



XAT HANDBOOK




Sumit sir

Get to know XAT

Hey! Everyone....Welcome to CATKing Family.

I am here to guide you about XAT. So, what exactly is XAT?

XAT is a national-level management entrance examination conducted by XLRI, Jamshedpur for admission to MBA/PGDM programmes. Apart from XLRI and 10 other XAMI member colleges, over 1,000 B-schools accept XAT scores for admission to their post-graduate management programmes. The XAT question paper consists of 100 Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs) from Decision Making, Verbal & Logical Ability, Quantitative Ability & Data Interpretation and General Knowledge.

XAT 2026 – 4th Jan 2026

Now, Lets see the Exam Pattern of XAT

Section	Subjects	Questions	Time Taken	Negative Marking
Part 1	Verbal Ability & Logical Ability	26	170 mins	Yes +1 -0.25 -0.1*(for more than 8 unattempted questions)
	Decision Making & Analytical Reasoning	21		
	Quantitative Ability & Data Interpretation	28		
	Total	75		
Part 2	Mock Keyboard Testing	-	5 mins	No
Part 3	General Awareness	20	10 mins	
Total		105	180 mins	

*Negative marking for unattempted questions is like -

- (0-8) unattempted questions - no marks deducted
- >8 unattempted questions - $(0.1 * \text{no of questions})$ marks are deducted
- for eg :- if 7 unattempted - 0 marks deducted
 - if 8 unattempted - 0 marks deducted
 - if 10 unattempted - $0.1 * (10-8) = 0.2$ marks deducted
 - if 12 unattempted - $0.1 * (12-8) = 0.4$ marks deducted



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Registration started: 10-Jul-2025, Here are the dates as per last 2 years...

XAT	2026	Last Year(2025)	2 Years Ago(2024)
Exam Registration	10 Jul - 15 Dec	15 Jul-30 Nov	15 Jul - 10 Dec
Admit Card Download	20 Dec Onwards	20 Dec onwards	29 Dec onwards
Exam Date	04 Jan 2026	05 Jan 2025	7 Jan 2024
Result	3rd Week Jan 2026 *	20 Jan 2025	20 Jan 2024

* Final Result Date Not Announced

Registration Fees: ₹2200

So, what is the eligibility criteria for XAT?

Candidates must have completed graduation or can be in the final year of the graduation.

Ohh! There are some important highlights of XAT. Let's see what they are

- Scores of General Knowledge section are not considered for calculating XAT percentile
- No marks are allotted to essay
- The essay will be evaluated at the time of PI shortlisting



**Pradhyuman
Pradeep, XAT
99.3%ile**

I got introduced to CATKing from the YouTube Channel when I was researching various examinations for MBA, and later joined in their course. I got a lot of help from it especially the mocks. My weak point was time management and working on mocks really helped me get better at managing time, which allowed me to take my time solve the Quant section increasing my accuracy a lot. Thanks to CATKing their course helped me with improving rapidly.



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XAT Syllabus

Section	Syllabus
Verbal & Logical Reasoning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading Comprehension, Verbal reasoning Analogy, Parajumble, Grammar, Critical Reasoning, Fill in the Blanks, etc
Decision Making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data Arrangement, Conditioning, Grouping, Complex Arrangement, Caselets, Assumptions, Premises, Conclusions, etc.
Quantitative, Data Interpretation & Data Sufficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arithmetic, Geometry, Mensuration, Percentage, Surds and Indices, Algebra, Mensuration, Bar Diagrams, Pie Charts, Tables, Data Interpretation, etc.
General Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Science, Economy, Business, Politics, Static GK, Sports, Prize and Award, World, Government, Constitution of India, etc.

Know more about XAT Exam Pattern | Top Colleges | Syllabus

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Yash Kumar,
XAT 99.98%ile

The material CATKing provides is more than enough as far as most of the Management Exams are concerned esp. CAT. Mocks (Full length & Sectional) are at par with real CAT exams and analysis dashboard gives you in depth and easily inferable insights about your performance. The last and the most important factor – persistence is key to cracking Management exams, and an average human needs motivation in one form or another. CATKing has it all!





XAT 2022 – 2025 score vs percentile analysis

%ile	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
99	38.7	38-40+	46.5	37	37
97	34.7	36	41	32.8	33
95	32	35+	39	29-30	31
90	28	30+	34.5	27	27
80	25	25	29-31	22.5	23
70	20	20	27	19.75	20

Now Let's have a look on XAT Preparation Strategy

Phase 1 (Till 25 Dec):-

For Quants and DI:-

1. Geometry – Full formula based, therefore make notes of it
2. Focus on Data Sufficiency, watch Dashboard videos for conceptual clarity
3. Prepare basics of trigonometry
4. Practice Bar, Line, and Pie graphs questions

For Decision Making

1. It is kind of combination of Critical Reasoning and Verbal Ability
2. Practice different types of questions based on Ethical Dilemma, Strategic Decision, Business Decision, Behavioural/Personal, Plan of Action/Course of Action, and Quant/LR based Decision making questions.

Verbal Ability

1. For Reading Comprehension, practice Direct and Inference Type Questions
2. For Poems, don't go for literal meaning
3. Focus on Critical Reasoning, Vocabulary, and Grammar





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Mocks Strategy

1. Target 17-18 correct questions both in QADI or Verbal sections, and 12 questions each in other 2 sections
2. Daily 1 hour Decision Making practice
3. Practice from PYQs
4. Everyday read Aeon Essays at least for 30 mins
5. Prepare all the conceptual questions
6. Prepare Critical Reasoning from GMAT official Guide
7. Target Score to crack XAT is given below:-

Section	Cutoff	Target Score 1	Target Score 2
Verbal & Logical Reasoning	8-9	16	12
Decision Making	7-7.5	12	12
Quantitative, Data Interpretation & Data Sufficiency	8-10	12	16

Know more about How to get 40+ Score in XAT exam

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Satwik Soni

I was a student at CATKing and I must say, the dashboard they've created is very helpful especially the ebooks, mocks and also the everyday classes. The price is also decent in exchange for the quality.


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What After XAT?

Let's have a look on GD-WAT-PI process!

Selection Process	Description
Group Discussion (GD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A case or a group activity is given to 8-10 students. Students has to discuss & come up with a solution within 30 minutes.
Personal Interview (PI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> it is a in persona interaction with the panel of the college the student is applying for

Now, we see some Placement highlights of XAT accepting colleges

College Name	Cutoff %ile	Average Placement	Median Placement	Highest Placement	Total Fees	Batch Size
XLRI Jamshedpur	94-95	29L	21.5L	1.07Cr	28.6L	114
XIM University	91-92	19.53L	18.37L	30L	20.9L	350
MICA Ahmedabad	90-91	20.09L	19L	36L	23L	235
IMT Ghaziabad	90-91	17.35L	16L	65.6L	21.53L	632
TAPMI Manipal	85-87	14.6L	-	24.8L	17.34L	660
Great Lakes Chennai	85-86	17.3L	-	39.3L	20.8L	345
GIM Goa	85-86	14.87L	14.7L	55L	19.4L	300
Great Lakes Gurgaon	80-96	11.6L	-	20.5L	18.5L	290
K J Somaiya Mumbai	80-82	12.32L	11.75L	25.96L	20.87L	600+
Welingker Mumbai	70-75	12L	12.04L	25.8L	13	840
Fore Delhi	77-87	15.1L	14L	30L	18.27L	480
NIBM Pune	84	14.16L	-	26.5L	16L	120
BIM Trichy	75-85	12.4L	11.4L	20.5L	12.8L	120
IRMA	80-85	11.39L	10L	46.5L	18.69L	180
IMI Delhi	85-90	17.01L	16.33L	50L	20.95L	420



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XAT Sample Questions with Solutions

QADI

Q1. Rajnish bought an item at 25% discount on the printed price. He sold it at 10% discount on the printed price. What is his profit in percentage?

- 1.10
- 2.15
- 3.17.5
- 4.20
5. None of the above

A1. Let's assume that the printed price is ₹ 100.

Cost Price = 25% discount on the printed price = ₹ 75.

Selling Price = 10% discount on the printed price = ₹ 90.

Profit = SP - CP = ₹ 90 - ₹ 75 = ₹ 15

Profit % = $15/75 \times 100 = 20\%$

Q1. Ramesh bought a mobile from a local store. He paid 1/6 of the price via UPI and 1/3 of the price via cash. He agreed to pay the balance amount a year later. While paying back the balance amount, Ramesh paid 10% interest on the balance amount. If the interest paid was Rs. 6000, what was the original price of the mobile? (XAT 2025)

- 1)120000
- 2)110000
- 3)150000
- 4)90000
- 5)80000

A1.

Let us take total price as $6x$.

Therefore money paid through UPI = x Cash = $2x$

Remaining amount to be paid = $3x$ Interest = $0.3x$

Interest Paid = 6000 = $0.3x$

$x = 20000$

Total Amount = $6x = 120000$

The correct answer is 1.

Know more about how to improve your Quantitative Ability and Data Interpretation

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Raghav Rozra

Thank you so much CATKing for all your help. I was able to crack XAT and convert XLRI, I prepared for XAT for 25 days, gave the mock tests, did the lectures and it helped a ton, I wasn't sure if I would be able to get into XLRI but because of CATKing I was able to do so! Thanks!



Sumit sir

Q3. There are 25 rooms in a hotel. Each room can accommodate at the most three people. For each room, the single occupancy charge is Rs. 2000 per day, the double occupancy charge is Rs. 3000 per day, and the triple occupancy charge is Rs. 3500 per day. If there are 55 people staying in the hotel today, what is the maximum possible revenue from room occupancy charges today. (XAT 2025)

1. 72500
2. 82500
3. 77500
4. 92500
5. 87500

A3. The person revenue from each room is 2000, 1500 & 1166.67 respectively. Maximum revenue is from single occupancy room, so need to maximise it. Let X, Y & Z be the number of single, double & triple occupancy rooms respectively.

$$X + Y + Z = 25$$

$$\text{The number of occupants} = X + 2Y + 3Z = 55$$

If $Z=0$, $X+Y=25$ & $X+2Y=55$, on solving this $Y=30$ - This is not possible.

If $Z=1$, $X+Y=24$ & $X+2Y=52$, on solving this $Y=28$ - This is not possible.

If $Z=2$, $X+Y=23$ & $X+2Y=49$, on solving this $Y=26$ - This is not possible.

If $Z=3$, $X+Y=22$ & $X+2Y=46$, on solving this $Y=24$ - This is not possible.

If $Z=4$, $X+Y=21$ & $X+2Y=43$, on solving this $Y=22$ - This is not possible.

If $Z=5$, $X+Y=20$ & $X+2Y=40$, on solving this $Y=20$ - This is not possible.

Hence, to maximize the revenue, we have to use 20 room of double occupancy and 5 rooms of triple occupancy. Hence, the total revenue will be $20 \times 3,000 + 5 \times 3,500 = 77,500$

VALR

Q1. Carefully read the following statements :

(XAT 2025)

- A. There are less cars on the road today.
- B. She is nicer than her sister.
- C. I have been here from Monday.
- D. I know how to swim.
- E. She is the girl that won the case competition.
- F. The media are divided on the issue.

Which of the following options contains only grammatically CORRECT sentences?

- 1) D, E & F
- 2) A, D & F
- 3) B, C & E
- 4) B, D & F
- 5) A, D & E

A1.

A: The sentence should be: There are "fewer" cars on the road; hence this is incorrect.

C: The sentence should be: I have been here "since" Monday; hence this statement is incorrect.

E: Although this format is also acceptable in common language, the grammatically correct version would be: She is the girl "who" won the case competition.

Sentences B, D, and F are grammatically correct. Therefore, Option 4 would be the correct answer.





Sumit sir

Q2. Read the following excerpt carefully.

When each _____ generation grows up, it looks down on the next as if we all forget what it feels like to be _____. When most _____ think about their own youthful indiscretions, they do so with a wink and a laugh. But when the same people think about those in today's generation doing something similar, they _____ sound the alarm about a decline in morality in next generation. From the options below, choose the one that meaningfully fills up the blanks. **(XAT 2025)**

- 1) young, young, seniors, carefully
- 2) old, older, youngsters, sincerely
- 3) succeeding, next, people, naturally
- 4) preceding, succeeding, folks, cautiously
- 5) successive, young, adults, hypocritically

A2. The word "young" appropriately completes the second blank because the sentence reflects how older generations perceive those who are younger. In the fourth blank, "hypocritically" effectively conveys the irony of older generations criticizing the younger for actions they once did themselves. For the first blank, "successive" is the right choice, as it accurately refers to generations that come one after another.

Therefore the answer is option 5.

Q3. Which of the following sentences have INCORRECT usage of preposition?

1. The manager was sitting at the desk.
2. My work is superior to yours.
3. I prefer coffee than tea.
4. She was accused for stealing gold.
5. This is an exception to the rule.
6. They are leaving to England soon.

1. 1,3,6
2. 2,3,4
3. 3,4,6
4. 1,2,3
5. 3,4,5

A3. Sentences 3, 4, and 6 contain errors. The correct sentences are 'I prefer coffee to tea', 'She was accused of stealing gold', and 'They are leaving for England soon'.

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GK

Q1. Which two teams competed in the final match of the Women's Premier League (WPL) 2023, held on March 26, 2023 in Mumbai?

1. Gujarat Giants & Delhi Capitals
2. UP Warriorz & Delhi Capitals
3. Royal Challengers Bangalore & Mumbai Indians
4. Delhi Capitals & Mumbai Indians
5. Delhi Capitals & Gujarat Giants

A1. 4

Q2. As of December 31 2024, which of the following countries is not a NATO member? (XAT 2025)

- 1) Poland
- 2) Ukraine
- 3) Lithuania
- 4) Italy
- 5) Turkey

A2. 2

Q3. Which company recently acquired MGM Studios to enhance its streaming service content? (XAT 2025)

- 1) Jio
- 2) Amazon
- 3) Netflix
- 4) Disney
- 5) Apple

A3. 2

Know more about how to improve your Decision Making.

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**Kislay
Bhardwaj**

I joined CATKing & I must say the books provided are concise and diverse enough to prepare you for the examination and the mocks have the most varied difficulty level of any offering (I tried most of them). On top of all of this i got the daily live classes and recorded lectures on all the topics asked in the exam for a self paced learning experience, at this point looking back at it I couldn't have had better mentors and material to prepare with. Now that I have converted XIRI Jamshedpur campus I am confident enough in saying CATKing played a pivotal role in my journey. Hope this helps aspirants and I am available to engage on this page if anyone wants to discuss anything. All the best!!



XAT 3 year Analysis

		2025	2024	2023
VALR	Topic	No of Questions		
	RC Type 1	15 (5 RC - 5*3)	13 (5 RCs - 3*3 & 2*2)	4 sets x 3 Qs
	Poem	1 set * 2 Qs	1 set * 2 Qs	1 set x 2 Qs
	Fill in the Blanks	1	2	1
	Critical Reasoning	4	5	7
	Grammar / Punctuation	2	2	3
	Para jumble	2	2	1
	Total	26	26	26
DM	3 Questions Set	21	21	15
	2 Questions Set	0	0	4
	3 Question DI Type Set	0	0	3
	Total	21	21	22
QADI	Algebra	1	4	4
	Arithmetic	4	2	8
	Arithmetic progression	0	1	0
	Geometry	7	2	3
	Number system	2	3	4
	Data Sufficiency	0	1	2
	PnC	1	1	0
	Trigonometry	0	0	1
	Polynomials	1	1	0
	Investment	1	0	2
	Probability	0	0	1
	set theory	0	2	0
	DI Sets	12 (4*3 Qs)	11 (3*3 Qs & 1*2 Qs)	3*1 Qs
	Total	28	28	28





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XAT 2022 - 2025 score vs percentile analysis

%ile	Total	VALR	QADI	DM	Total	VALR	QADI	DM	Total	VALR	QADI	DM
	2025				2024				2023			
99	45	16	15	14	44	15	15	12	46	15	18	13
97	4.3	14	13	13.3	38	13.5	13	10.5	41	13	14	11
95	36.3	12	12	12.3	36	12	11	9	39	12	12.5	10.8
90	30.8	10	9.8	11	32	10	9	7	35	8	12	8
80	25.6	9	7	9.6	25	8	7	5	31	6.5	8	6.5
70	21	7	5	9	20	5	5	3	27	5	6	5

Know more about XAT Mock Taking Strategy.

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**Om Singh, XAT
99.39%ile**

After graduating from NIT Rourkela, I started working with IT Consulting firm, and since my job role is consultant decided to pursue MBA. Saw few videos on YouTube of Rahul Sir and took Mocks of CATKing. The dashboard of CATKing is amazing and helped a lot in my XAT preparation. Additionally, content on Decision Making which is a new section in XAT was very well curated and guiding, helping me ace that section with ease. I would like to Thank whole CATKing team for the course and special thanks to Rahul Sir for his motivating daily live session on YouTube, helping me achieve 99.3998%ile in XAT.





Sumit sir

XAT 2026 Mocks Schedule

XAT Full Length Mock

Mock Name	Release Date
Real XAT Mock 1	30th April
Real XAT Mock 2	30th May
Real XAT Mock 3	30th June
Real XAT Mock 4	30th July
Real XAT Mock 5	30th August
Real XAT Mock 6	30th August
Real XAT Mock 7	30th September
Real XAT Mock 8	30th September
Real XAT Mock 9	30th October
Real XAT Mock 10	30th October



All the Best!!!

