

50 Day CAT Course Plan

With only 50 days left for the first CAT slot, you have to study smart and make maximum use of the time on hand. We have designed study plans to help you use the 50 Day CAT Course optimally.

You are expected to devote at least four hours for CAT preparation every day. Broadly, the study structure that you will follow in each of the seven weeks is similar. You will take one comprehensive test and analyse it on Day 1 and Day 2 of each week. On the remaining days of the week, you will focus on strengthening your weak areas that you identify from the comprehensive test and refining your strong areas for optimum performance.

Over a period of three to four weeks you will find the number of weak areas declining. Then you can take two comprehensive tests every week.

How to use this Study Plan?

On day 1, take CAT 2008.

Depending on your performance in this test, you can select either PLAN 1 or PLAN 2.

You will also follow a BASIC schedule irrespective of whether you follow PLAN 1 or PLAN 2.

The Basic schedule will need 90 minutes daily, and PLAN 1 and 2 will take 2.5 hours daily.

How to take CAT 2008?

Take CAT 2008 on day 1 in test conditions, i.e. within the given time limit, without breaks and try to perform as if you are taking the actual CAT.

You can choose Plan 1 or Plan 2 of study by comparing your score with the overall cut off of CAT 2008 as shown in the following table.

Score	< 113	> 113
Study Plan	Plan 1	Plan 2

Over Day 1 and 2, analyse CAT 2008 thoroughly. Find out the questions that you got wrong and look up the correct solutions. Also, solve all questions that you did not attempt during the test. Look up unfamiliar concepts that you encounter during this analysis in the concept builder.

BASIC Schedule:

(Schedule any two sections on a day, except on the two days given to iCATs.)

Verbal Ability (VA): Devote 30 minutes to reading and building a good vocabulary.

It is good to have a good vocabulary, but not necessarily the best idea to acquire it from wordlists. A better way is to improve your reading habit. Get words into your active vocabulary by using new words that you have learnt. Get a dictionary, and use it. Reading will help you in a number of ways other than Vocabulary – it will increase your speed over a period of time, it will enhance your knowledge of various areas (ensure that your reading is varied), and it will give you the capacity to assimilate unfamiliar topics in a short period of time (very important for a competitive exam).

There are various things you can read – novels, newspapers, etc. Broaden your reading to areas that you are not comfortable with. For example, if you are not comfortable with technical subjects, then read scientific reading meant for the intelligent layman such as books by Bertrand Russell on philosophy, articles by [Scientific-American](#) (available on the internet also), "A brief history of time", by Stephen Hawking, etc. On the other hand, if you are not comfortable with the humanities, then read from sociology, economics, arts, etc.

It is important to maintain a balance, that is, half an hour to an hour of reading every day, and then other preparation. You should try increasing your speed, and then attempting to maintain recall – this is what will challenge you and increase your reading speed. You could start with simple books like John Grisham, and then graduate to more difficult ones like Erich Segal, as well the classics (Charles Dickens, George Eliot). You could also try reading articles from Journals for very difficult reading.

Reading international newspapers such as the [New York Times](#), [Wall Street Journal](#), [Tribune](#) editorials on a regular basis will provide you coverage on a variety of topics.

Data Interpretation and Logical Reasoning (DL):

1. Revise the following in 10 minutes
 - Multiplication tables up to 30
 - Reciprocal Percentages
 - Squares and Cubes up to 30
2. Solve one Data Interpretation set OR one Logical Reasoning set OR five Data Sufficiency Questions using Concept Tests, Topic Tests, Module Tests and Past CAT Questions, in 20 minutes.

Quantitative Ability (QA):

Create your own list of formulae for all chapters and revise them.

After this, the remaining 30 minutes should be devoted to the following depending on which two sections you choose on a particular day.

1. VA: Learn the meanings of any new words that you encounter
2. DL: Check solutions of questions that you got wrong or attempt questions that you were not able to solve within the 20 minutes. Learn any new concepts that were used in the questions that you solved using the concept builder.
3. QA: Check solutions of questions that you got wrong or attempt questions that you were not able to solve within the 20 minutes.

You can read articles on strategies to approach the three sections [here](#).

How to take TestFunda iCATs:

You should give two consecutive days to attempt and analyse each TestFunda iCAT.

Each iCAT should be taken under test conditions on Day 1 of the two days. Over Days 1 and 2, you should analyse each iCAT in the same way as you analysed CAT 2008.

Identifying and Working on Weak and Strong Areas:

Use the performance reports to find out your strong and weak areas. You need to strengthen your weak areas and refine your strong areas.

Working on weak areas:

Suppose you identify Number Theory as your weak area. Firstly, read through the Concept Builder of Number Theory to learn concepts. Then take the Concept Test of Number Theory. If you score less than 25% in the Concept Test, solve the questions in the Concept Practice, and then solve the Concept Test. After the test, check the solutions of all the questions that you got wrong. Then solve all the questions that you couldn't solve. Revise concepts at this stage, if necessary. Once you are confident that you can solve all the questions of the kind that appeared in the Concept Test, try solving the Past CAT Questions. Analyse these in a similar manner. Then progress to other weak areas in Algebra and study them in the same fashion. Once you have exhausted all the weak topics in Algebra, you can move on to the Algebra Topic Tests.

Similarly, once you finish studying all the topics in a module, you can take the module test.

Within the limited available time, you may find it difficult to take all tests. Therefore, you will either have to devote more time and take extra efforts or you will have to implement this strategy based on your own judgement. For instance, if after you attempt the Past CAT Questions in Algebra, you feel confident about this topic, and the subsequent comprehensive tests reinforce this, you may choose to skip the Topic Tests or attempt them at the very end, if time permits.

Refining Strong Areas:

Suppose you find that you are very good at a certain topic, you can solve the Concept Tests, Topic Tests and Past CAT Questions right away and focus on building speed and accuracy. You can refer to the Concept Builder only if required.

Understand that as you work on your weak areas consistently over the weeks, you will have hardly any left towards the end of seven weeks.

You can solve two comprehensive tests every week if and when you feel you are ready.

At any stage in your preparation, you can make use of the ask-a-doubt facility and get your queries answered from content experts at TestFunda.

Plan 1

Weekly Schedule			
Day 1	Attempt and analyse comprehensive tests.		
Day 2	(CAT 2008 in the first week and one/two iCATs per week in the subsequent weeks.)		
Day 3	Basic Schedule (90 min)	Weak Areas (120 min)	Strong Areas (30 min)
Day 4	Basic Schedule (90 min)	Weak Areas (120 min)	Strong Areas (30 min)
Day 5	Basic Schedule (90 min)	Weak Areas (120 min)	Strong Areas (30 min)
Day 6	Basic Schedule (90 min)	Topic Test/ Module Test and Analysis (150 min)	
Day 7	Basic Schedule (90 min)	Topic Test/ Module Test and Analysis (150 min)	

Plan 2

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
Week 1	Attempt and analyse CAT 2008		Basic Schedule (90 min)	Basic Schedule (90 min)	Basic Schedule (90 min)	Basic Schedule (90 min)	Basic Schedule (90 min)
			CTs, TTs, MTs and Past CAT Questions of weak topics.			CTs, TTs, MTs and Past CAT Questions of strong topics	
Week 2, 3 and 4	Attempt and analyse iCAT.		Basic Schedule (90 min)	Basic Schedule (90 min)	Basic Schedule (90 min)	Basic Schedule (90 min)	Basic Schedule (90 min)
			CTs, TTs, MTs and Past CAT Questions of weak topics.			CTs, TTs, MTs and Past CAT Questions of strong topics	
Week 5 and 6	Attempt and analyse iCAT.		Basic Schedule (90 min)	Basic Schedule (90 min)	Basic Schedule (90 min)	Basic Schedule (90 min)	Basic Schedule (90 min)
			CTs, TTs, MTs and Past CAT Questions.		Attempt and analyse iCAT and CAT 2005.		
Week 7	Attempt and analyse iCAT.		Basic Schedule (90 min)	Basic Schedule (90 min)	Basic Schedule (90 min)	Basic Schedule (90 min)	Basic Schedule (90 min)
			CTs, TTs, MTs and Past CAT Questions.		Attempt and analyse CAT 2006 and CAT 2007		