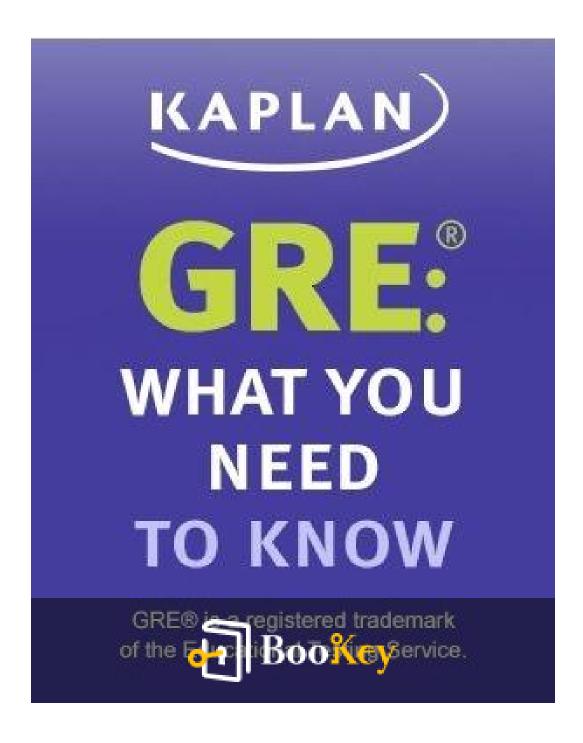
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Kaplan Test Prep







Gre Summary

Master the GRE with Proven Strategies and Practice.

Written by Books OneHub





About the book

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In the competitive landscape of graduate school admissions, the GRE (Graduate Record Examination) serves as a critical gateway, assessing not only a student's knowledge but also their analytical and critical thinking skills. "GRE" by Kaplan Test Prep is designed to demystify this essential exam, providing a comprehensive roadmap that empowers aspiring graduate students to excel. With expert strategies, practice questions, and insightful tips, this book guides readers through the intricacies of the GRE, transforming anxiety into confidence and turning potential into success. Whether you're starting your preparation from scratch or seeking to refine your skills, Kaplan's GRE is your indispensable partner in navigating this pivotal step toward your academic and professional future.



About the author

Kaplan Test Prep, a leading name in educational services, has dedicated over 80 years to helping students prepare for the rigors of academic testing. Founded in 1938 by Stanley H. Kaplan, the organization pioneered the test preparation industry by offering tailored tutoring and comprehensive study materials designed to meet the unique needs of learners. With a commitment to innovation and excellence, Kaplan Test Prep offers a wealth of resources across various standardized tests, including the GRE. Their expert-led strategies, extensive subject matter expertise, and a deeply rooted understanding of the educational landscape empower students to achieve their goals and maximize their potential in higher education.







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Chapter 1 Summary: - Introduction to the GRE

In Chapter 1 of "GRE" by Kaplan Test Prep, readers are introduced to the GRE General Test, a standardized assessment designed to evaluate the verbal reasoning, math reasoning, and analytical skills of students. It plays a crucial role in the graduate school application process in the U.S., often accompanied by other materials like application forms and transcripts.

The GRE comprises three main sections: Analytical Writing, Verbal, and Quantitative, each with distinct formats and time constraints. The Analytical Writing portion, lasting 75 minutes, requires test-takers to tackle two essay prompts, focusing on their ability to understand and analyze arguments. The Verbal section, which gives participants 30 minutes to answer 38 multiple-choice questions, assesses vocabulary and verbal reasoning, while the Quantitative section gauges math skills through 30 questions, also within a 30-minute timeframe.

Unique to test-takers in China, the GRE follows a "Split-Test Administration" format, necessitating that students take the Analytical Writing section on a computer before registering for the paper-based Quantitative and Verbal sections. This structure ensures that students complete both parts within a year, with specific scheduling guidelines highlighted.



Kaplan also emphasizes practical strategies for success on the GRE. Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with each section before diving in, prioritizing questions they find easier to answer and managing their time wisely. Notably, difficulty levels of questions rise progressively, so recognizing when to move on is key. The manual advises against fixating on hard questions, as accumulating points from easier questions can significantly boost overall scores.

Scoring on the GRE is structured, with the Analytical Writing scored between 0 and 6, while the Verbal and Quantitative sections are scored on a scale from 200 to 800. However, even high scaled scores might not reflect strong percentile ranks, which are crucial for graduate school applications. For instance, a score of 600 might be acceptable for some programs but inadequate for competitive fields like science or engineering, where the average score might be much higher.

To prepare for the test, students are advised to research the programs they are interested in, as each may have differing expectations for GRE performance. Understanding that the percentile ranking is based on a broader, randomized pool of test-takers rather than just those who test on the same day helps mitigate the pressure of immediate competition.

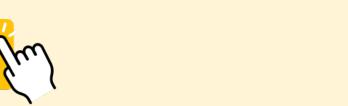
Lastly, the chapter outlines registration details for the GRE, stressing the importance of obtaining the GRE Registration Bulletin for information about





scheduling, fees, and policies. Students can register online or by mail, and the registration process is designed to be straightforward.

Overall, Chapter 1 serves as an essential primer for prospective GRE takers, equipping them with foundational knowledge about the test and strategic insights to excel.



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Critical Thinking

Key Point: Familiarizing Yourself with Each Section

Critical Interpretation: Imagine stepping into the GRE with a sense of readiness and confidence, fully aware of what lies ahead. This key point from Chapter 1 emphasizes the importance of familiarizing yourself with each section of the test before you begin. As you prepare, envision how this practice can extend beyond the GRE to various aspects of your life—whether it's a challenging project at work or a personal goal you've set. By understanding the structure and challenges ahead, you give yourself the power to navigate obstacles effectively, prioritize your efforts, and manage your time wisely. Just as mastering the GRE can open the doors to graduate school, embracing this approach can help you tackle life's challenges with clarity, transforming uncertainty into opportunity.





Chapter 2 Summary: - Verbal Section

Chapter 2 of "Gre" by Kaplan Test Prep delves into the Verbal section of the GRE, where test-takers have 30 minutes to answer 38 questions across four categories: Sentence Completion, Analogies, Reading Comprehension, and Antonyms. The chapter emphasizes two central skills the GRE tests: a robust vocabulary and the ability to read and interpret passages efficiently. It highlights that, similar to math questions, Verbal questions have recurring patterns; thus, understanding "GRE words"—specific vocabulary that frequently appears on the test—is essential for success.

The author encourages readers to familiarize themselves with these GRE words, presenting them in context to aid comprehension. A significant focus is placed on vocabulary groups, illustrating that knowing synonyms offers a practical understanding of words rather than memorizing definitions in isolation. For example, a variety of words related to the concept of criticism are listed, including "castigate," "rebuke," and "denounce," suggesting that grasping similar words can significantly support answering questions correctly.

Using a thesaurus is recommended as essential for vocabulary enhancement, promoting the idea that learning words in related groups can be more beneficial than studying them one by one. Additionally, the chapter introduces the importance of understanding word roots or etymology,





pointing out that many GRE words have Latin and Greek origins, which can help decode unfamiliar terms. The discussion includes examples illustrating how roots can sometimes mislead, leading to the understanding that while they can be helpful, they aren't infallible.

Furthermore, the chapter highlights a list of commonly tested GRE words, urging readers to memorize these to boost their performance. A comprehensive vocabulary is framed as invaluable not just for the Verbal section but also beneficial for other GRE sections like Analytical Writing. As the chapter concludes, it sets the stage for a deeper dive into the specific question types, beginning with Sentence Completion in the next chapter. Overall, the chapter serves as a practical guide, blending strategies with insights to prepare for the verbal challenges of the GRE effectively.





Critical Thinking

Key Point: A robust vocabulary is essential for success
Critical Interpretation: Imagine stepping into a room filled with
opportunities, each one waiting for you to articulate your thoughts
with precision and clarity. As you master the vocabulary tested in the
GRE, you not only equip yourself with the tools to tackle standardized
exams but also gain the confidence to express your ideas compellingly
in discussions, presentations, or even everyday conversations. With
each new word learned, you open doors to understanding complex
texts and communicating your insights effectively, transforming not
just your test-taking experience but your personal and professional
interactions as well.





Chapter 3: - Sentence Completion

In Chapter 3 of "GRE" by Kaplan Test Prep, the focus is on mastering the Sentence Completion section of the Verbal portion of the GRE exam. The chapter opens by explaining the structure of these questions, emphasizing how each one features blanks that require you to identify the best word or words to complete the sentence's intended meaning. To tackle these questions effectively, the author outlines seven essential principles that serve as a roadmap for test-takers.

The first principle highlights that every clue necessary to find the correct answer is embedded right within the sentence. By identifying these clues, students can narrow down their options significantly. The text provides an example to illustrate this point: a student who prepares for the test in advance would find it "predictable"—which demonstrates how clues in the sentence guide you toward the answer.

Next, the chapter stresses the importance of looking for what is directly implied and avoiding imaginative interpretations. This is particularly

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Chapter 4 Summary: - Analogies

In Chapter 4 of "GRE" by Kaplan Test Prep, the focus is on mastering Analogies, a key component of the GRE verbal section. The chapter begins by explaining that participants will encounter about eight analogy questions, where they must evaluate a pair of words to determine the relationship between them. The goal is to find the answer choice that reflects the same relationship as the original pair. This exercise isn't just a test of vocabulary; it challenges one's ability to identify strong connections between words.

The chapter introduces four essential principles for understanding analogies. First, there's the importance of identifying the stem pair—the two words connected by a colon—which sets the basis for the relationship. Next, the chapter emphasizes that there must always be a direct and necessary relationship between the stem words, illustrated through a "bridge" sentence. A strong bridge clearly defines how the two words relate, while a weak bridge is vague and lacks a definite connection.

Students are encouraged to create a bridge before reviewing the answer options to avoid getting distracted. The text then delineates five classic types of bridges, which serve as reliable frameworks for tackling analogy questions. These include definitions (like how a map is contained in an atlas), functions (such as how music belongs in an orchestra), and contrasts or degrees of relationships.



The narrative takes a practical turn as it introduces traps that test-takers should avoid, such as misleading similarities between topics and word pairs that may seem related but do not share a direct bridge. To navigate these effectively, Kaplan provides a four-step method, guiding students to build a strong bridge, evaluate answer choices against this bridge, refine their understanding if needed, and eliminate weak options.

The chapter wraps up with practice sets that allow readers to apply these principles, supported by explanations of the correct answers that reinforce the theories discussed. Overall, this chapter equips readers with strategic tools for tackling analogies with confidence and precision, highlighting the significance of understanding relationships in language.

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Chapter 5 Summary: - Antonyms

Chapter 5 of "GRE" by Kaplan Test Prep focuses on how to tackle antonym questions, a crucial part of the verbal section of the exam. It explains that each section contains about nine antonym questions, where you're presented with a word and must choose its opposite from a list of five options. The goal is to test your vocabulary and understanding of nuanced meanings, making careful consideration essential.

The chapter lays out six basic principles to effectively determine antonyms. First, it suggests recalling contexts in which you've encountered the word before, as this can help illuminate its meaning. Next, analyzing the word's roots and affixes can provide clues about its opposite, like recognizing that "bene" implies something good, leading to a likely opposite that starts with "mal," or bad. The third principle encourages leveraging knowledge from Romance languages for insights on word meanings, which can enhance your vocabulary skills.

The fourth principle involves assessing the positive or negative connotations of the words; marking these can clarify choices by pointing you toward the antonyms. The fifth principle warns about "trick" choices—word pairings that sound similar but differ greatly in meaning. It's important to be sharp and discerning, as recognizing a word's true definition is key to avoiding errors. Finally, if you're uncertain of a word's meaning, working backward



from the answer choices can guide you toward the correct antonym.

To consolidate this understanding, Kaplan introduces a four-step method for approaching antonym questions: define the root word, think of its opposite, match the opposite with an answer choice, and, if needed, reverse-engineer the options.

Practice exercises follow, encouraging you to apply the principles discussed. Each exercise features a word alongside five potential antonyms, with answers explained in detail to clarify thought processes and correct choices. This chapter emphasizes that with the right strategies, you can confidently tackle antonym questions, strengthening both your vocabulary and test-taking skills.



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Chapter 6: - Reading Comprehension

In Chapter 6 of "GRE" by Kaplan Test Prep, the focus is on the Reading Comprehension section of the GRE exam, which is vital for all test-takers due to its presence in all major standardized tests. The chapter begins by outlining the types of passages candidates will encounter, covering topics from social sciences to arts and humanities. These passages are often dense and challenging, reflecting the kind of complex materials students will face in graduate school. As such, the chapter serves as a guide for developing critical reading skills necessary not just for the GRE but for academic pursuits beyond it.

The author introduces the seven basic principles for approaching Reading Comprehension questions, starting with the importance of the first third of the passage. This section typically outlines the topic, scope, main idea, and tone, which are crucial for understanding the overall direction of the text. The chapter emphasizes the distinction between topic and scope, advising readers to pinpoint the specific aspect of a broader topic discussed in the passage. This understanding is vital since any answer choices straying from

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Alex Wall

This app is a lifesaver for book lovers with busy schedules. The summaries are spot on, and the mind maps help reinforce wh I've learned. Highly recommend!



Chapter 7 Summary: - Quantitative Section

In Chapter 7 of "GRE" by Kaplan Test Prep, the focus shifts to the Quantitative section of the GRE, where test-takers have 30 minutes to tackle 30 math questions covering arithmetic, algebra, and geometry—without a calculator. While this limitation may seem daunting, the chapter emphasizes that GRE math typically favors understanding and strategy over extensive calculations. Many tricky problems contain shortcuts, and the author encourages readers to approach each question refreshingly.

The chapter outlines the three predominant types of questions: Quantitative Comparisons, Word Problems, and Data Interpretation. Each type demands a specific approach and time allocation, making familiarity with the format crucial.

Kaplan shares practical techniques to navigate various question categories. For example, with percentages, you'll regularly find two known quantities, and from there, applying simple formulas helps predict future values. The chapter illustrates this through a relatable salary scenario involving "Julie," illustrating how to calculate her next year's salary based on a consistent percentage raise.

For simultaneous equations, the text emphasizes combining equations to simplify calculations rather than laboriously solving for one variable at a



time. This efficient method saves time on test day.

The chapter also warns of the GRE's use of unusual symbols that may seem confusing at first. Here, the trick lies in plugging values directly into the equations, as elucidated through examples involving straightforward logic.

Geometry gets its share of wisdom too, as the chapter introduces "special triangles" like the 30-60-90 triangle, which helps solve for missing side lengths quickly. It underscores an important lesson: never trust that diagrams are drawn to scale unless indicated, as making assumptions can lead to mistakes.

The author prepares students for solving problems involving multiple figures by recognizing relationships between them. An example demonstrates how recognizing that triangle legs are equal to circle radii simplifies the area calculation of a triangle intersecting with a circle.

Lastly, Kaplan covers essential concepts like mean, median, mode, and range, ensuring readers understand how to identify these statistics from a given data set. Probability is approached with practical contexts, breaking it down to the simplest terms: the likelihood of events and how to establish odds.

Throughout Chapter 7, the lesson remains clear: the GRE's quantitative





section challenges test-takers not just to know math, but to think critically and strategically. By mastering these techniques, test-takers will be well-equipped to face the GRE mathematical hurdles with confidence.





Chapter 8 Summary: - Quantitative Comparisons

Chapter 8 dives into the concept of Quantitative Comparisons (QCs), a unique question type featured on the GRE. Instead of finding specific values, test-takers need to assess and compare two quantities presented in two columns, A and B. This format can initially seem strange or confusing, but with practice, QCs can actually be completed more quickly than other types of math questions. The key to navigating these questions lies in understanding their layout and the specific answer choices: whether one quantity is greater, the other is greater, the two are equal, or if the relationship cannot be determined.

The chapter introduces two basic principles that are essential for dealing with QCs effectively. The first principle states that if both columns contain only numbers, choice (D) is never correct since the relationships between numbers are definitive. The second principle explains that if you can illustrate two different potential relationships between Column A and Column B, then choice (D) is the appropriate answer.

To help prepare for QCs, Kaplan presents a six-step method which emphasizes strategies to simplify comparisons. The first step suggests estimating values rather than calculating exact quantities, allowing test-takers to determine relationships without getting bogged down in complex calculations. The second step recommends comparing each part of



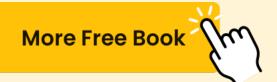
two sums to see if one column has consistently larger components. The third and fourth steps encourage transforming problems so that both columns look similar or manipulating both sides of the comparison to clarify their relationship.

The fifth step introduces the technique of picking test numbers to concretely understand variable relationships, while the sixth step highlights the importance of redrawing diagrams to clarify geometrical questions.

Throughout these strategies, the text reminds test-takers to be cautious of common pitfalls such as making assumptions about variables or overlooking negative values which could lead to incorrect conclusions.

Finally, the chapter wraps up with a practice set, reinforcing the lessons on QCs and the strategies discussed. Each question in the set reinforces the importance of the outlined principles, demonstrating how to effectively navigate the challenges inherent to Quantitative Comparisons on the GRE. Overall, mastering these techniques can give test-takers a significant advantage in tackling one of the more uniquely formatted question types on the exam.





Chapter 9: - Word Problems

In Chapter 9 of "GRE" by Kaplan Test Prep, the focus is on mastering word problems in the Quantitative section of the GRE exam. Candidates can expect around ten questions that assess various mathematical concepts, including percentages, probability, and mean, median, and mode. The guide emphasizes two crucial principles: first, that the GRE is primarily about finding the right answer rather than demonstrating the process of arriving at it, and second, that critical reasoning is key to untangling the often tricky questions that may conceal traps in their answer choices.

Kaplan introduces a straightforward three-step method to tackle these word problems effectively. The first step is to read the question carefully, as many test-takers fall into common traps by misinterpreting the question. An example illustrates this well, demonstrating how skipping a detail can lead to careless errors. Next, candidates should choose the best approach for solving the problem—whether it's straightforward math, a "backdoor" strategy that leverages common sense, or elimination of unlikely answers. The chapter encourages being innovative with problem-solving tactics rather than

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Chapter 10 Summary: - Data Interpretation

In Chapter 10 of "GRE" by Kaplan Test Prep, the focus is on navigating Data Interpretation questions, a common element in the GRE exam. This chapter emphasizes two key principles: first, to approach these questions with patience and care, and second, to remember that every question has a consistent structure, regardless of its complexity. Rushing can lead to mistakes, so taking the time to thoroughly understand charts and questions is crucial.

Kaplan introduces a straightforward three-step method for tackling these questions. The first step involves getting acquainted with the visuals presented, like tables and graphs. It's essential to carefully read the titles to ensure you're gathering the right information, check the scales to avoid unit errors, and pay attention to any notes or keys that provide critical details.

Once you feel comfortable with the data, the second step is to answer the questions. This part highlights the need for a strong grasp of fractions, percentages, and keen attention to detail. The chapter points out that later questions often combine data from multiple charts, making careful reading especially important.

The final step suggests using approximation whenever possible. Since Data Interpretation questions can be time-consuming, estimating answers instead



of calculating them word-for-word can streamline the process and help pinpoint the correct responses more quickly.

The chapter also includes a practical set of questions based on hypothetical revenue and profit data for a company, Megacorp, Inc. Each question requires analyzing the provided charts to extract information and perform estimations. Through these exercises, the chapter reinforces the strategies outlined earlier, promoting a deeper understanding of how to work effectively with data.

Overall, this chapter serves as a practical guide that breaks down the intricacies of Data Interpretation in a way that's accessible and engaging, helping GRE test-takers build the skills they need to tackle these questions confidently.

Key Aspects	Details
Chapter Focus	Navigating Data Interpretation questions in the GRE exam
Key Principles	Approach with patience and care Understand consistent structure of questions
Three-Step Method	Familiarize with visuals (charts, tables, scales, notes) Answer the questions (thorough reading, strong grasp of





Key Aspects	Details
	fractions, percentages) Use approximation to streamline answers
Practical Exercise	Questions based on hypothetical revenue and profit data for Megacorp, Inc.
Outcome	Helps build confidence and effective data analysis skills for GRE test-takers





Chapter 11 Summary: - Analytical Writing Section

In Chapter 11 of "GRE" by Kaplan Test Prep, the focus is on the Analytical Writing section of the GRE, which comprises two distinct essay tasks: the Issue and the Argument essays. The Issue essay requires candidates to express their viewpoint on a general topic that requires critical thought and analysis. You will be presented with two prompts, and you need to choose one to write about within 45 minutes. Key to success here is not just your opinion, but your ability to substantiate it with relevant examples and well-structured reasoning.

The second task, the Argument essay, is slightly different. Here, you must analyze the reasoning of a given argument in a short passage, critique its effectiveness within 30 minutes. It's essential to focus on assessing the logic behind the argument; agreement or disagreement with the statement is irrelevant. Your task is to dissect the argument, identifying flaws in its logic or gaps in information.

Both essays are completed on a computer, using a simple word processor that allows for basic editing functions – a setup that should feel familiar to test-takers. Unlike the other GRE sections that use computer-generated scores, these essays are read and scored holistically by trained readers, who do not know the writer's identity. They assign a score based on a range from 0 to 6, assessing factors such as clarity, organization, support, and



grammatical accuracy.

The chapter lays out a scoring rubric that categorizes essays from "Outstanding" to "Fundamentally Deficient," defining what graders look for in their evaluations. The scoring emphasizes understanding and organization of ideas over mere grammatical perfection, reassuring candidates that minor errors won't crater their scores if the overall effectiveness of the essay is clear.

To help test-takers craft compelling essays, Kaplan introduces a Five-Step Method for GRE Writing. This framework includes taking the essay prompt apart to understand its components, selecting supporting points, organizing thoughts into a coherent structure, writing clearly, and proofreading for errors. Applying this method is crucial in both essay types. For instance, in the Issue essay, you might structure your argument to address both sides of the issue, while in the Argument essay, the focus would be on identifying assumptions and evaluating the strength of the evidence presented.

The book includes practical prompts and sample essays, illustrating high-scoring and lower-scoring examples. For instance, an issue essay arguing against nuclear power's viability presents compelling reasons, supported by strong examples, thus earning a higher score. Conversely, a less coherent argument in another example reflects inadequate development and unclear reasoning, resulting in a lower score.



Overall, Chapter 11 not only demystifies the Analytical Writing section of the GRE but empowers candidates with clear strategies and guidelines to present their thoughts effectively under time constraints, combining analytic rigor with effective communication. The focus on clarity, organization, and effective use of language can make the difference between a good score and a great score. The chapter ends with practice prompts, urging readers to apply what they have learned to hone their writing skills for the GRE.





Critical Thinking

Key Point: The importance of clear communication

Critical Interpretation: As you navigate through your academic and professional journeys, remember that the ability to communicate your thoughts clearly and effectively is paramount. Just as the GRE's Analytical Writing section emphasizes organizing and substantiating your viewpoints with cogent reasoning, so too will your life benefit when you strive to articulate your ideas in a structured manner. Whether you are presenting a project at work, advocating for a cause, or simply discussing your beliefs with friends, applying the principles of clarity and organization can empower you to make a greater impact and persuade others to understand your perspective better.



