

# Introduction to the GRE

The GRE, which stands for Graduate Records Examination, is a test similar to the SAT which is needed for most graduate school applications. The GRE is administered by ETS, Educational Testing Services, which also does the TOFEL, SAT, AP and many other instructionally related tests. Registration for the GRE is done on ETS's website [www.ets.org](http://www.ets.org), and spots fill up very quickly so it is advised to register as soon as possible. All schools and departments will use GRE scores differently, so it is advised to call the school or department you are applying to and ask how scores are used, and what the minimum and average scores are in each of the three sections of the GRE: Analytical Writing, Quantitative and Verbal. GRE subject tests are separate tests, also through ETS, may be required. Scores take a few weeks to process, so be sure that your scores will be reported to your school before the priority application date. In August 2011, the GRE was revised which means that there are new types of questions and old types such as analogies have been eliminated, and it is now a longer and is graded on a different scale.

## General GRE Test Preparation Resources:

### Free Online Practice Tests:

- The Princeton Review offers a Free Online Practice Test available at:  
<http://uat.www.princetonreview.com/grad/free-gre-practice-test.aspx>
- Kaplan Offers a Free Online Practice Test available at:  
<http://www.kaptest.com/GRE/Explore-the-GRE/gre-practice-test.html>

### ETS:

- Offers two free, full length Practice Tests through their Powerprep software which is available for download at ETS through the following link:  
[http://www.ets.org/gre/revised\\_general/prepare/powerprep2](http://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/powerprep2)
- Offers sample questions, math review as well as a practice book for the paper based GRE at:  
[http://www.ets.org/gre/revised\\_general/prepare?WT.ac=rx46](http://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare?WT.ac=rx46)
- Offers an Issue topic and Argument topic essay bank at:  
[http://www.ets.org/gre/revised\\_general/prepare/analytical\\_writing/](http://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/analytical_writing/)
- Offers free GRE testing resources:  
<http://www.takethegre.com/preparing-for-gre-exam>

### GRE Vocabulary Lists:

- Offers a list of high frequency seen GRE vocabulary words:
  - <http://www.testprepreview.com/vocabulary.htm>
  - <http://www.grevocabulary.org/>