CAT 2023: Slot 1 Analysis

Table of Content

Key Points:

Section	Total	MCQs	TITA	SPLIT
VARC	24	20	4	RC - 4 passages with 4 Qs each Parajumbles - 2, Summary - 2, Para Completion - 2, Odd sentence - 2
DILR	20	12	8	4 sets of 5 questions of each
QA	22	15	7	Arithmetic (7), Algebra (8), MM (2), Geometry (4), Numbers (1)

Points:

1. After so many years, the number of questions of algebra is more than the number of questions of Arithmetic
2. In verbal, odd sentences were not there last year.
3. In Quants, the questions are slightly lengthier this year and Algebra is maximum. The number of questions in Arithmetic and Algebra is almost the same, which never happened in the last 4-5 years. Arithmetic is mostly TITA
4. Questions on Arithmetic were very lengthy.
5. VARC as usual changes with 5 specific domain questions RC, Para summary, Para jumble. Misfit, Best fit or Sentence completion.

6. DILR - moderate 4 sets. 5 ques. Not like last time.
7. Geometry - 2 questions and easy.
8. Modern maths. Progression questions were also there.
9. Permutation and Combination - 1 Question
10. In VARC, Verbal Ability is easy and RC is moderate but their questions are a little difficult.
11. QA: Moderate Questions look easy to do but waste your time, same as 2022.
12. Don't fall in the trap, skip the questions ASAP if unable to solve, 8-10 doable questions are there in QA.

INITIAL ESTIMATES OF PERCENTILES

Percentile	Score VA-RC	Score DI-LR	Score QA	Overall Score
99.9 %	48	36	48	106
99.5 %	44	32	32	89
99 %	40	28	28	80
98 %	36	25	24	71
95 %	30	19	19	57
90 %	25	16	15	49
85 %	21	13	12	40
80 %	19	11	10	36
75 %	17	10	9	31
70 %	15	9	8	29

GOOD ATTEMPTS

Section No.	Section Name	Total No. of Qs	Good Attempts
I	VARC	24	16 – 18
II	DILR	2 / 3	9 – 11

III	QA	22	9 – 11
	TOTAL	66	34 – 40

CAT 2023 Slot 1 Analysis

Introduction:

When we compare CAT 2023 Slot 1 to the previous years, we can understand that it followed the **same pattern** which was seen in the previous year, following the format that has become familiar to aspirants. The examination consisted of **three sections—Verbal Ability and Reading Comprehension (VARC), Data Interpretation and Logical Reasoning (DILR), and Quantitative Aptitude (QA). There were a total of 66 questions, candidates were required to answer these within an allotted time of 120 minutes.**

Section-Wise Breakdown:

VARC (Verbal Ability and Reading Comprehension):

Number of Questions: 24
Time Allotted: 40 minutes
Difficulty Level: Easy to Moderate

The VARC section consisted of 24 questions, with a balance of Verbal Ability and Reading Comprehension. Candidates found the overall difficulty to be manageable, with questions coming from a range of vast topics.

DILR (Data Interpretation and Logical Reasoning):

Number of Questions: 20
Time Allotted: 40 minutes
Difficulty Level: Slightly more difficult than 2022
Pattern: Similar to the previous year

The question pattern of the DILR section of CAT 2023 was observed to be following the same pattern as 2022. DILR had 20 questions and showed a slight increase in difficulty compared to the previous year. The section tested the analytical and logical reasoning skills of the candidates, requiring them to carefully go through complex data sets and scenarios.

QA (Quantitative Aptitude):

Number of Questions: 22
Time Allotted: 40 minutes
Difficulty Level: Lengthier than the 2022 paper

The QA section was lengthier than the 2022 question paper. Also, another aberration it had from the previous year's papers was that in 2023, more questions were asked from algebra than arithmetic. The questions covered a wide range of mathematical concepts, requiring candidates to display their quantitative aptitude while the questions were seen to be slightly easier from the previous year.

Marking Scheme:

For Multiple-Choice Questions (MCQs), candidates were awarded +3 for correct answers and for incorrect answers -1 was deducted.

For non-MCQs(TITA), there was no negative marking for incorrect answers, and for each right answer, the candidate was awarded 3 marks.

Overall Difficulty Level:

The general trend among the candidates was that CAT 2023 Slot 1 presented a paper with a difficulty level that was slightly higher than that of the 2022 question paper. While each section had its differences in the level of questions, the combination of VARC, DILR, and QA offered challenges to candidates across a diverse array of topics and problem-solving scenarios.

CAT VARC 2023 ANALYSIS

Overview:

The VARC section in CAT 2023 Slot 1 consisted of a mix of TITA(non-MCQs) and MCQs. Candidates were asked 4 TITA and 20 MCQs each of variable difficulty.

Reading Comprehension:

The Reading Comprehension section featured four passages ranging between 300 and 350 words. Each passage had four questions asked. The types of questions included Parajumbles questions, summary questions, para-completion questions and odd one-out detection questions. It was seen that two passages were judged to be easy, while the remaining two posed a higher level of difficulty.

Verbal Ability:

The inclusion of Para Jumbles instead of the Odd one-out questions was a surprise for the students. This was a surprising deviation from the previous years' papers.

Scoring Insights:

According to the feedback received from the candidates and CAT experts, a score in the range of 38-40 in the VARC section was concluded to be sufficient for receiving a 99% percentile.

Overall Level of Difficulty: Medium			
	Section	**No of Qs.**	**Difficulty Level**

Reading Comprehension	RC-1: Return of wolves' predation in a French region	4	Easy
	RC-2: Current Economies of North and South Korea	4	Easy
	RC-3: Indian Ocean Literature	4	Medium
	RC-4: Modern materialism versus ancient societies	4	Difficult

	Area	No of Qs.	Type	Difficulty Level
Verbal Ability	Parajumbles (4 sentences)	2	TITA	1 Easy, 1 Medium
	Paragraph Completion	2	MCQ	2 Easy
	Summary	2	MCQ	1 Easy, 1 Medium
	Odd Sentence	2	TITA	1 Easy, 1 Medium

Good overall attempt: 17+ questions with 75 % accuracy.

CAT 2023 DILR ANALYSIS

Overview:

The Data Interpretation and Logical Reasoning (DILR) section in CAT 2023 Slot 1 had a well-organised arrangement of questions, in which the candidates were required to attend four sets, each containing five questions. Like before, this section proved to be a game changer in the overall CAT success of the candidates.

Exam Pattern:

The same pattern of 2022 was followed in 2023 for the DILR section. In this section of the 2023 exam, 5 questions were asked in each of the 4 sets given to the students. Of the 20 questions, 12 were in the Multiple-Choice Question (MCQ) format, while the remaining 8 were non-MCQs.

Scoring Insights:

Based on the feedback received from the candidates and CAT experts and considering the overall trends of the examination, It indicated that a score in the range of 28-30 could secure a 99 percentile.

Set No.	Area	Set Descriptions	No. of Qs	LOD	Q. Type
1	LR	(Arrangements) Professors in departments	5	Easy to Medium	5 MCQs
2	DI	(Reasoning based DI) Gig workers and Restaurants, Mathematical Reasoning Involved Measures of central tendency	5	Medium to Difficult	1MCQ+4 TITA
3	LR	Houses on sale	5	Medium to Difficult	3MCQ+2 TITA
4	DI	Visa Office Special Equation handling	5	Medium to Difficult	3MCQ+2 TITA

Good overall attempt: 10+ questions with more than 75% accuracy.

CAT 2023 QUANTITATIVE APTITUDE ANALYSIS

Overview:

The Quantitative Aptitude (QA) section in CAT 2023 Slot 1 presented the students with a series of mathematical aptitude tests that put their mathematical aptitude to the test. According to the responses from the students as well as CAT experts the questions from the Quantitative Aptitude were seen to be more lengthy and time-consuming as compared to the previous years. Another surprising change was that in the 2023 paper, the number of questions from algebra outweighed the number of questions from Arithmetic.;

Question Distribution:

Of the 22 questions in the QA section, 15 were in the Multiple-Choice Question (MCQ) format, while the remaining 7 were non-MCQs.

Notably, the majority of the questions in the QA section were from arithmetic concepts.

Scoring Insights:

Feedback from candidates suggested that achieving a score in the range of 36-38 could secure a 99 percentile in the Quantitative Aptitude section.

Area	Total
QA	15 MCQs, 7 TITA
Arithmetic	7
Algebra	8
Geometry	4
Modern Maths	2
Numbers	1

Good overall attempt : 10+ questions with more than 75% accuracy.

CAT 2023: EXPECTED PERCENTILE

Expected CAT Score vs Percentile 2023					
CAT Percentile	CAT VARC Score	CAT DILR Score	CAT QA Score	CAT Overall Score	Top Colleges
99+	34-35	28-30	36-37	98-102	IIM Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Calcutta, and FMS Delhi
98+	32-33	27-28	30-32	90-93	
95+	32-34	20-21	28-30	80-82	IIM Lucknow, IIM Mumbai (NITIE), IIFT, SPJIMR, MDI, IIT Bombay, IIT Delhi
90+	29-30	17-19	26-27	72-75	9 CAP IIMs, XIMB, IMI, IMT Ghaziabad
85+	24-29	14-15	20-22	59-61	IIM Amritsar, IIM Nagpur, IIM Vizag, MICA, IRMA, Great Lakes, GIM Goa
80+	20-23	11-13	15-16	46-48	K J Somaiya, LBSIM, JIMS Rohini, BIMTECH, IMT Nagpur, Welingkar

CAT 2023 Score Vs Percentile (Section-wise)

For candidates who are aiming to secure an MBA seat in IIMs or any other top B-schools, achieving 90 per cent is compulsory. Section-wise number of good attempts with an accuracy rate of 90 percent to secure 90 to 99+ percentile in CAT 2023 are as follows:

CAT Marks vs Percentile (Attempts with 90% Accuracy)			
CAT Percentile	VARC	DILR	Quant
99+	Approximately 16 out of 24	14 out of 20	16 out of 22
95+	Approximately 14 out of 24	10 out of 20	14 out of 22
90+	Approximately 11 out of 24	9 out of 20	10 out of 22