

An Analysis of IIFT Entrance Test 2009

Executive Summary:

Essentially this was the first major management entrance test of the year. The Test 2009 was very similar in essence to IIFT 2008, but there was a slight change in the pattern of the test. Unlike last year, when there were 6 sections, this time there were 4 sections with one of the sections (English) had two parts: Part-I(RC) and Part –II(EU). The total number of questions was reduced to only 122 in comparison to 150 questions in the year 2008.

There was close to 7-8 questions in the entire test paper which had one or the other type of errors ranging from: No option choice was correct, Language ambiguity, inconsistency in the data provided, Self-contradictory data etc.

Salient features:

1. Number of sections: 4 (English had 2 subsections)
2. Number of options for each question: 4
3. Each incorrect answer carried one third (1/3rd) negative marks instead of one fourth (1/4th) last year
4. Variation of weight, as compared to the previous year
5. **Specific mention of sectional cut-offs which was not mentioned last year**

Here is an overview of how you should have attempted this paper.

| Section | Number of questions | Weight per question | Total Marks | Possible attempts (Qs) | Suggested Time (In Minutes) | Possible score | Expected Cut offs |
|--------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|---------------------|
| English (RC) | 15 | 1.0 | 15.0 | 5-6 | 15 | 4-5 | 4-5(RC+EU combined) |
| English (EU) | 25 | 0.60 | 15.0 | 17-18 | 20 | 8-9 | 2-3 |
| GK | 20 | 0.40 | 8.0 | 10 | 10 | 3-4 | 1-1.5 |
| QA | 28 | 1.0 | 28.0 | 8-9 | 35 | 6-7 | 2-3 |
| DI+AR | 34 | 1.00 | 34.0 | 12-13 | 40 | 8-9 | 3-4 |
| Total | 122 | | 100 | 52- 56 | 120 | | 30-31 |

Important Note:

The above-mentioned table only suggests about a possible score. The actual cut-off for receiving a call for the second round of selection may vary. As per the experts of Career



Launcher, a score of around **31** may fetch you a call. Please note that IIFT also considers work-experience as an important parameter before issuing such call letters.

English Section

Part-I (Reading Comprehension):

Out of the four RC passages in the section, 2 passages (Passage based on "**Sugar**" and the other based on "**essential character of trade cycle**") were quite attemptable within 15-16 minutes. The other two passages were quite lengthy and should have been avoided during the test. Moreover, the questions were fact-based and asked for direct data from the passage. One could have just scanned through them and answered the given questions. The composition of the section was as follows:

| Topic | Number of Qs | Remarks |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------------|
| Independent Directors/CEO/CFO | 5 | Easy and direct questions, Factual |
| Essential characters of trade cycle | 3 | Easy and direct questions, Factual |
| Industrialization | 4 | Easy and direct questions, Factual |
| Sugar | 3 | Easy and direct questions, Factual |

English Section

Part-II (English Usage):

The questions in this section comprised Antonyms, Synonyms, and Grammar; Fill in the blanks and Para jumbles. The level of difficulty ranged from easy to medium. Fill in the blanks questions tested a candidate's knowledge of the contextual meaning. The grammar questions were on the GMAT pattern and were very easy and direct. One of the grammar questions (From what landscapes or flowerbeds would...) was flawed, as none of the given options was grammatically correct. Keeping in mind the variety, one could have chosen questions from one's area of interest and maximized one's score.

The composition of the section was as follows:

| Topic | Number of Qs | Remarks |
|--------------------|--------------|---|
| Antonyms | 5 | Easy-Medium |
| Synonyms | 5 | Easy-Medium |
| Fill in the blanks | 4 | Medium |
| Grammar | 5 | Easy-Medium, tested areas mostly on Semantic-based and modifiers. |
| Para jumbles | 6 | Easy-Medium |

General Awareness Section (GK):

The General Knowledge section of IIFT 2009, unlike previous three years, had no question from Static general knowledge. This section had questions primarily from Business GK and Current GK. There were 15 questions from Business GK and 5 questions from Current GK. The level of difficulty of the GK section was EASY as compared to previous years and had very few difficult questions. A person of average general awareness could attempt 10-12 questions.

Quantitative Ability Section

QA section had reasonably high level of difficulty and looked slightly more difficult than that of the last year. Presence of **None of the above** as one of the answer choices in as many as 12 questions made the test look more difficult. There was a definite stress on Arithmetic and Geometry. These two topics comprised almost 66% of the section. There were 4 questions based on PNC and Probability but there were no questions on Number system. The section was difficult but on a closer look one could attempt 8-9 questions at ease in 35 minutes.

It was a bonanza for Career Launcher students as 7-8 questions of the section were very similar to the questions present in CL study material. Moreover, there were as many as 4 questions (Qno-25, 27, 29 and 31, SET-D), which seem to have been picked from previous CAT papers with slight changes done.

The composition of the section was as follows:

| Topic | Number of Qs | Remarks |
|---|--------------|----------------------------------|
| | 28 | Weight age 1.0 |
| Arithmetic | 11 | Medium |
| Algebra | 5 | Average to difficult |
| Geometry & Mensuration | 6 | Easy to Average difficulty level |
| Permutation Combination and Probability | 4 | Medium to Difficult |
| Trigonometry (Height and Distance) | 2 | Medium |

(DI +AR) Section:

This Section of the test appeared tough and involved intensive and lengthy calculations. A lot of data was given in each Set. On the closer look one could have found 1-3 questions in almost all the sets that could be cracked with ease. It cannot be denied that a few of the questions were so calculation intensive that they could not be solved in the testing conditions. There were 10 questions based on AR out of which 3-4 questions could be attempted.

The composition of the section was as follows:

| Topic | Number of Qs | Remarks |
|--|--------------|---|
| Bar Chart based on Vehicles sales and production | 6 | In one of the questions QN-93 (Set-D), no answer choice was matching. |
| Table based on Sectoral Return | 3 | Intensive calculation required. |
| Table based on Area, Quantity of Production and yield. | 5 | Intensive calculation required. |
| Table based on Year-wise oil used | 5 | Intensive calculation required |
| Caselet (Data based) | 4 | |
| Caselet (AR Based) | 3 | Simple 3 -D Arrangement |
| Input/output based | 3 | Very similar to last year set |
| Individual reasoning based | 5 | Medium |

All the best!

The Career Launcher Team

Disclaimer: All information on cut-offs, analysis, answer key, solutions and scores are based on independent analysis and evaluation made by Career Launcher. We do not take responsibility for any decision that might be taken, based on this information.