

Revised General Test

About the Test

Registration, Test Centers and Dates

Prepare for the Test

Analytical Writing

Analyze an Issue

Analyze an Argument

Score Level Descriptions

Verbal Reasoning

Quantitative Reasoning

POWERPREP II Software

Materials in Accessible Formats

Strategies and Tips

On Test Day

Answers

Frequently Asked Questions

Subject Tests

Introduction to the Issue Task

[Introduction](#) | [Understanding the Context for Writing](#) | [Preparing for the Issue Task](#) | [Tips for this Section](#) | [Sample Issue Task](#) | [Sample Essay Responses](#) | [Pool of Issue Topics](#) | [Scoring Guide](#)

The "Analyze an Issue" task assesses your ability to think critically about a topic of general interest and to clearly express your thoughts about it in writing. Each Issue topic makes a claim that can be discussed from various perspectives and applied to many different situations or conditions. Your task is to present a **compelling case for your own position on the issue.** Before beginning your written response, be sure to read the issue and the instructions that follow the Issue statement. Think about the issue from several points of view, considering the complexity of ideas associated with those views. Then, make notes about the position you want to develop and list the main reasons and examples you could use to support that position.

It is important that you address the central issue according to the specific instructions. Each task is accompanied by one of the following sets of instructions:

- Write a response in which you discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with the statement and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing and supporting your position, you should consider ways in which the statement **might or might not hold true** and explain how these considerations **shape your position.**
- Write a response in which you discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with the recommendation and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing and supporting your position, describe **specific circumstances in which adopting the recommendation would or would not be advantageous** and explain how these examples shape your position.
- Write a response in which you discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with the claim. In developing and supporting your position, be sure to address the **most compelling reasons and/or examples that could be used to challenge your position.**
- Write a response in which you discuss which view more closely aligns with your own position and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing and supporting your position, **you should address both of the views presented.**
- Write a response in which you discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with the claim **and the reason on which that claim is based.**
- Write a response in which you discuss **your views on the policy** and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing and supporting your position, you should consider the **possible consequences of implementing the**



Register for the GRE revised General Test

[Register Now >](#)

Put your best scores forward.

Show schools only the scores you want them to see — only with the **ScoreSelectSM** option.

New POWERPREP® II Software

With two full-length, simulated practice tests for the computer-based GRE revised General Test. Download it today for Mac® or PC!

Browse the expanded GRE test prep aisle.

The GRE® Success Starter video and 2nd edition of *The Official Guide* can help you do your best on the test! Shop now.