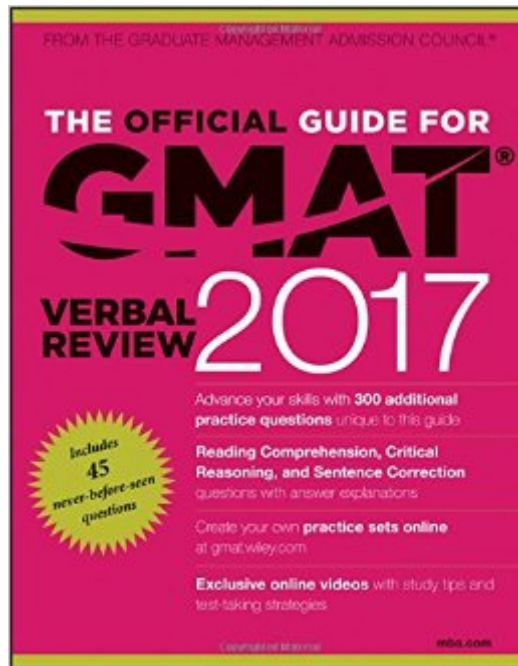


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# The Official Guide For GMAT Verbal Review 2017 With Online Question Bank And Exclusive Video



## Synopsis

The ultimate in GMAT Verbal preparation, with over 300 practice questions and answers The Official Guide for the GMAT Verbal Review 2017 provides practical preparation focused on the verbal portion of the exam. Written by the Graduate Management Admission Council, this guide is designed to provide targeted review based on your needs. You'll review the fundamentals of reading comprehension, grammar, and critical reasoning, and learn just what the test is measuring so you can tailor your approach for each question type. Over 300 additional practice questions—45 of them brand new to this edition—allow you to test your understanding, with full answers and thorough explanations to help you pinpoint where you need to improve. The companion website (gmat.wiley.com) allows you to create personalized practice sets, so you can get more out of your study time by skipping what you know and focusing on what you don't. You also get access to practice exams and videos featuring valuable insight and advice to help you be fully prepared on exam day. Hone your skills and build your confidence with essential review, valuable insight, and plenty of practice, fully customizable to your specific needs. Brush up on grammar, reading comprehension, and critical reasoning skills Learn helpful tips and strategies specific to the GMAT verbal section Create custom practice sets to target your weaker areas Practice over 300 verbal questions from past exams You read, write, and think every day, so you think you're prepared for the GMAT Verbal—but are you really? With less than two minutes per question, you need a clear plan and reflexive understanding. This book gives you both, with advice straight from the exam's creators. The Official Guide for the GMAT Verbal Review 2017 is your ideal resource for complete and thorough preparation.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

In my opinion there was no need to release this guide. This new edition is identical to the older version of this guide which is called the Official Guide to GMAT 13th Edition. All of the questions in this guide(I checked every single quant question) are exactly the same as the older version. If you already own the older version, then there is no need to buy this. The only additional thing that comes with this guide is the online access to the same pool of 900 questions. The online database allows students to select the type of problem and the difficulty level(easy, medium, and hard). One can also attempt the problems in study mode or exam mode. That pretty much is the only useful addition to this new release. Other than that GMAC, the writers of the test, are just using this to make more money by making previous editions seem obsolete. I gave it four stars because it is an indispensable source that provides official GMAT questions which are key to getting a sense of the style and structure of the GMAT questions. I teach GMAT and students who would like to access free video explanations to all of the 450 questions in this guide can access them here:

[www.gmatquantum.com/ogvideos](http://www.gmatquantum.com/ogvideos).

Founded by a Stanford MBA, GMAT Genius offers the highest quality GMAT preparation services to GMAT aspirants worldwide. Our mission is crystal-clear: to help you achieve GMAT success. The publisher of the GMAT Official Guides asked GMAT Genius to help it improve the online versions of the Official Guides, and GMAT Genius has worked closely with the Official Guide publisher in the weeks leading up to the release of the 2017 editions. We have thoroughly analyzed the 2017 Official Guides and want to share our insights with you. Feel free to read our detailed analysis or skip down to our conclusions. OVERVIEW of OFFICIAL GUIDE The Official Guides for GMAT Review contain retired real GMAT questions, and are an essential component of your GMAT preparations. The GMAC places questions in order of increasing difficulty, based on its assessment of difficulty. The Verbal Official Guide has no overlap with questions in the main Official Guide. The 2017 edition of this book contains 45 new questions out of the 301 total questions, representing 15% new content. These are new questions that we have not encountered before; they are not questions recycled from older GMAC resources. One formatting change in the 2017 edition is that all questions are now numbered from 1 to 300, whereas previously each question type was

numbered independently. **SENTENCE CORRECTION** This book contains 113 Sentence Correction questions. The GMAC classifies question difficulty into three categories as follows: Easy 31 (27%, same as 2016) Medium 51 (45%, same) Hard 31 (27%, same) The Sentence Correction section contains 17 new questions, with difficulty of Easy / Medium / Hard as follows: 6 / 7 / 4. This is in lieu of 17 questions from the 2016 edition that have been removed, with difficulty of Easy / Medium / Hard as follows: 5 / 6 / 6. The GMAC has upgraded the difficulty of one Easy and two Medium questions from the prior edition. **GMAT Genius** classifies question difficulty into five categories. Our assessment skews slightly further away from the center, but contains notable differences from the GMAC. Our difficulty assessment is only 71.3% correlated with the GMAC's assessment, clearly showing that there is subjectivity involved in assessing question difficulty. Here's our breakdown: Super Easy 5 (4%, 1 fewer than 2016) Easy 30 (27%, 2 fewer) Medium 43 (38%, 4 more) Hard 28 (25%, 3 more) Very Hard 7 (6%, 4 fewer) Although Sentence Correction questions typically entail multiple grammar concepts (as described on our website), **GMAT Genius** classifies questions based on our assessment of the primary tested concept. We break down the 113 Sentence Correction questions as follows: Verb Agreement: 7 (6%, 1 fewer than 2016) Verb Tense: 14 (12%, 2 more) Pronoun Ambiguity: 9 (8%, 2 fewer) Pronoun Agreement: 11 (10%, same) Parallel Construction: 32 (28%, 4 fewer) Misplaced Modifiers: 15 (13%, 3 more) Idioms: 10 (9%, 2 more) Comparison & Quantity: 8 (7%, same) Expression & Meaning: 7 (6%, same) Here's a list of the 17 new Sentence Correction questions: 189, 190, 200, 210, 211, 216, 241, 243, 245, 250, 254, 258, 260, 279, 281, 296, 299 Here's a list of the 113 Sentence Correction questions categorized by question type: Verb Agreement: 204, 230, 251, 267, 274, 277, 285 Verb Tense: 202, 203, 211, 216, 219, 226, 227, 228, 229, 257, 258, 273, 287, 294 Pronoun Ambiguity: 214, 256, 259, 260, 263, 271, 275, 278, 286 Pronoun Agreement: 190, 206, 207, 208, 210, 234, 236, 240, 261, 284, 299 Parallel Construction: 191, 192, 194, 195, 197, 205, 212, 213, 218, 222, 223, 224, 225, 244, 245, 246, 247, 249, 253, 254, 255, 262, 264, 269, 282, 283, 289, 290, 293, 295, 297, 298 Misplaced Modifiers: 189, 196, 198, 220, 231, 232, 237, 238, 248, 265, 266, 268, 279, 281, 288 Idioms: 193, 201, 217, 235, 239, 243, 250, 272, 276, 296 Comparison & Quantity: 200, 221, 233, 242, 252, 291, 300, 301 Expression & Meaning: 199, 209, 215, 241, 270, 280, 292 **CRITICAL REASONING** This book contains 83 Critical Reasoning questions. The GMAC classifies question difficulty into three categories as follows: Easy 34 (41%, same as 2016) Medium 26 (31%, same) Hard 23 (28%, same) The Critical Reasoning section contains 13 new questions, with difficulty of Easy / Medium / Hard as follows: 6 / 3 / 4. This is in lieu of 13 questions from the 2016 edition that

have been removed, with difficulty of Easy / Medium / Hard as follows: 7 / 3 / 3. The GMAC has downgraded the difficulty of one Medium and one Hard questions from the prior edition. GMAT Genius classifies question difficulty into five categories. Our assessment skews slightly more towards the middle, but contains notable differences from the GMAC. Our difficulty assessment is only 64.9% correlated with the GMAC's assessment, demonstrating tremendous subjectivity involved in assessing question difficulty. Here's our breakdown: Super Easy " 1 (1%, 1 more than 2016) Easy " 24 (29%, 5 fewer) Medium " 38 (46%, 2 more) Hard " 14 (17%, 2 more) Very Hard " 6 (7%, same) We have grouped the questions based on the question type categorization that GMAT Genius uses for Critical Reasoning (as described on our website). We break down the 83 Critical Reasoning questions as follows: Weaken: 19 (23%, 2 fewer than 2016) Strengthen: 17 (20%, 1 fewer) Assumption: 6 (7%, 1 fewer) Reasoning: 3 (4%, 1 more) Conclusion: 7 (8%, same) Explain: 7 (8%, 1 more) Evaluate: 6 (7%, 1 fewer) Boldface: 4 (5%, 1 more) Complete the Passage: 14 (17%, 2 more) Here's a list of the 13 new Critical Reasoning questions: 106, 110, 117, 124, 133, 139, 146, 153, 158, 166, 172, 180, 188 Here's a list of the 83 Critical Reasoning questions categorized by question type: Weaken: 111, 123, 126, 127, 130, 131, 135, 140, 144, 147, 152, 163, 167, 172, 173, 177, 180, 186, 187 Strengthen: 106, 112, 116, 122, 139, 141, 142, 143, 145, 149, 160, 162, 168, 171, 179, 182, 188 Assumption: 121, 153, 161, 174, 181, 184 Reasoning: 125, 156, 158 Conclusion: 107, 114, 119, 120, 128, 151, 166 Explain: 110, 115, 136, 137, 138, 159, 170 Evaluate: 113, 117, 150, 155, 165, 178 Boldface: 124, 164, 169, 183 Complete the Passage: 108, 109, 118, 129, 132, 133, 134, 146, 148, 154, 157, 175, 176, 185

**READING COMPREHENSION** This book contains 105 Reading Comprehension questions across 18 passages. The GMAC classifies question difficulty into three categories as follows: Easy " 28 (27%, 2 more than 2016) Medium " 37 (35%, 10 fewer) Hard " 40 (38%, 8 more) The Reading Comprehension section contains 15 new questions, with difficulty of Easy / Medium / Hard as follows: 6 / 9 / 0. This is in lieu of 15 questions from the 2016 edition that have been removed, all of Medium difficulty. The GMAC has upgraded four Easy questions to Medium, and eight Medium questions to Hard. GMAT Genius classifies question difficulty into five categories. Whereas the GMAC assigns the same difficulty to all questions for a given passage (except for one passage split between Medium and Hard), GMAT Genius assesses the difficulty of each question individually. Our assessment skews easier, but contains notable differences from the GMAC. Our difficulty assessment is only 49.0% correlated with the GMAC's assessment, in large part due to different difficulty assessment methodologies. Here's our breakdown: Super Easy " 6 (6%, same as 2016) Easy

“ 29 (28%, 5 more) Medium “ 39 (37%, 2 fewer) Hard “ 22 (21%, 3 fewer) Very Hard “ 9 (9%, same)

We have grouped the questions based on the question type categorization that GMAT Genius uses for Reading Comprehension (as described on our website). We break down the 105 Reading Comprehension questions as follows:

- Primary Purpose: 14 (13%, 1 fewer than 2016)
- Author’s Tone: 6 (6%, same)
- Organization: 3 (3%, same)
- Function: 15 (14%, 1 fewer)
- Specific Reference: 25 (24%, 2 fewer)
- Inference: 39 (37%, 3 more)
- Critical Reasoning: 3 (3%, 1 more)

Here’s a list of the 15 new Reading Comprehension questions: 11 to 16, 46 to 54

### ONLINE INTERFACE

The book includes an access code (see inside back cover) that provides 12-month usage of an online version of this Official Guide. Since the GMAT is a computer-based test, we believe that it is advisable to work through the questions online. We recommend that you use Exam Mode rather than Practice Mode, since we recommend that students practice using timed question sets that replicate test day conditions. The online practice interface has improved significantly from last year’s version. The publishers implemented most of our recommendations. In particular, note the following improvements:

- 1) The test interface more closely resembles GMATPrep.
- 2) Exam Mode is now default mode, and you cannot skip questions in Exam Mode.
- 3) The overview screen shows the number of questions answered and that remain unanswered, for each question type and difficulty level.
- 4) All questions now indicate the corresponding book number, for easier cross-referencing.
- 5) The system now has a significantly longer period before it logs-out your session.
- 6) All session timing is now fully accurate.

Our only significant concern with the online interface is that the system limits you to 10 saved sessions. Once you reach this limit, you must delete at least one saved session in order to keep practicing. But doing so puts all the questions from that saved session back into the unanswered question pool. As such, we recommend that you separately track which question types / difficulties you have already completed. Furthermore, complete all Easy questions in a maximum of 10 sessions, advance to Medium questions in max 10 sessions, and focus on the Hard questions in max 10 sessions towards the end of your prep.

### OTHER NOTES

The Official Guides are for practicing with real GMAT questions, not for learning the underlying concepts. The brief introductions to the concepts tested on the verbal section are highly inadequate. We recommend that you use additional study materials to learn the verbal concepts. Although all questions include answer explanations, many GMAT test takers are far from satisfied with these explanations. Most GMAT test takers consider the Sentence Correction explanations quite cryptic. The Critical Reasoning and Reading Comprehension explanations, however, are reasonably good overall.

### CONCLUSION

The Verbal Official Guide has two primary weaknesses, in our opinion:

- 1) An insufficient amount of difficult practice questions,

particularly based on GMAT Genius™ assessment of difficulty) Sentence Correction explanations are too cryptic. Despite these flaws, the Verbal Official Guide is an essential source of GMAT practice, and nicely supplements the main GMAT Official Guide for additional practice questions. We believe that every GMAT aspirant must use this book (or the prior edition). For these reasons, we give this book a 5-star rating. For the best value, we recommend purchasing this book as part of The Official Guide to the GMAT Review 2017 Bundle + Question Bank + Video. If you already have the 2016 edition of this book, however, the replacement of 45 verbal questions is not sufficient to make this book worth purchasing. GMAT Genius provides extensive analysis of the Official Guides on the GMAT Genius blog at [GMATgenius.com/blog/](http://GMATgenius.com/blog/). Click on the category Official Guides. You will also find extensive free GMAT preparation advice on the GMAT Genius website at [GMATgenius.com/gmat-preparation/](http://GMATgenius.com/gmat-preparation/). In addition, we offer the highest-quality private GMAT tutoring to students worldwide. We wish you tremendous success with the GMAT!

I'm a GMAT tutor with over ten years of experience and founder of Atlantic GMAT (100% GMAT 0% BS!). Here is my analysis of the OG 2016 Quant Review with a detailed breakdown of the new questions! The Quant review has long been the unloved child of the Official Guide family spurned for its lack of depth and difficulty. I can confirm that our GMAT overlords at the Graduate Management Admission Council have shown great generosity by conjuring up a substantial update in the Official Guide for Quantitative Review 2016. Although still not a critical book, the OG Quant is a very helpful book. If you are nearer to the start of your GMAT prep than the end I would recommend buying it although rather as a part of the Official Guide Bundle to save some cash! PROBLEM SOLVING The great ones have flooded the problem solving section with 44 new questions - that's over 25% new content! The few tough questions from the previous iteration have remained and have been augmented by an additional 20 or so tough-ish questions. Are they as tough as the toughest ones from Official Guide 2016, question pack 1, GMAT Focus, or the GMAT Prep tests? There are one or two that hang with the best of them including one that I recognized from a GMAT that I took a few years ago but on the whole these peak a bit lower than the A list questions from the aforementioned materials. Still there are some solid puzzles in this Quantitative review that will get you primed for the oh so important meat and potatoes of the test. The title says it all: Quant review not Quant Challenge or Quant Olympics. PROBLEM SOLVING (Total 44/175) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 13, 15, 19, 20, 21, 22, 33, 40, 48, 63, 68, 70, 79, 80, 82, 86, 87, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 116, 119, 125, 126, 127, 142, 143, 144, 145, 152, 157, 158, 160, 161-Number Properties 34 (odd/even), 87 (+/-, absolute value), 94

(digits), 96 (divisibility), 125 (remainder), 142 (oddball), 160 (function/exponents/digits)-Arithmetic 1, 3. 5 (word problem), 7(fractions/decimals), 10 (+/-)-Exponents 2, 33, 119, 161-Ratio/Proportions 9-Work/Rate 63, 68, 86-Algebra/Translation 15, 19, 48, 95 (inequalities), 97 (absolute value/inequalities)-Percents 4, 21, 22, 70, 82, 127-Statistics 99-Overlapping Sets 98-Combinatorics 157, 158-Geometry 20 (quadrilaterals), 116 (coordinate), 145 (hexagon), 152 (pyramid/puzzle)-Sequence/Function/Formula 13, 79, 80, 134, 143, 144

**DATA SUFFICIENCY**  
(31/124)1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 19, 20, 24, 25, 26, 29, 30, 31, 32, 37, 40, 41, 42, 43, 63, 110, 120, 121,123, 124-Number Properties 9 (+/-), 32 (absolute value, +/-), 37 (remainder), 40 (consecutive integers/parity)-Arithmetic 1 (fractions/decimals), 3 (rounding), 43-Exponents 7, 29-Ration/Proportions 20-Work/Rate 123-Algebra/Translation 4, 8, 13, 16 (inequalities), 31-Statistics 41, 42, 63-Overlapping Sets 19-Combinatorics 121-Geometry 2 (quadrilaterals), 10 (triangles), 24, 26 (cube), 120 (coordinate), 124 (parabola)-Sequence/Function/Formula 15, 25-Threshold 5(rate), 110-Counting Equations 6, 33

The DS update is a bit weaker in that the majority of the new question are easy-ish. But I will say that even some of those easy ones are more devilish than their counterparts in the Quant review 2nd edition. No surprises on the content although statistics got a nice boost of medium/difficult questions.

**CONCLUSION**This is a better book than its predecessor and a worthwhile addition to your GMAT library. Use it as a skill builder not as an indication of how you will perform on the test as the overall difficulty level is lower than what you may see on the exam (obviously the difficulty of the CAT depends on your responses). Again - if you are considering buying this book you might just pick up the bundle which also includes the main guide and the verbal review as there is a decent discount for the trio. Feel free to ask any questions. If you are looking for general GMAT study tips, Study Schedules, GMAT Question of the Day, or just some inspiration have a look at [AtlanticGMAT.com](http://AtlanticGMAT.com). Happy Studies!

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