

An Analysis of IIFT Entrance Test 2008

Executive Summary

The IIFT Entrance Test 2008 was very similar in essence to IIFT 2007, but there was a slight change in the pattern of the test. Unlike last year, when there was 4 sections with three of them having sub-sections as in Part (i) and Part (ii), this time there was 6 distinct sections. Like last year, each question had only one correct answer. Students accustomed to the 150 minutes format of CAT which comprised of much lesser number of questions, found the IIFT paper to be extremely lengthy. Another notable departure from last year was the absence of Decision Making questions from Logical Reasoning section.

Salient features:

1. Number of sections: 6
2. Number of options for each question: 4
3. All questions had only one correct answer, out of the given options
4. Each incorrect answer carried 1/4 negative marks
5. Variation in weightage, as compared to the previous year
6. No specific mention of sectional cut-offs
7. Like last year, aspirants were allowed to retain the booklet
8. **The expected cut-off for the Delhi campus will be between (27-28)**

Here is an overview of how you should have attempted this paper.

Section	Number of questions	Weightage per question	Total Marks	Possible attempts (Qs)	Suggested Time (Min)	Possible score
RC	12	0.80	9.60	8	15	4.0
EU	23	0.70	16.10	10	12	5.0
GA	30	0.30	9.00	10	10	2.0
QA	27	0.70	18.90	9	25	4.5
DI	26	0.80	20.80	8	18	4.5
LR	32	0.80	25.60	12	30	8.0
Total	150		100	50- 54	120	27-28

Important Note:

The above-mentioned table only suggests about a possible score. The actual cut-off for receiving a call for the second round of selection may vary. As per the experts of Career Launcher, a score of **28+** may fetch you a call. Please note that IIFT also considers work-experience as an important parameter before issuing such call letters.

Disclaimer: All information on cut-offs, analysis, answer key, solutions and scores are based on independent analysis and evaluation made by Career Launcher. We do not take responsibility for any decision that might be taken, based on this information.

Verbal Ability Section

Reading Comprehension Section:

The RC passages were on the lengthier side but quite simple. Most of the questions were fact-based and asked for direct data from the passage. One could have just scanned through them and answered the given questions. Like last year this year also saw the use of questions based on matching items in list 1 with items in list 2. The key to answering these was to read the options carefully, as addition or omission of even a single word to the option could have made a difference.

The composition of the section was as follows:

Topic	Number of Qs	Remarks
Reading Comprehension	3 Passage, 12 Qs	Weightage 0.8
Narration of a submarine journey	4Qs	Easy and direct questions, Factual
Analysis of the direct model versus conventional manufacturing	4 Qs	Easy and direct questions, Factual
Narration of a soldier's experience in Belize	4 Qs	Easy and direct questions, Factual

English Usage Section:

The questions in this section comprised Vocabulary, Grammar, Usage and Para jumbles. The level of difficulty ranged from easy to average. Most of the questions testing word-analogies had close options. The vocabulary questions tested a candidate's knowledge of the secondary meaning. The grammar questions were on the GMAT pattern and **were taken from one of the GMAT study materials**. Please check the file on Source of IIFT 2008 questions to know further.

The composition of the section was as follows:

Topic	Number of Qs	Remarks
English usage	23	Weightage 0.7
Antonyms	3	Easy-Medium
Word-meaning	3	Easy-medium
Verbal Analogies	4	Easy-medium
Fill in the blanks	4	Average
Grammar	4	Average, mostly tested modifiers, parallelism, tenses and subject-verb agreement
Para jumbles	3	Easy-medium
Word Usage	2	Easy-medium

General Awareness Section:

Your knowledge of Geography, Current Literary events as well as Current Affairs had to be sound to crack this section of the test. The emphasis this year was more on current GK, rather than Business GK. Actually there was only one question on Business GK concerning a take over by Tata Chemicals. Latest development on nuclear front seemed to catch their fancy. Attempting 10+ questions in this section would be considered 'good'.

Overall, the difficulty level of this section was moderate to difficult, with a couple of speed-breakers thrown in between.

The composition of the section was as follows:

Topic	Number of Qs	Remarks
Overall	30	Weightage 0.30
Matching 2 columns	12	Average to Difficult
Matching multiple columns	2	Moderate to Difficult
Individual Questions	14	Easy to average
Data Arrangement	2	Blend of easy and difficult

Quantitative Ability Section

After CAT, which had a reasonably high-level QA section, this paper successfully maintained the high standard of quantitative ability section across Indian B-School Entrance Tests. There was a definite stress on probability and permutation combination, which accounted for 9 questions in the paper. Geometry, the traditional favourite, which was absent in last year's paper, came back with a bang. The lion's share of the section was claimed by Algebra and Geometry, which comprised 50% of the section. The section was deceptively difficult, but on a closer look one can attempt 8-9 questions at ease in 25 minutes.

It was a double bonanza for Career Launcher students. 3 questions in this section is exact replica from CL study material. The specific study material in question is QA 2 Class Exercise for NON CAT Exams. CL students may have a look at question 7, 17 and 18 of the mentioned class exercise, which was exactly similar to Q. 106, 107 and 105 of IIFT 2008 paper (Set C).

The composition of the section was as follows:

Topic	Number of Qs	Remarks
	27	Weightage 0.70
Numbers	1	Difficult calculation
Arithmetic	1	Straightforward TSD question
Algebra	7	Average to difficult
Geometry & Mensuration	6	Easy to Average difficulty level
Permutation Combination	3	Easy to Average
Probability	3+ 3 (in a set)	Difficult
Statistics	1	Difficult
Trigonometry	2	Average

Data Interpretation Section:

At first glance, this part of the test appeared tough and involved tediously lengthy calculations. A lot of data was given in each question and the options were more like statements to be verified. The DI section was a mix of only average and difficult questions; there was no easy pick. Data given in all the sets in this section were easy to comprehend and questions were direct. But tedious calculation made the life miserable for the aspirants. An ideal strategy would have been, to look for comparatively easy questions in 3-4 different sets rather than going for one entire set.

The composition of the section was as follows:

Topic	Number of Qs	Remarks
	26	Weightage 0.8
Table based on Growth Trend in Rail Wagons	6	Difficult calculation, Statements to be verified in each option
Table based on Production of 4 products P, Q, R and S	5	Comparatively easy, should have been attempted, options were not statement type
Table based on State-wise FDI Inflow in India	5	Difficult calculation, Statements to be verified in each option
Table based on World Merchandise Exports	5	Difficult calculation, Statements to be verified in each option
Line Graph based on Unit Price, Revenue and Total Profit	5	Data was simpler, Comparatively easy, should have been attempted

Logical Reasoning Section:

Compared to the tedious DI section, the Logical Reasoning section provided an iota of relief to the aspirants. The absence of questions on Decision Making, which was there in the paper last year, enhanced the ease. This section carried the most number of questions (32) with very high weight of 0.8. You should have spent the most amount of time in this section.

Surprisingly there were 11 questions in this section, which carried an uncanny resemblance to 6 reasoning questions from CAT 2002 and another 5 reasoning questions from CAT 2003 (November). It seems that someone just changed the name and little data, and replicated those questions in IIFT 2008 paper. In few cases, the options were also exactly matching, which is very surprising again.

This may throw a question mark on the credibility on IIFT Entrance Test 2008 paper.

The composition of the section was as follows:

Topic	Number of Qs	Remarks
	32	Weightage 0.80
Selection Based on Certain Criteria	2 + 3 (in 2 sets)	Similar To IRMA paper, easy to handle, couple of questions were confusing
Sequential Input-Output Tracing with a given string	4 +3 (in 2 sets)	Difficult
Mathematical / Analytical Reasoning Individual Questions	4	Average Difficulty level, 3 out of 4 questions in this category is replica of CAT 2002 Question
Mathematical / Analytical Reasoning Questions in Set	2+3+3+4 (in 4 sets)	3 out of 4 sets are direct replica of CAT 2002 and CAT 2003 reasoning questions
Blood Relation based reasoning	2	Easy
Simple syllogism	2	Easy

All the best!

The Career Launcher Team

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