


GMAT Psychometrics


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True or False ?


Test takers should

- spend the most time on the first 10 questions?
- respond correctly & not worry about finishing?
- be worried when they see an easy item?



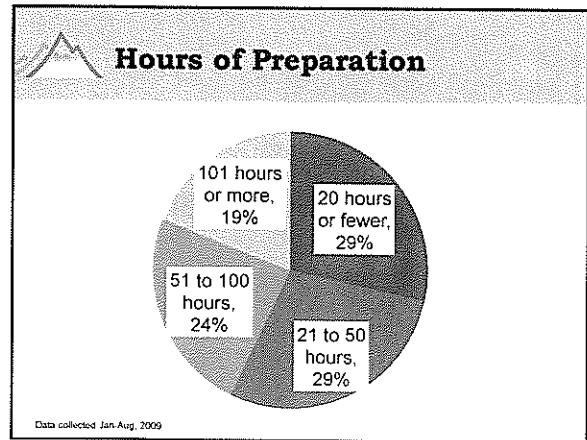
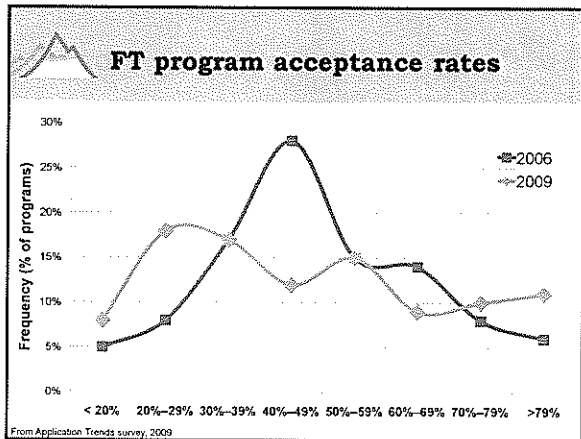
Topics

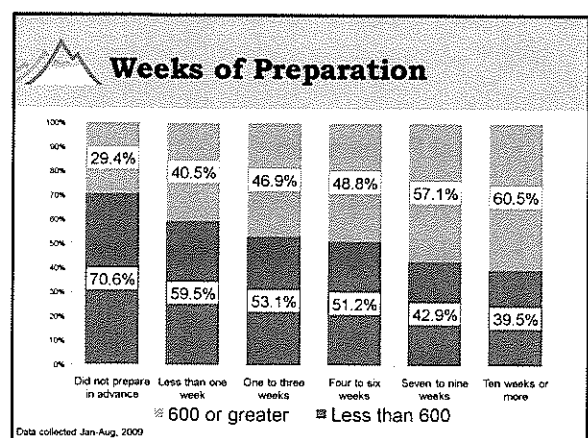
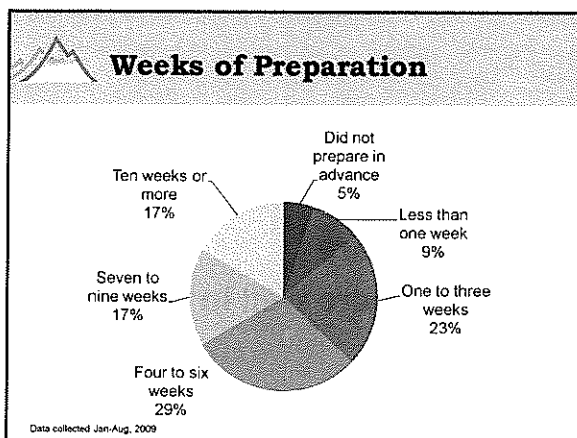
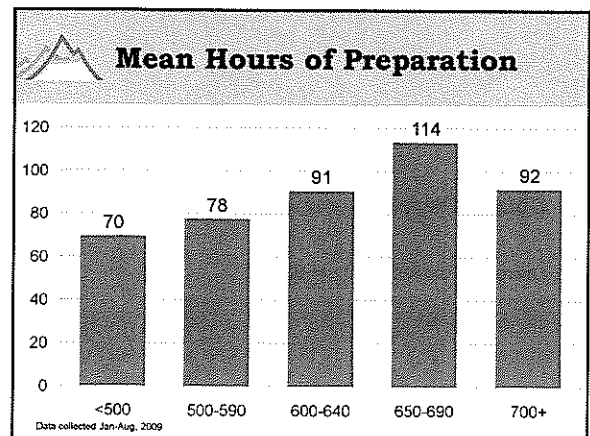
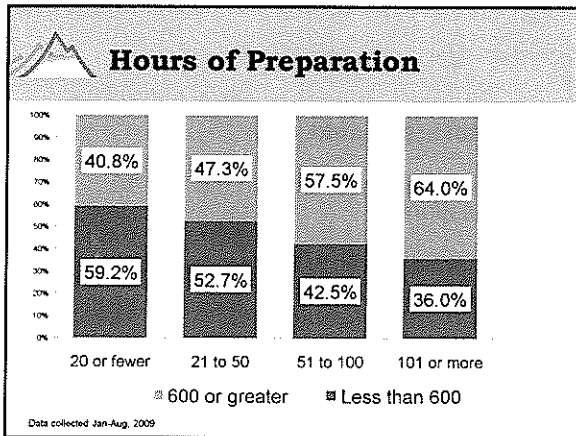
- Test Preparation
- Repeat test takers
- Role of a good admissions test
- How CAT works
- *Myths*



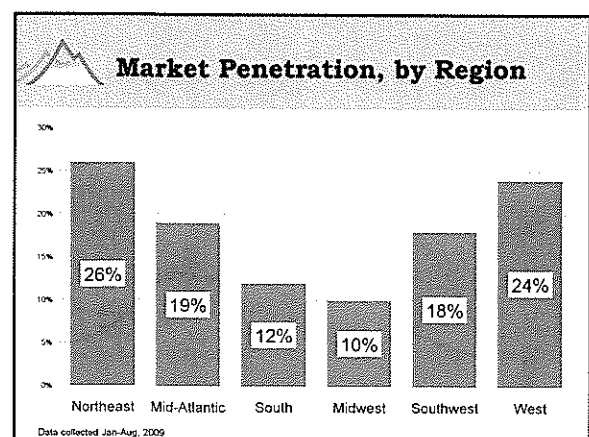
It pays to

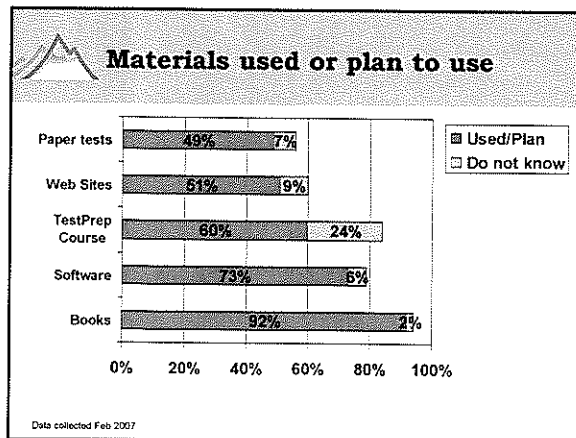
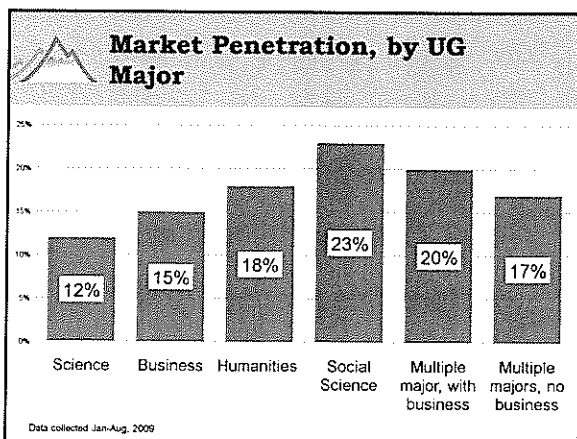
**prepare
prepare well in advance**





Market Potential

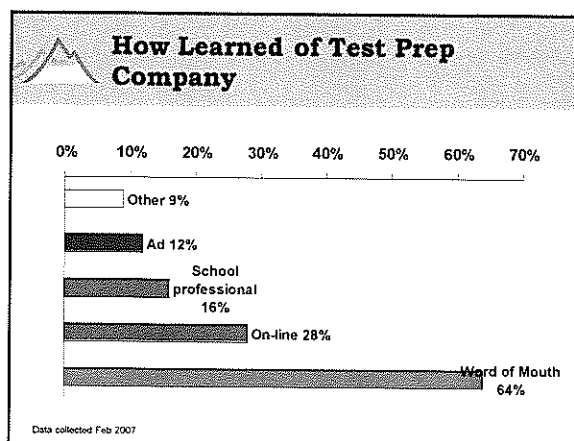




Used or plan to use Test-Prep Course

Before taking the GMAT	84%	146,000
After	42%	73,000

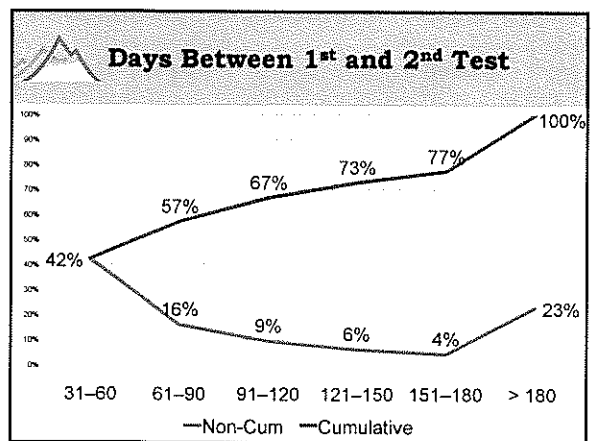
Data collected Feb 2007



Examinees Retaking the GMAT® Test

- ### GMAT® Retake Study
- Data from first-time test takers
 - 109,717 candidates in study
 - Retake rate is about 20%

- ### Who Retakes
- Candidates with lower-than-average Total scores
 - Higher % of minority test takers
 - Higher % of non-native speakers of English
 - About the same number of men as women
 - Big variables
 - Did not finish Quantitative section
 - High discrepancy between scores



Gains in GMAT® Scores

	Mean	sd
GMAT® Total	34	65
GMAT® Total %ile	8	15
GMAT® Quant	2.5	5.9
GMAT® Quant %ile	7	15
GMAT® Verbal	2.1	6.1
GMAT® Verbal %ile	6	17

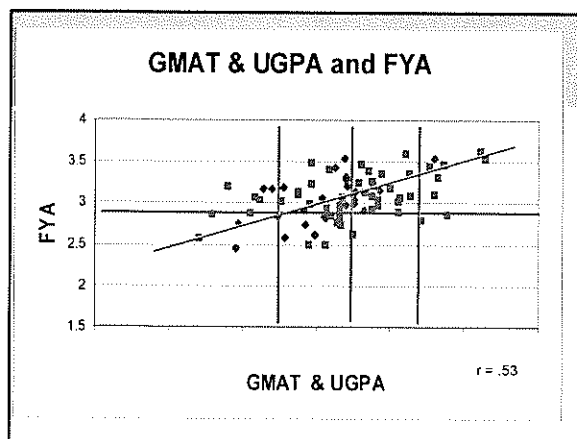
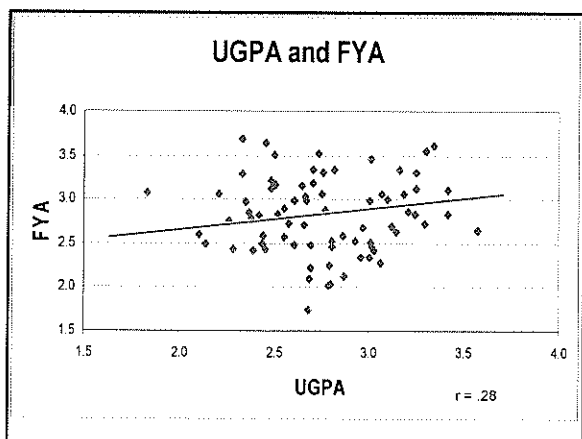
Distribution of GMAT® Total Score Gains

Gain or loss	% of retakers
-40 or less	11%
0 to -40	20%
10 to 40	28%
50 to 90	27%
100-140	11%
150 or more	3%

Who Gains the Most

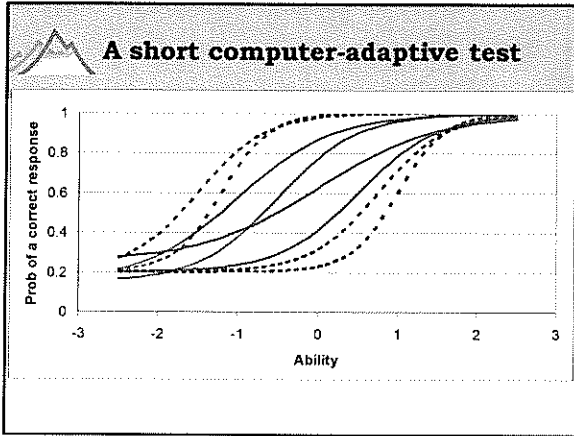
- Did not finish Quant section (49 pts.)
- Did not finish Verbal section (48 pts.)
- Below-average first scores (44 pts.)
- High discrepancy score (42 pts.)

Role of Admissions Tests

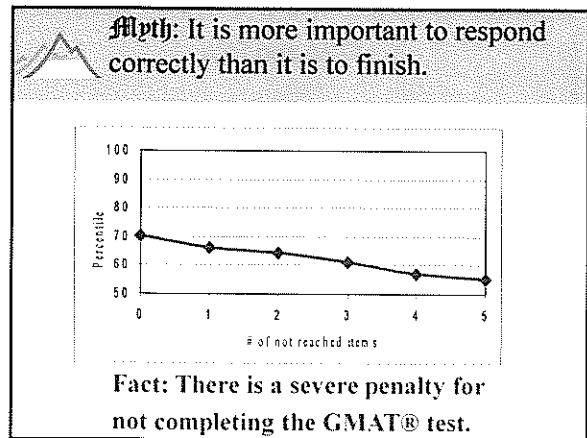
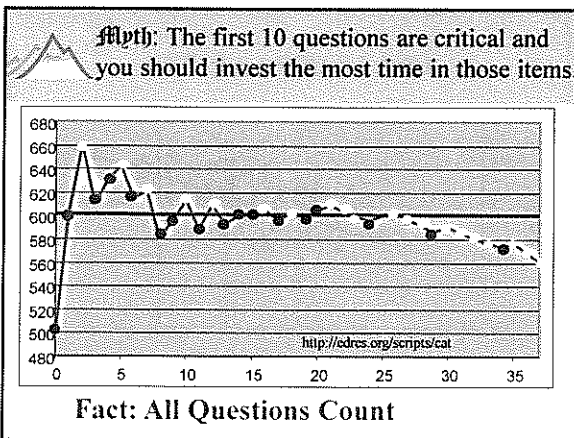


**Test Development Process
&
Computer Adaptive Testing**

Content is paramount



Myths & Facts



- ### Other Myths
- Studying GMAT® vocabulary lists will help you get a better score.
There are no GMAT® vocabulary lists.
 - An easier item means I got the previous item wrong.
Item difficulty can change with content.
 - You need a super-high score to get into a top school.
Schools try to find students that are a good match.
 - You need very advanced math skills to do well on the GMAT® test.
The math skills tested on the GMAT® test are quite basic.

Citation

Rudner, Lawrence M. (2009). *GMAT Psychometrics*. Materials presented at the 2009 GMAC Test Preparation Summit, New York City, NY. October 15, 2009.