# DEFINE YOUR GMAT STRATEGY

& YOUR OWN STUDY Plan

## **Scope of this Session**

#### **STRATEGY SESSION #1**

- 1. GMAT Scoring
- 2. How to define your target split
- 3. High level 60 day plan (2 stage plan
- 4. Focus on **STAGE 1** 
  - The sequence in which to study
  - How to tackle quant
- 5. How to study
  - Focus on core skills

#### **STRATEGY SESSION #2**

# Same Study plan – Focus on **STAGE**2 – **Refinement**

- 1. How to get ready for mocks
  - What to study
  - Prior preparation for mocks
  - Etc.
- 2. How to review your mocks
- 3. How to create a 30 day refinement plan (up to 5 mocks)
- 4. Key metrics that you need to track throughout the process
  - Takt Time
  - Total Productive Time
  - Accuracy



## Agenda of the Session

#### **Get Ready for Mocks**



- Mentally Prepared
- 2. Metrics

#### **Evaluate Mocks**



- Understand Str/Wk.
- 2. Set goals

#### Last 30 day Plan



- 1. Allocate time
- 2. Take Vacation

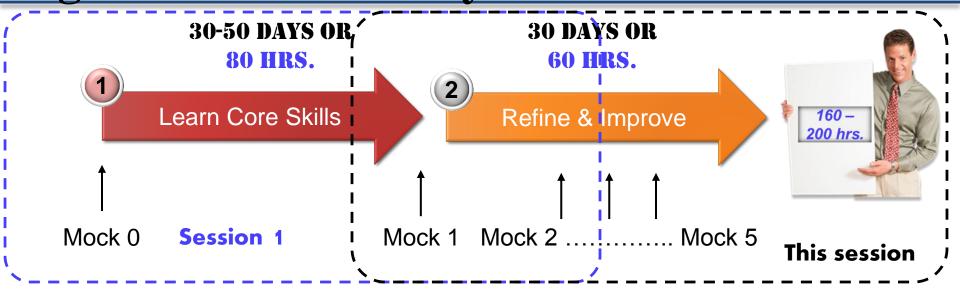
Get you ready for the GMAT 30 days before the exam.

## **Upcoming Free Sessions in July**

Session Name	Date/Time
Tactical Strategies to Ace the GMAT	July 7
CR1 - Prethinking for CR Assumptions	July 15
SC1 - Importance of Meaning	July 21
GMAT Strategy Session #1	July 28

Entry limited by the # of participants we can accommodate in our meeting room

## **High level 2 Phase Study Plan**



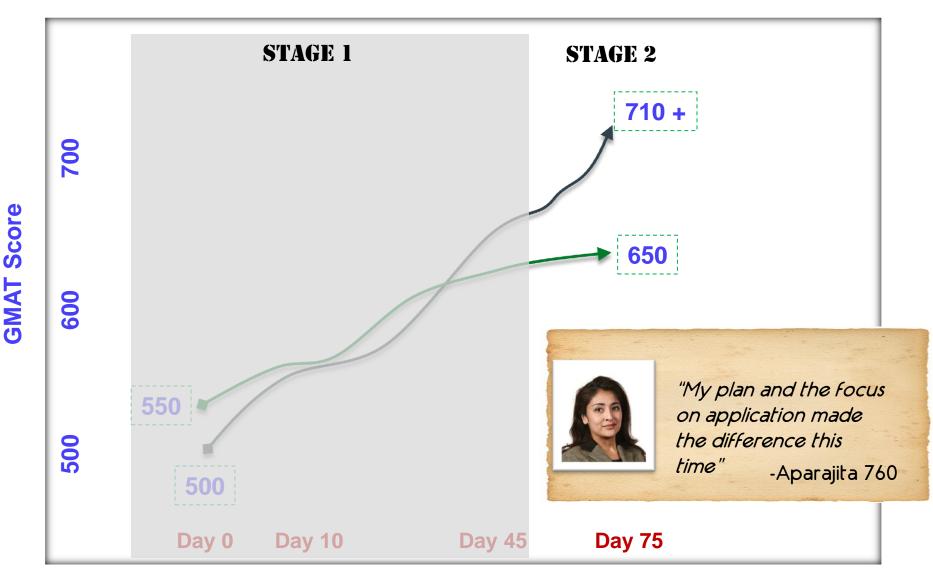
- ⇒ Assumptions: 20 hrs per week; 4 weeks per month (2 days off)
- ⇒ Access to OG and other relevant material



- ✓ Most non-natives require 200+ hrs of effort to achieve their dream score
- ✓ There are people who have done this in 45 days with diligent effort



## This stage could have a 70 point impact on your score





# Who are you?

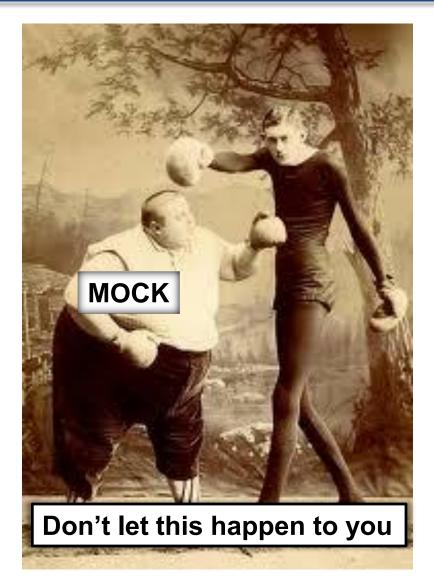
- 1. E-GMAT Customer
- 2. Someone who is evaluating e-GMAT offerings
- 3. Neither

# Part 1 – Getting Ready for Mocks

#### **Get Ready for Mocks**



- 1. Mentally Prepared
- 2. Metrics



## What is the Purpose of Mocks

Test of Ability

- 1. Your accuracy in various sections
- 2. Can you solve problems of different kinds "together"
- 3. Your strengths and weaknesses

P

Timing

How long do you take to solve problems?

P

Endurance

What impact does fatigue have on your performance

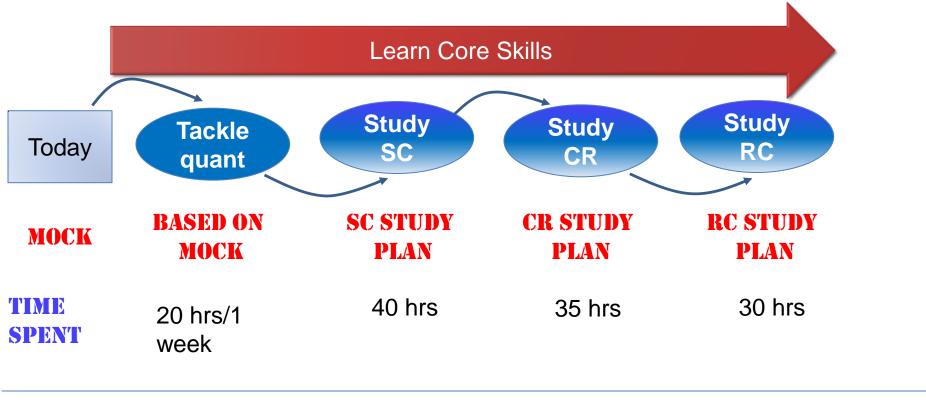
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Strategy

Your Mock Strategy

T

#### E-GMAT customers – what should you have studied for mocks



#### WHERE TO STUDY

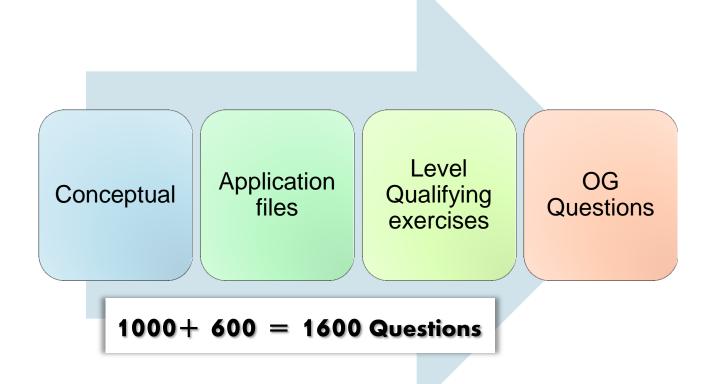
Any good quant book

- 1. E-GMAT
- 2. Live Sessions
- 3. OG 12
- 4. Verbal Review
- 1. E-GMAT
- 2. Live Sessions
- 3. OG 12
- 4. Verbal Review

- 1. E-GMAT
- 2. Live Sessions
- 3. OG 12
- 4. Verbal Review



## Your Progression of exercises (e-GMAT Customers)





You should have nailed both the process and timing for individual sections



## Start with 25 Question Mixed Quizzes

#### What is the Purpose?

- Ensure command over process
- 2. Timing is nailed
- 3. Stamina build up
- 4. Curb anxiety

#### How to do this?

- Create a Verbal Quiz in Grockit
- 2. The quiz should have no less than 25 questions
- 3. Should include all 3 sections (SC/CR/RC)
- 4. The quiz should be timed

#### **METRICS**

Accuracy = 70% or more
Define your Takt Time for each Section

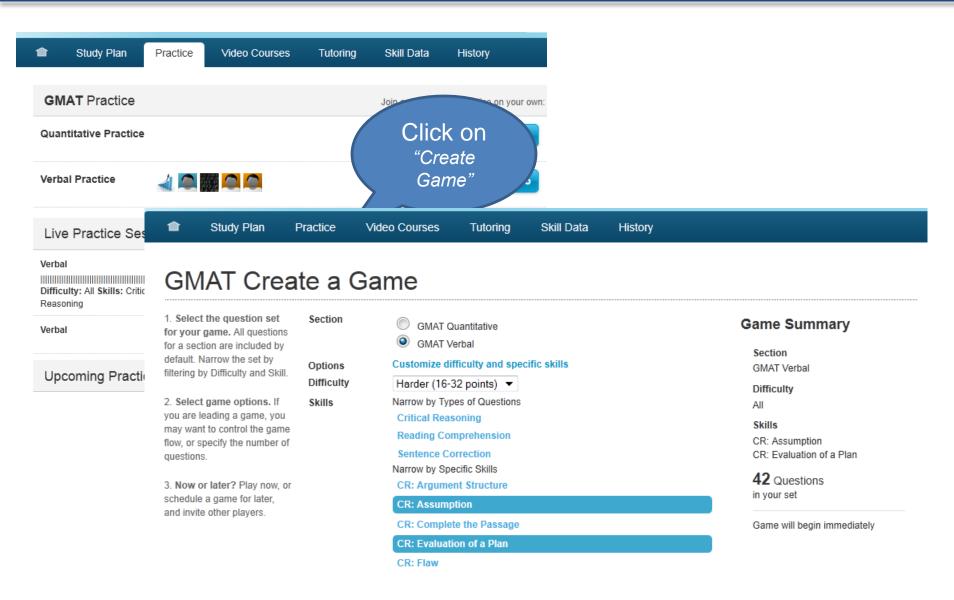
#### Help Videos**□**

- 1. How to Access Grockit Mock CATs
- 2. How to Use Skill Data at Grockit -
- 3. How to Access your <u>Strengths and Weaknesses</u> using Grockit



Do At least 2 quizzes, Make sure that you are not (very) anxious

## How to create a custom Quiz in Grockit





## So what is Takt Time

**Takt time**, derived from the German word **Taktzeit** which translates to *cycle time*, sets the pace for industrial manufacturing lines

=> Time required to answer a question without compromising accuracy.

#### **CR Accuracy Variation**



#### Why is Takt Time important?

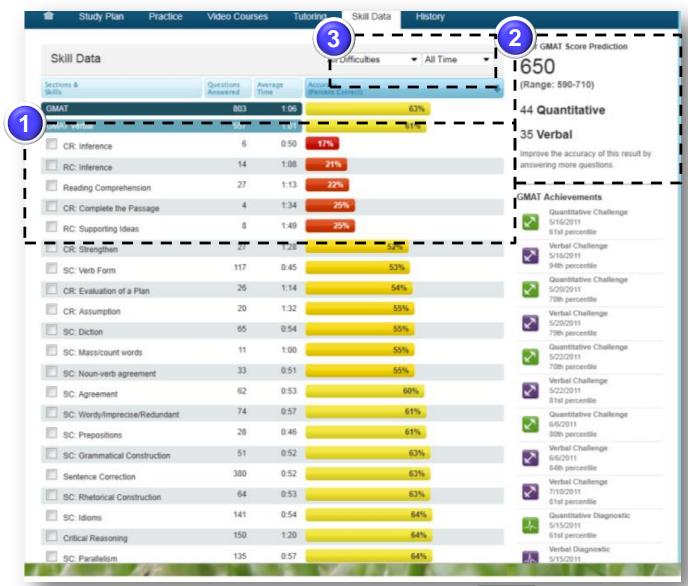
- 1. Helps budget timing in mocks.
- 2. Proves that you cannot solve more questions in less time without impacting accuracy

#### **How can you calculate Takt Time?**

- 1. Grockit quiz with SC/C/RC question types.
- 2. From Mocks



## Getting Takt Time from Grockit Analytics





## What impact could Takt Time have

**Takt time**, derived from the German word **Taktzeit** which translates to *cycle time*, sets the pace for industrial manufacturing lines









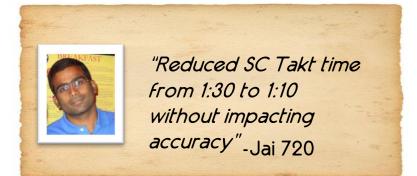
It also clouds your evaluation of mocks (more later)



### How to use this Takt Time?

#### **Attributes of Takt Time**

- It varies from person to person
- It cannot be changed 2 days before your mock/test
- It can be changed with persistent effort



## How can you use Takt Time?

#### Strategize Timing in Mocks

**Scenario:** You have 10 minutes and 8 Questions. Your Takt Time in SC is 1:25, CR is 1:45, RC is 2:00 minutes. How will you proceed further

#### Strategize Preparation

#### Make concious effort to improve your Takt Time by

- Internalizing process.
- Improving understanding of concepts.
- 3. Improving Comprehension.

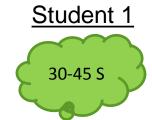


## Factors that affect timing

- Ability to read and comprehend
- Understanding of the concepts
- Attack Strategy (Process)
- Familiarity with question types
- Agility of the mind

#### **CR** Assumption Question

Understand the argument







Pre-think the answer



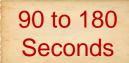


Evaluate the answer choices





60 to 90 seconds





## Your Timing Strategy for Mock (Verbal Only)



### PART 2

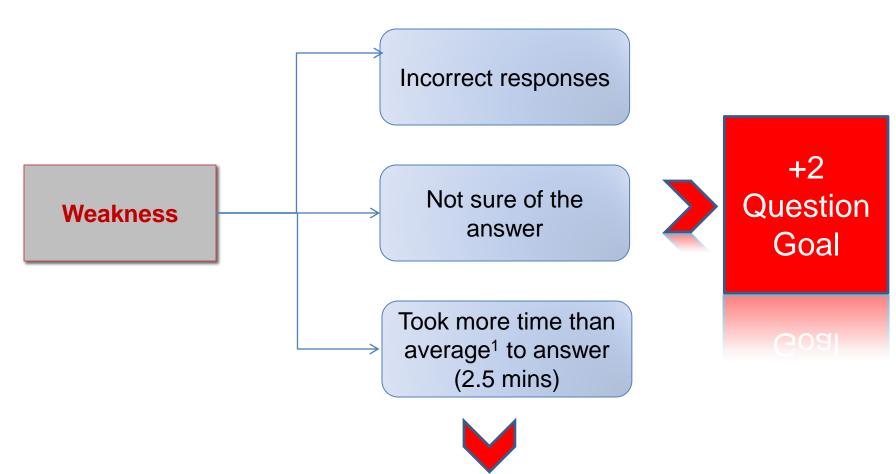
## HOW TO REVIEW YOUR MOCK TEST

#### **Evaluate Mocks**



- 1. Understand Str/Wk.
- 2. Set goals

## **Areas of Weakness**



1. Note some questions and question types will take longer (example Bold Face)

These 3 categories will apply to each section



### What to monitor in mock test

What to Monitor	How to Monitor?	Why is it important?
Accuracy for a particular question type	%age of questions correct of that question type	Easy win, ensures instant score improvement.
Time to answer question > 30 seconds more than Takt Time	Self explanatory	Implies a weakness, either in strategy or understanding
Wrong answers – answered in less than average time	Self explanatory	Careless mistakes
Your actual time (every 5/10 questions) Vs. Planned time	Check the test timing	Large deviation may have a negative impact on your accuracy
Total Productive Time	Time taken to answer questions correctly	Need to maximize it to maximize score



Have a +2/+3 improvement goal for your next mock.



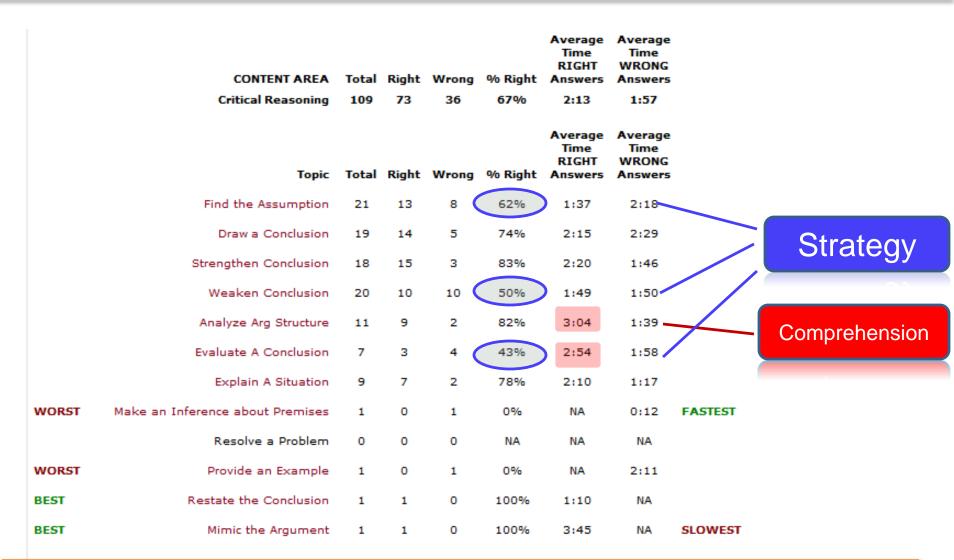
## **Drill Down Example**

#### **VERBAL: ANALYSIS BY QUESTION FORMAT & DIFFICULTY**

QUESTION FORMAT	Total	Right	Wrong	Blank	% Right	Average Time RIGHT Answers	Average Time WRONG Answers	Average Difficulty RIGHT Answers	Average Difficulty WRONG Answers
Critical Reasoning	109	73	36	0	67%	2:13	1:57	670	670
300 - 500	7	5	2	i	71%	1:09	1:13	0,0	
	-		3					The	Same
500 - 600	13	10			77%	1:39	1:26	1110	Jamo
600 - 700	35	20	15		57%	2:25	1:54		
700 - 800	54	38	16	- ↓	70%	2:25	2:12		
Reading Comprehension	72	37	35	0	51%	1:46	2:11	650	710
300 - 500	2	2	0	Ì	100%	1:08	NA		
500 - 600	9	7	2		78%	1:35	0:41	Look	s OK
600 - 700	27	17	10		63%	1:29	1:19		
700 - 800	34	11	23		32%	2:27	2:42		
Sentence Correction	89	58	29	2	65%	1:29	1:19	680	700
300 - 500	1	1	0	Ì	100%	1:52	NA		
500 - 600	4	4	0		100%	1:24	NA	Verv	Close
600 - 700	49	32	15		65%	1:24	1:03		
700 - 800	35	21	14	$\downarrow$	60%	1:36	1:37		

This report was generated with DATA from the following exams:

## **Analysis - CR**



- 1. Improve Evaluate and Weaken accuracy
- 2. Revise Conclusion to improve timing

## **Analysis-RC**

	CONTENT AREA Reading Comprehension	Total 72	Right 37	Wrong 35	% Right 51%	Average Time RIGHT Answers 1:46	Average Time WRONG Answers 2:11	
	Торіс	Total	Right	Wrong	% Right	Average Time RIGHT Answers	Average Time WRONG Answers	
	Inference	33	16	17	48%	2:09	1:58	
WORST	Specific Detail	28	12	16	43%	1:23	2:20	
BEST	Main Idea	8	7	1	88%	1:49	4:09	SLOWEST
	Passage Structure	3	2	1	67%	1:02	1:27	FASTEST
	Tone	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	

This report was generated with DATA from the following exams:

- 1. Review Reading Strategies, Make sure that you comprehend the passage to avoid re-reading.
- 2. Review Inference and Detail files.



# **Analysis-SC**

	CONTENT AREA Sentence Correction	Total 89	Right 58	Wrong 29	% Right 65%	Average Time RIGHT Answers 1:29	Average Time WRONG Answers 1:19	
	Topic	Total			% Right	Average Time RIGHT Answers	Average Time WRONG Answers	
	Subject Verb Agreement	9	6	3	67%	1:17	0:59	
	Pronouns	5	4	1	80%	1:05	0:07	FASTEST
	Modifiers	11	7	3	64%	2:06	2:29	SLOWEST
	Verbs	11	6	4	55%	1:31	1:44	
	Idioms	9	5	4	56%	1:08	1:09	
BEST	Concision	7	6	1	86%	2:08	0:04	7
	Clarity of Meaning	6	4	2	67%	1:35	1:47	Major revision
BEST	Parallelism	7	6	1	86%	1:29	0:11	
	Comparisons	11	7	4	64%	1:16	1:24	
WORST	Quantity Expressions	7	2	5	29%	1:05	1:13	
	Connecting Punctuation	6	5	1	83%	1:02	0:50	

## What to do after the Analysis is complete?

#### **List Top Three Weaknesses**

- 1. RC Detail Questions (2 Questions)
- 2. RC Inference Questions (2 Questions)
- 3. CR Weaken Questions (2 Questions)

- 1. Mitigation Plan for Top 2
- 2. Time required for mitigation (add 20% more)
- 3. Resources to be used
  - Conceptual
  - Practice

#### <u>List Top Three Careless Mistakes (Reasons)</u>

- 1. Reason 1
- 2. Reason 2
- 3. Reason 3

- 1. Mitigation Plan for Top 2
- 2. Mental notes
- 3. Practice To ensure success

#### **Other Metrics**

- 1. Takt Time for each section
- 2. Total Productive Time for the test

TAKE AWAY

Have a +2/+3 question goal for your next mock.



### **Total Productive Time – New Term**

<u>Total Productive Time</u> => The amount of time spent on answering questions correctly in a mock test.

Use Case: Applicant 1 with Mock score 35

	Right	Wrong
# of questions	23	18
Time spent	41:20	33:40
Avg. Time/question	1:47	1:52

- Clearly, this applicant tried to answer all questions correctly and did not try to improve his total productive time
- As you will see in the spreadsheet; he was 8 minutes behind by the time he reached question #22
- He had a 21 percentile drop from 98 (#21) to 77 (#41)



## A few tips ....

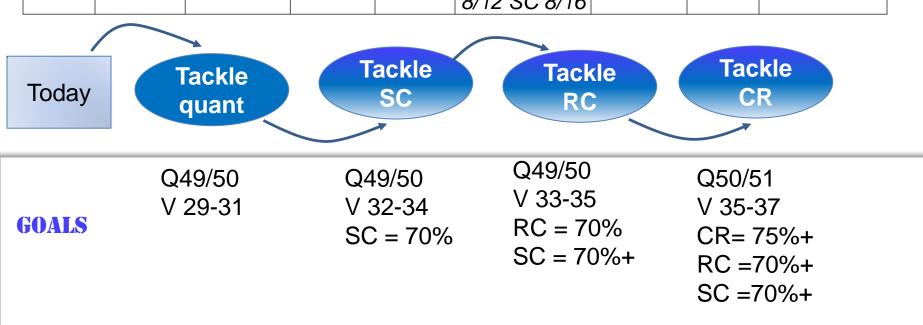
- 1. Its better to skip 1 question every now and then if you are falling behind.
- Try to adhere to these timing strategies while appearing for mock.
- Maximize your total productive time to maximize your mock score.
- 4. Use your knowledge of relative section accuracies/Takt Time while skipping a question.

# CREATING YOUR LAST 30 DAYS PLAN



#### Use Case: Quant Whiz, who has recently scored 630 on the GMATPrep

Total score	Math score	V score	Math correct	Verbl correct	Overall Score	SC - Corr	CR- Corr	RC - Corr
630	47	30	30	23	RC 7/13 CR 8/12 SC 8/16	50	67	53





## You define how much time you need.



•	September		~	October 2011	~		<u>November</u> ►
	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
							<b>1</b> (630, Q47, V30)
							(RC 7/13, CR 8/12, SC 8/16)
							Define your Q Weakness
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Work on your Q Weakness - revise theory	Work on your Q Weakness -	Work on your Q Weakness -	Prepare for next mock. Revise all previous mocks and all sections	Mock test	Revise mock, notice the area for improvement	Tackle SC
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	Tackle SC	sc	sc	sc	SC	Prepare for next mock. Revise all previous mocks and all sections	Prepare for next mock. Revise all previous mocks and all sections
•	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	Mock test	Break	RC (holiday)	RC	RC	RC	RC
2	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
1	Prepare for next mock. Revise all previous mocks and all sections	Mock test	CR	CR	CR	CR	Prepare for next mock. Revise all previous mocks and all sections
•	30	31	Notes:				
	Mock test						

### **Best Practices**

- 1. Accuracy first, timing next.
- If you accuracy is less than 65% in any section, then work on fundamentals (e-GMAT course can help you there)
- Have a 2/3 Question goal for improvement for each mock.
- 4. Make sure that you tackle your weakest areas
- Knowing your Takt Time can help you make judicious decisions in the mock.
- 6. Aim to improve your Total Productive Time with every mock.



## People have benefitted tremendously in last 30 days







https://e-gmat.com/blogs/?category\_name=success



# **QUESTIONS**



# Verbal Live Prep

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# E-GMAT provides higher score <u>improvement</u> than MGMAT does

#### e-GMAT Verbal Live Prep Reviews

Number of reviews [15] Average Rating: \*\* \* \* \* (4.9/5)

#### e-GMAT Course Rankings

**Overall Score Improvement** 

International Student Score Improvement

87 points

87 Point

87 po

Improvement

Quant (Verbal Only)

## Manhattan GMAT 9-Session Prep Cours Reviews

Number of reviews [48] Average Rating: \*\*\*\*\* (4.9/5)

Manhattan GMAT Course Rankings

Overall Score Improvement
95 points

International Student Score Improvement
77 points

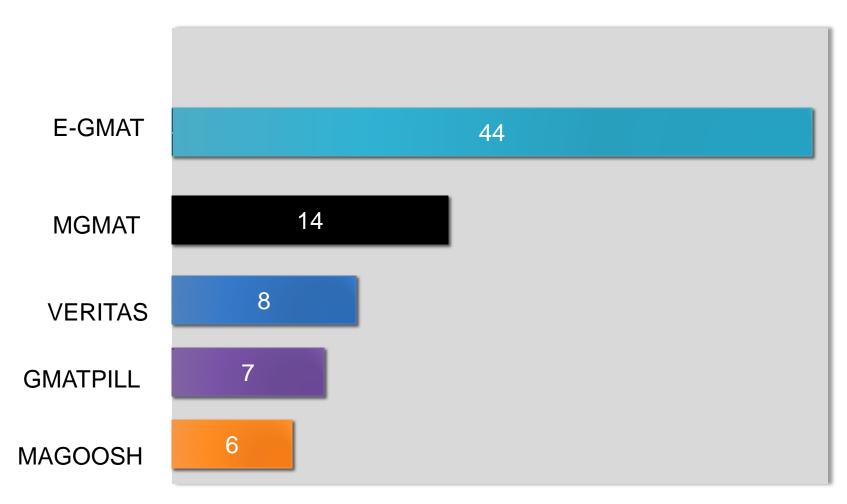
Verbal

77 Point Improvement
(Both Quant and Verbal)



Verbal

## More non-natives succeed using e-GMAT



# of reviews by Non-Natives



**Based on GMATClub Reviews** 



# Verbal Live Prep Offers More of everything

COURSE FEATURE	e-GMAT	MGMAT	<u>VeritasPrep</u>	Knewton
Live Verbal Classroom hours	36+	14	21	-
Verbal Score Improvement Guarantee	▼ 4 point	_	_	_
Practice Questions	4000+	1450+	1500+	3800+
Designed for Non-Natives	V	-	_	_
Practice CATs	5	6	15	6
Analytics	V	_	Yes	Yes
No Hassle money-back guarantee	V	_	Yes	B2T
Attend Classes Multiple Times	V	_	Yes	_
Price	\$329	\$1190-1590	\$1650	\$399
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## What is included in Verbal Live Prep?



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e-GMAT CR



e-GMAT RC



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GMAT Strategy Session



4000 Questions



## Tactical Strategies for your Mocks

