

FREE CHEAT SHEET

NMAT Syllabus 2026

Section-wise topics, topic-wise weightage and a study-priority map for NMAT by GMAC. Verified against GMAC's official NMAT pages on 4 October 2026.

108 questions (36 per section)	36–360 total score range	120 min total time (sectional timers)	0 negative marking	3 sections, any order you choose
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1. NMAT Syllabus 2026 at a Glance

Section	Questions	Time	Avg. per question	Score range	Official GMAC topics
Language Skills	36	28 min	~47 sec	12–120	Reading Comprehension, Para Forming, Error Identification, Prepositions, Sentence Completion, Analogies
Quantitative Skills	36	52 min	~87 sec	12–120	Number Properties, Arithmetic, Algebra and Probability, Data Interpretation (Caselets and Tables; Graphs and Charts), Data Sufficiency
Logical Reasoning	36	40 min	~67 sec	12–120	Critical Reasoning, Analytical Puzzles, Deductions, Other Reasoning
Total	108	120 min	—	36–360	Computer-adaptive; no negative marking

Each section carries equal weight: 36 questions and a 12–120 scaled range, so one-third of your 36–360 total.

2. How the Adaptive Format Affects Your Prep

- Questions arrive one at a time, selected from a pool based on your earlier answers; you cannot go back and change an answer.
- Higher scorers generally receive a harder set of questions, so the topic mix can differ from one candidate to another.
- Every listed topic is fair game: prepare broadly, and protect accuracy early in each section.

3. NMAT 2026 Key Dates and Fees (per mba.com)

Event	Start	End
Registration	20 Aug 2026	10 Oct 2026
Scheduling	20 Aug 2026	22 Oct 2026
Rescheduling	20 Aug 2026	17 Dec 2026
Exam delivery (test window)	2 Nov 2026	20 Dec 2026
Retake registration and scheduling	3 Nov 2026	17 Dec 2026

Fees: test registration INR 3000 + taxes; retake INR 3000 + taxes; reschedule INR 1200 + taxes. Registering for NMAT is separate from applying to B-schools.

Is there an official NMAT syllabus PDF?

GMAC publishes a section-wise topic list rather than a standalone syllabus PDF. The official downloadable resource is the NMAT sample questions PDF. This cheat sheet condenses the official topic list and adds clearly labelled indicative estimates.

4. NMAT Syllabus 2026: Section-Wise Topics

Language Skills		36 questions 28 minutes
Reading Comprehension	Passages with questions on main idea, inference, tone and detail.	
Para Forming	Arranging sentences into a coherent paragraph (sentence formation).	
Error Identification	Spotting errors such as wrong verb forms, tense and agreement.	
Prepositions and Sentence Completion	Choosing the correct preposition or word to complete a sentence.	
Analogies	Identifying word relationships.	

Quantitative Skills		36 questions 52 minutes
Number Properties	Fractions and logarithms. Commonly practised: divisibility, remainders.	
Arithmetic	Percentages, interest, ratios, averages. Commonly practised: profit and loss, time-speed-distance, time and work, mixtures.	
Algebra and Probability	Equations, sequences, combinations. Includes linear and quadratic equations, inequalities, permutations and combinations, probability.	
Data Interpretation	Caselets and tables; graphs and charts.	
Data Sufficiency	Deciding whether the given statements are enough to answer the question.	

Geometry? GMAC's official list does not name geometry or mensuration. Some prep sources include basic geometry, so keep it low priority and revise it after the core topics.

Logical Reasoning		36 questions 40 minutes
Critical Reasoning	Conclusions, assumptions and inferences; strengthening and weakening arguments.	
Analytical Puzzles	Arrangements, input-output and set theory.	
Deductions	Statement-based reasoning.	
Other Reasoning	Decision making, syllogisms, Venn diagrams. Widely practised: coding-decoding, blood relations, series.	

Row headings follow GMAC's published topic list. Items marked "commonly practised" or "widely practised" are standard prep extensions, not separate official categories.

What Each Section Rewards

Language Skills (~47 sec per question)	Quantitative Skills (~87 sec per question)	Logical Reasoning (~67 sec per question)
Fast, accurate reading and clean grammar. There is little room to deliberate, so practise short timed sets.	The most time per question, but Arithmetic and Data Interpretation can be calculation-heavy. Mental maths and smart approximation save minutes.	Structured thinking. Critical Reasoning needs careful reading and puzzles need a quick set-up. Do not sink five minutes into one arrangement.

You choose the section order at the start of the exam. Try different orders across your practice mocks to see what suits you.

5. NMAT Syllabus Weightage (Indicative)

Read this first: GMAC does not publish topic-wise weightage or question papers. The ranges below are indicative, compiled from published trend analyses of recent test-taker experience. Because NMAT is adaptive, treat them as directional. Ranges overlap, so they will not add up to exactly 36.

Section-wise weightage: equal

Language Skills 33.3% | Quantitative Skills 33.3% | Logical Reasoning 33.3% (36 questions and a 12–120 scaled range each).

Quantitative Skills

Topic	Approx. questions	Priority
Arithmetic	10–12	Very high
Algebra	5–7	High
Modern Math (P&C, probability, sets)	5–6	High
Data Interpretation (1–2 sets)	4–8	High
Data Sufficiency	4–5	Medium
Number Properties	3–4	Medium

Language Skills

Topic	Approx. questions	Priority
Reading Comprehension	8–12	Very high
Error Identification, Prepositions, Grammar	6–8	High
Sentence Completion	5–6	Medium
Para Forming	4–5	Medium
Analogies and Vocabulary	3–4	Lower-medium

Logical Reasoning

Topic	Approx. questions	Priority
Critical Reasoning	9–12	Very high
Deductions (statement-based)	4–6	High
Syllogisms and Venn Logic	4–5	Medium
Puzzles, Arrangements, Input-Output, Other (the balance)	13–19	High

6. Study-Priority Map: What to Study First

Tier 3 does not mean skip. It means polish last. This ordering is CatMock's, based on the indicative ranges on page 3.

Tier	Language Skills	Quantitative Skills	Logical Reasoning
1: Start here	Reading Comprehension; Error Identification and Prepositions	Arithmetic; Algebra; Modern Math (P&C, probability)	Critical Reasoning; Deductions; Puzzles and Arrangements
2: Build next	Sentence Completion; Para Forming	Data Interpretation; Data Sufficiency; Number Properties	Syllogisms and Venn Logic; Input-Output; Decision Making
3: Polish	Analogies and Vocabulary	Basic geometry and mensuration (not in GMAC's named list)	Coding-Decoding; Blood Relations; Series

7. Five-Step Plan to Cover the Syllabus

1	Diagnose first. Take one full-length mock to see where you stand.
2	Cover Tier 1. Build accuracy in Arithmetic, Reading Comprehension and Critical Reasoning.
3	Add Tier 2. Move to Data Interpretation, Data Sufficiency, syllogisms and grammar.
4	Drill sections against the clock. Use the real 28 / 52 / 40-minute limits.
5	Simulate and review. Take full mocks and log every error.

There is no negative marking, so attempt every question.

8. Common Mistakes with the NMAT Syllabus

1. Treating indicative weightage as fixed. GMAC publishes none, and the adaptive format varies the mix.
2. Relying on an "official syllabus PDF". The official source is the topic list on mba.com.
3. Over-investing in geometry. It is not in GMAC's named topic list.
4. Ignoring Data Sufficiency. It is a named Quant topic with its own format.
5. Studying without sectional clocks. The 28, 52 and 40-minute limits are strict.
6. Skipping Language Skills. It has the tightest clock and counts for one-third of your score.

Practise the syllabus under exam conditions

Full-length and sectional NMAT mocks with solutions at catmock.com [NMAT mock tests](#). Week-by-week schedules: [NMAT 2026 preparation plan](#). Full guide: [NMAT syllabus 2026](#).

Official sources: mba.com/exams/nmat/about | [important dates and fees](#)