Overview of the GRE® revised General Test

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Educational Testing Service

NDOGS 2011 Meeting
July 7, 2011
What We Will Cover Today

• The GRE® Testing Program
• The GRE® revised General Test
• ETS® Personal Potential Index (ETS® PPI)
The GRE Testing Program

I. GRE General Test
   • Verbal Reasoning, Quantitative Reasoning, and Analytical Writing

II. GRE Subject Tests
   • Biochemistry, Cell & Molecular Biology
   • Biology
   • Chemistry
   • Computer Science
   • Literature in English
   • Mathematics
   • Physics
   • Psychology

III. ETS® Personal Potential Index
The GRE® revised General Test Is Launching Worldwide in 2011

The first administration will be on August 1, 2011
**GRE® revised General Test: Better by Design™**

The biggest change in 60 years!

- New types of questions that reflect the kind of thinking students do in graduate and business school
- More simplicity in distinguishing performance differences between candidates
- A new test-taker friendly design for a more flexible test-taking experience
The Test Content is Changing

• **Verbal Reasoning Measure**
  – Emphasis on complex reasoning skills
    • More text-based materials
    • Antonyms and Analogies have been eliminated
  – New question types and computer-enabled tasks

• **Quantitative Reasoning Measure**
  – Same basic concepts of arithmetic, algebra, geometry and data analysis
  – Emphasis on quantitative reasoning skills
    • More real-life scenarios and data interpretation
    • An on-screen calculator to reduce the emphasis on computation
  – New question types and computer-enabled tasks
The Test Content is Changing (continued)

- **Analytical Writing Measure**
  - The Analytical Writing measure will not change dramatically
  - Test takers will be asked to provide **more focused responses** to questions, reducing the possibility of reliance on memorized materials
How the Test Will be Administered

• The GRE® revised General Test will be administered in a secure testing environment on a continuous basis at computer-based test centers around the world

• In Mainland China, Hong Kong, Taiwan and Korea, the split-test administration will be replaced with computer-based testing 1–2 times per month

• In areas of the world where the computer-based test is unavailable, paper-based tests will be administered up to 3 times per year
The computer selects the second section of a measure based on the test-taker’s performance on the first section.

Within each section, all questions contribute equally to the final score.

Both sections are important, since the final score on each measure is based on the total number of correct answers and the level of difficulty of the questions.
More Simplicity in Distinguishing Performance Differences Between Candidates

• A new GRE® score scale is being introduced
  – Verbal Reasoning and Quantitative Reasoning scores will be reported on a new score scale of 130–170, in 1-point increments
  • Current score scale: 200–800, in 10-point increments
  – The Analytical Writing scores will continue to be reported on the same 0–6 score scale, in half-point increments
Why Change the Score Scale?

• The new score scale will help institutions make more meaningful and appropriate comparisons between candidates

• The Verbal and Quantitative score scale must change
  – Because there are substantial changes to the test, professional standards (AERA, APA, NCME) require us to change the scale

• The new score scale was selected to balance
  – changes in content
  – new question types
  – the new psychometric model
  – test length
A New Score Report

- Along with introducing the new score scale, there will be a **redesigned GRE® Score Report**, starting in November 2011 (when the first GRE revised General Test scores are released)
- This score report **will include concordance information** to help score users compare candidates who took the GRE General Test before August 2011 with those who take the GRE revised General Test
- Information will be included in both the paper reports as well as electronic files through **SCORELINK®** Internet delivery service and CD-ROM
- Concordance tables will also be available on the GRE website
### Sample Score Report: Expanded Examinee and Score Recipient Information

**SMITH, MARY A.**  
**Last (Family/Surname) Name, First (Given) Name Middle Initial.**

**Address:**  
Mary A. Smith  
23 Allen Street  
Jackson, MS 39203  
USA

**Contact Information:**  
**Email:** msmith@bdn.edu  
**Phone:** 1-601-974-3212  
**Date of Birth:** 02/02/1983  
**Gender:** Female  
**Social Security Number:** 8766

**Intended Graduate Major:**  
- **Code:** 0203  
- **Name:** Biology

**Most Recent:**  
- **Test Date:** 12/03/2011  
- **Registration Number:** 111111  
- **Print Date:** 12/15/2011

**RECIPIENT**  
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inst. Code</th>
<th>Institution Name</th>
<th>Dept. Code</th>
<th>Department Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1234</td>
<td>ETS UNIVERSITY</td>
<td>0203</td>
<td>BIOLOGY</td>
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## Sample Score Report: Detailed Score Information

### GENERAL TEST SCORES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test Date</th>
<th>Verbal Reasoning*</th>
<th>Quantitative Reasoning*</th>
<th>Analytical Writing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Prior Format</td>
<td>Current Format</td>
<td>Prior Format</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MM/DD/YYYY</td>
<td>Scaled Score</td>
<td>Estimated Current Score</td>
<td>Scaled Score</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/03/2011</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06/01/2009</td>
<td>590</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>156</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
More Test-Taker Friendly for an Enhanced Test Experience

- Questions are more aligned with the types of work students will do in graduate or business school
  - includes more text-based questions and more real-life scenarios
- The test experience is enhanced
  - new functionality, including review, go back, change an answer, etc.
  - test takers can navigate freely within a timed section
- An on-screen calculator will be provided on the Quantitative Reasoning measure*

*For those taking the paper-based GRE revised General Test, calculators will be provided at the test center for use during the test.
A New Test-Taker Friendly Design for a More Flexible Test-Taking Experience (continued)

- Test takers can move more freely within a section
- More questions with real-life scenarios
- New types of questions
- An on-screen calculator
### Detailed Score Reporting Schedule for the Computer-Based GRE® revised General Test

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test Dates</th>
<th>Approximate Score Report Mailing Dates*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 1, 2011 – September 8, 2011</td>
<td>November 8, 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 16, 2011 – November 18, 2011</td>
<td>December 1, 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 29, 2011 or later</td>
<td>10–15 days after test date</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Starting in December 2011, score reporting for the computer-based test will return to the regular reporting period of 10 to 15 days after the test date.

*Score reports for paper-based administrations will continue to be reported six weeks after test date.*
A Special Savings Opportunity!

• 50% savings on test fees when students test between August 1 and September 30, 2011
  – Individuals who test during this special discount period will have their scores sent by mid-November
  – Seats will fill up quickly so anyone interested in getting the discount should register early to get the date and location of their choice
There Are Many Resources For Prospective Test Takers

- The official GRE® website (at www.ets.org/gre) provides in-depth explanations of the test and changes, policy information, test dates and locations, and more
- The official TaketheGRE.com website is an easy-to-use site created especially for test takers and includes quick summaries, helpful guidance and some tips on how to get started
- Prospective test takers can also visit our new GRE page on Facebook® to ask questions and interact with other test takers worldwide

When prospective test takers are ready … they can get accurate information in a way that fits them
What You Can Do to Get Ready

• Inform your admissions, fellowship and scholarship committees, and faculty and staff about the GRE® revised General Test

• Understand that test scores for all individuals who test between August and October 2011 will be reported starting in November 2011

• Become familiar with the new score scale and have procedures in place to review the new scores when score reporting for the revised test begins in November 2011
  – Remember, concordance information will be available on score reports and on ETS.org starting in November
  – Keep in mind you will likely receive a higher-than-normal volume of GRE score reports starting in November because of the special score reporting schedule

• Visit the GRE Information Center at www.ets.org/gre/infocenter
The ETS® Personal Potential Index
The ETS® Personal Potential Index (ETS® PPI)

Get a more complete picture of your graduate applicants to find the best candidates for your program

- A convenient and easy-to-use, web-based, multi-rater system for evaluating and comparing the personal qualities of graduate or professional school applicants to make even better admissions decisions
- An Evaluation Report based on evaluator feedback provides both quantitative and qualitative information about an applicant
- ETS PPI can help broaden, as well as refine, your selection process — so you can find the right fit for your program
ETS® PPI Was Developed to Address a Need

• Based on 10 years of groundbreaking research
• Developed in response to requests from graduate deans and admissions professionals who expressed a need for a tool that could measure noncognitive skills to offer a more “rounded” student application
• The first admissions tool that standardizes the evaluation of noncognitive skills necessary for graduate and business school
The *ETS*® PPI Evaluation Report

- Yields an overall evaluation rating of the applicant
- Provides ratings on six dimensions identified as critical for success in graduate and professional school:
  - Knowledge and Creativity
  - Communication Skills
  - Teamwork
  - Resilience
  - Planning and Organization
  - Ethics and Integrity
- All *GRE*® General Test registrants can send four free ETS PPI Evaluation Reports

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How Does the ETS® PPI Work?

1. Applicant selects evaluators
2. Evaluators rate applicant
3. ETS creates Evaluation Report
4. ETS sends Evaluation Report
   - Free to receiving institutions
Questions?

• **GRE® revised General Test**
  – Visit [www.ets.org/gre/infocenter](http://www.ets.org/gre/infocenter)

• **ETS® Personal Potential Index**
  – Visit [www.ets.org/ppi](http://www.ets.org/ppi)

• If you have questions:
  – Write to us at GREhelpline@ets.org
  – **GRE** Academic Help Line: **1-609-683-2662**

• Contact Dawn Piacentino
  – Via email at dpiacentino@ets.org
  – Via phone at 609-683-2015