

Ace the GMAT Exam: A Comprehensive Guide to the Integrated Reasoning Essay

The Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT) is a standardized exam that business schools use to assess applicants' quantitative, verbal, and analytical skills. The Integrated Reasoning (IR) section of the GMAT measures your ability to analyze and evaluate data from multiple sources and draw logical conclusions. The IR essay is a crucial component of this section, and scoring well on it can significantly improve your overall GMAT score.

Understanding the IR Essay

The IR essay requires you to respond to a prompt that presents data in various formats, such as graphs, charts, and tables. You must analyze the data, identify key insights, and write a cogent essay that supports your claims. The essay is typically 300-350 words long and should be completed within 30 minutes.



GMAT Integrated Reasoning & Essay: Strategy Guide + Online Resources (Manhattan Prep GMAT Strategy Guides) by Manhattan Prep

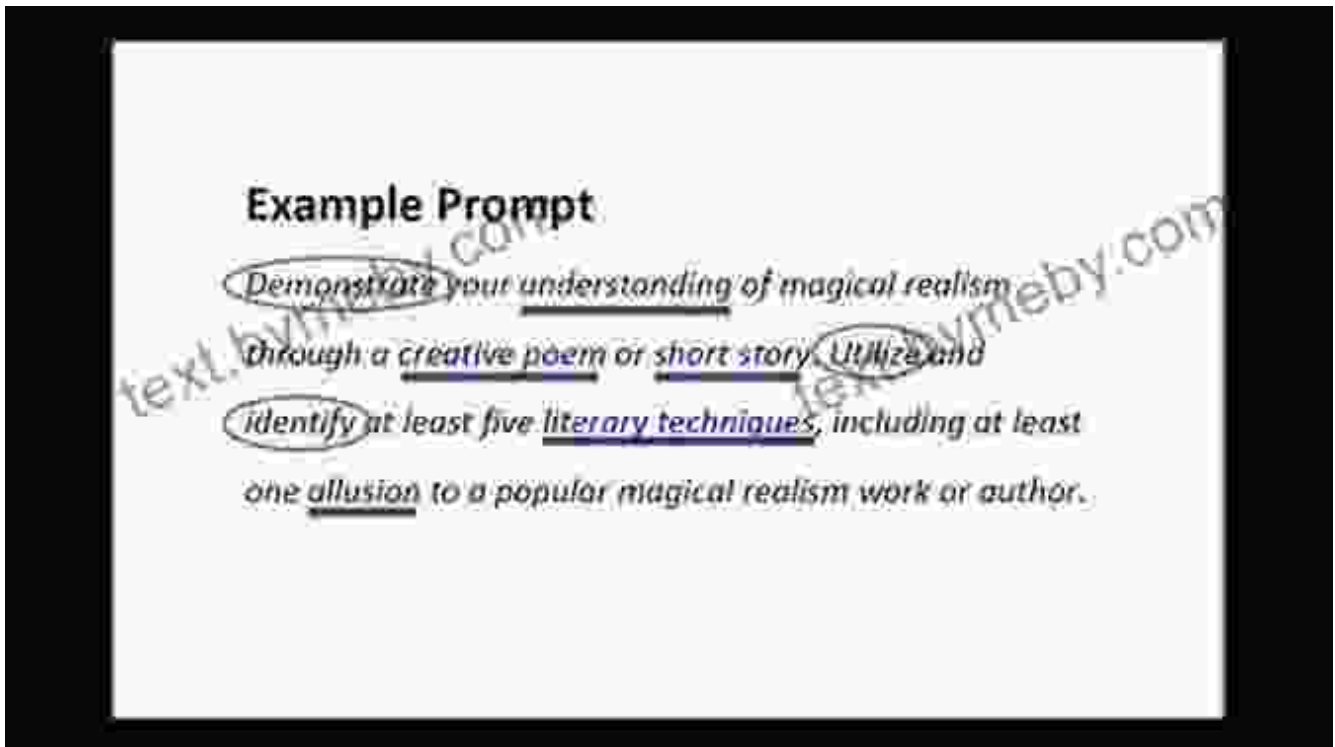
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Effective Strategies for the IR Essay

1. Read the Prompt Carefully



Before you begin writing, take the time to read the prompt thoroughly. Identify the main question, the data sources, and the expected length of the essay. This will help you focus your analysis and organize your thoughts.

2. Analyze the Data

Examine the data carefully and determine the key insights that support your answer. Look for trends, patterns, and relationships in the data. Use a highlighter or pen to mark important points and make notes in the margins.

3. Formulate a Thesis Statement

Your thesis statement should clearly state your main argument and provide a roadmap for your essay. It should be specific, relevant, and supported by

the data.

4. Write a Topic Sentence for Each Paragraph

Each paragraph of your essay should focus on a specific aspect of your thesis. Begin each paragraph with a topic sentence that introduces the main idea and transitions smoothly from the previous paragraph.

5. Use Evidence from the Data

Support your claims with specific evidence from the data. Cite the source of your evidence and explain how it supports your argument.

6. Use Clear and Concise Language

Write in a clear and concise style, using precise language and avoiding unnecessary jargon. The essay should be easy for the reader to understand and follow.

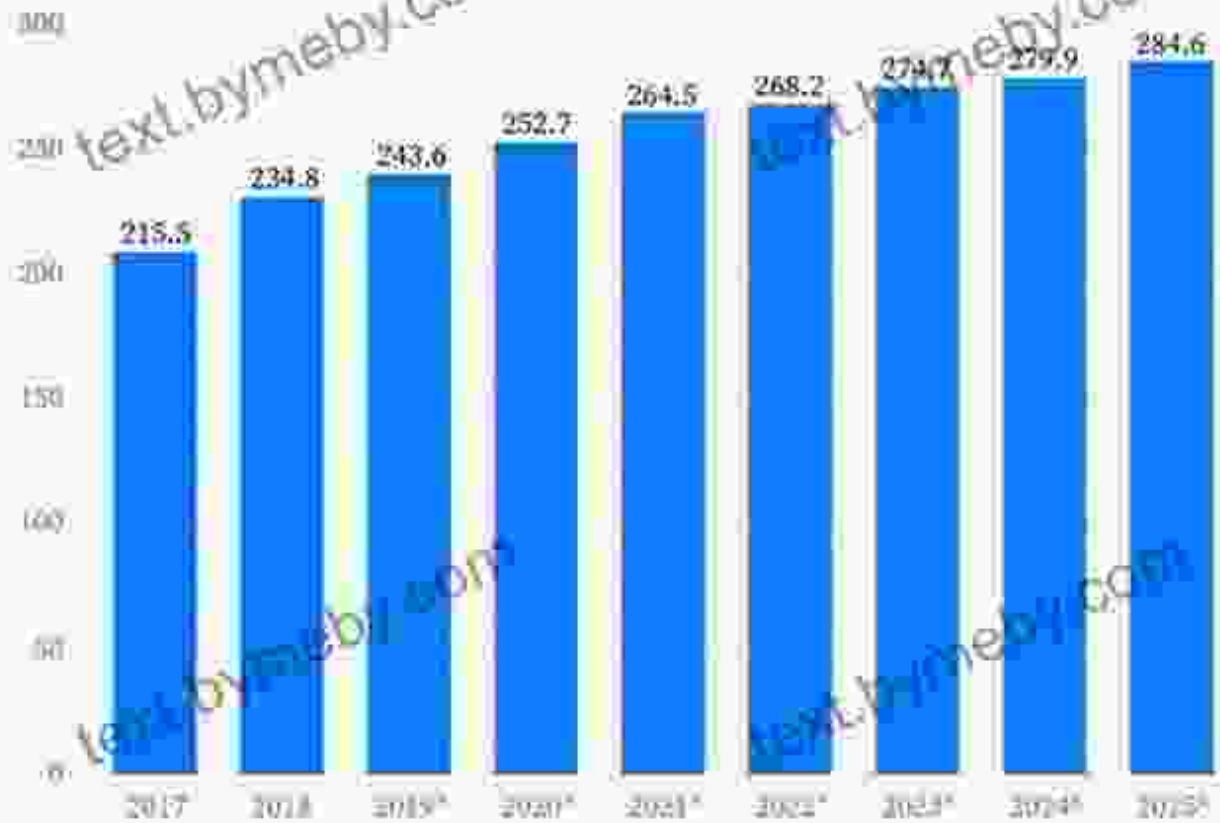
7. Revise and Proofread

Once you have finished writing, take a few minutes to revise and proofread your essay. Check for grammar, spelling, and punctuation errors. Ensure that your argument is well-supported and that your summarizes your main points.

Sample IR Essay Questions and Answers

Question: The following graph shows the number of online shoppers in the United States from 2010 to 2020.

Number of digital shoppers in the United States from 2017 to 2025 (in millions)



Answer: In 2010, the number of online shoppers in the United States was approximately 150 million. By 2020, this number had grown significantly to over 250 million. This steady increase suggests that online shopping has become increasingly popular in recent years.

Question: The following table shows the average monthly spending on groceries for families in different income brackets.



Answer: Families in the lowest income bracket spend an average of \$271 on groceries per month. This is significantly less than families in the highest income bracket, who spend an average of \$450 per month. This data suggests that there is a positive correlation between income and grocery spending.

Tips to Boost Your IR Essay Score

- * Practice regularly using official GMAT practice questions.
- * Analyze sample essays to identify effective strategies and writing styles.
- * Time yourself to improve your pacing and stay within the 30-minute time limit.
- * Seek feedback from a tutor or mentor to refine your writing and analytical skills.
- * Stay calm and confident during the exam.

The IR essay is a crucial component of the GMAT exam. By understanding the prompt, analyzing the data effectively, and following the strategies

outlined in this guide, you can improve your score and increase your chances of admission to your desired business school.

Remember, practice is key. The more you practice, the more proficient you will become in analyzing data, developing arguments, and writing clear and concise essays.

With dedication and hard work, you can ace the IR essay and achieve your desired GMAT score.

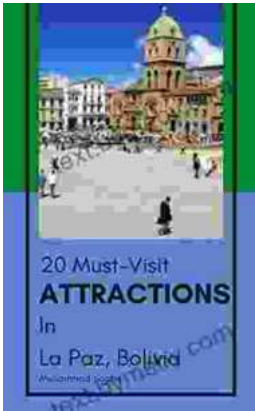


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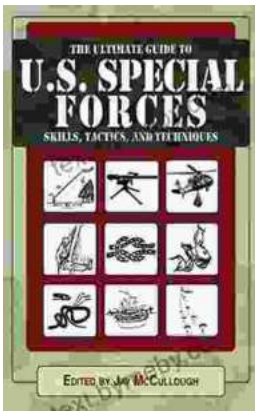
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