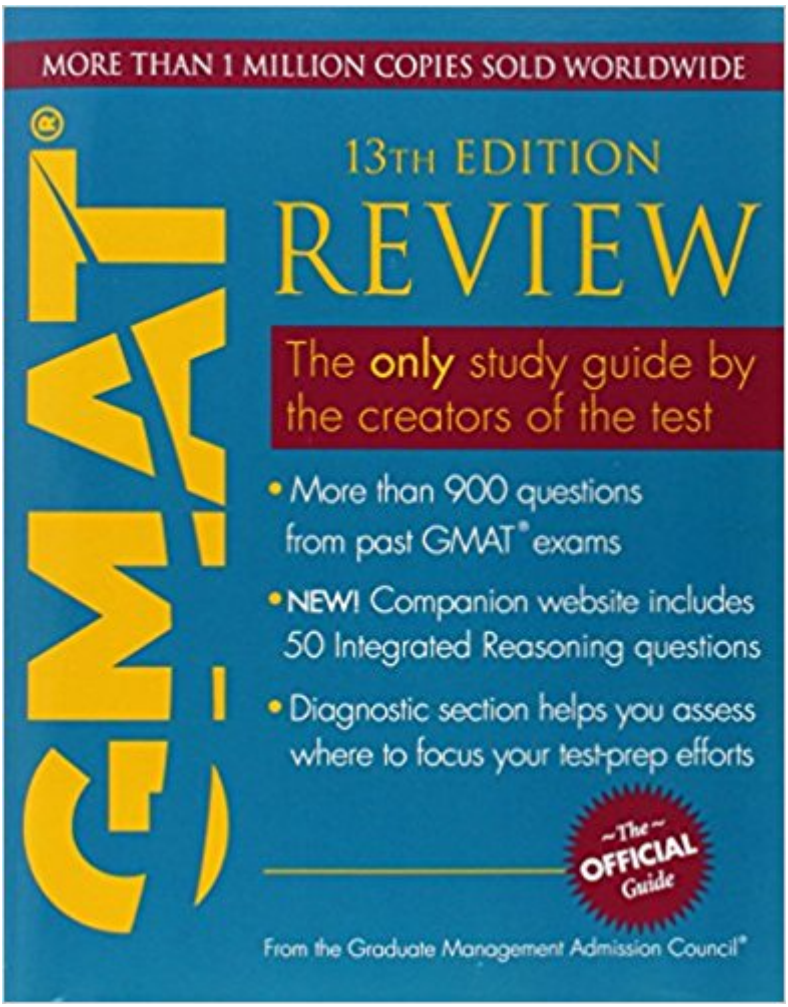
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The Official Guide For GMAT Review



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Synopsis

Jumpstart your GMAT exam preparations with the official study guide, featuring real GMAT questionsÃ¢â ¬â •and their answersÃ¢â ¬â • written by the creators of the test. In addition to more than 900 questions, the 13th Edition features: A new online study companion with 50 Integrated Reasoning questions and answer explanations* An Integrated Reasoning chapter with details about the new GMAT exam section A 100-question diagnostic exam to help focus your test preparation efforts Grammar review covering concepts tested on the GMAT Verbal section Comprehensive math review covering concepts tested on the GMAT Quantitative section Helpful tips to help you prepare for the GMAT exam Please note: There is no overlap between questions found in The Official Guide for GMATÃ Â® Review, 13th Edition, The Official Guide for GMATÃ Â® Quantitative Review, The Official Guide for GMATÃ Â® Verbal Review, and GMATPrepÃ Â® software.Ã Â The new practice questions in the 13th Edition replace 155 practice questions from the 12thÃ Â Edition. The remaining questions overlap. *To use the Integrated Reasoning companion website, you must have one of the following browsers: Safari, Google Chrome, Firefox, or Internet Explorer version 7 or higher.

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Customer Reviews

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Guide Type Test Prep Test Prep Test Prep Test Prep Ã Â Audience Level Graduate Student Graduate Student Graduate Student Graduate Student Ã Â Pages 1382 840 336 216 Ã Â List Price $74.90 $42.95 $17.95 $17.95 Ã Â Publication Date July, 2013 March, 2012 August, 2009 September, 2009 Ã Â Author(s) GMAC GMAC GMAC GMAC Ã Â Imprint Wiley Wiley Wiley Wiley Ã Â Print Book 1118824539 1118109791 0470449756 0470449764 Ã Â Kindle Book Ã Â B008846CAC B005CCT37M B005DIAQ5S Ã Â Edition 13th 13th 2nd 2nd Ã Â Brief Description Includes: The Official Guide for GMAT Review, 13th Edition; The Official Guide for GMAT Quantitative Review; The Official Guide for GMAT Verbal Review Includes official sample questions from the new Integrated Reasoning section and exclusive online access to Integrated Reasoning practice questions. The only official verbal review for the GMAT Exam. Includes 300 actual questions from past GMAT tests. The only official quantitative review for the GMAT Exam. Includes 300 actual questions from past GMAT tests. Ã Â

The only study guide bythe creators of the test More than 900 questions from past GMATÃ Â® exams NEW! Companion website includes 50 Integrated Reasoning questions Diagnostic section helps you assess where to focus your test-prep efforts Trust the worldwide bestselling study guide to help you prepare for the GMAT! The Official Guide For GMATÃ Â® Review 13th Edition Here's what you'll find inside the only book on the market written by GMAC, the creators of the exam. Full answers and detailed explanations for practice questions Grammar review covering concepts tested in the GMAT Verbal section Comprehensive math review of the topics tested in the GMAT Quantitative section Actual essay topics, sample responses, and scoring information Questions organized in order of difficulty to save study time Visit mba.com to join the community and enjoy these benefits: Sign up for GMASSÃ Â® Search Service to be contacted by schools Download FREE GMATPrep software that includes 2 full-length practice tests and review questions Register to take the GMAT exam Connect with us at facebook.com/OfficialGMAT and @OfficialGMAT on Twitter for free test questions, tips, and advice

I am a Harvard grad, 99% scorer and professional GMAT tutor with 16 years of experience, and am fairly obsessed with this test. I also take the GMAT at least once a year to stay up-to-date, including a recent score of 770 (48 V/47 Q). The 2017 GMAT Official Guide Bundle receives my strong recommendation because it provides a great source of real GMAT questions at a decent price (it normally retails for about $45). Also, all of the typos from the previous 2017 editions have now been

fixed.One aspect of these books that you must understand is that they are not meant to teach you GMAT test-taking strategy. For that, look elsewhere (see product links below). However, they include some of the very best practice materials available, straight from the test-maker, and although the answer explanations are often convoluted, they are still useful in understanding how the GMAC thinks.Why are the 2017 Official Guides the very best place to start your GMAT preparation, other than the free GMATPrep software? Because the questions in these books are super-realistic. They are just like the questions on the real GMAT, because these books are written by the test-maker and use actual, retired GMAT questions. Don't waste your time and money practicing on questions made by any other companies--these are merely inferior imitations of the real thing. If you must use other materials for test strategy, then that's fine, and in most cases necessary, but try your best to stick to official questions whenever possible.Pro tip: You can take each of the 6 GMAT Prep CATs more than once, because the GMAT is an adaptive test (it adjusts the difficulty level of later questions based on your previous responses). There are about 4 to 16 times as many questions in the GMAC's question pool as there are in any given test, which means that every test you take will be different. Tests 1 and 2 draw from a (gigantic!) pool of about 1,500 questions, and tests 3, 4, 5, and 6 draw from a more modest pool of about 400 questions each. To re-take your GMAT Prep tests, click "reset" in the lower-left hand corner of the GMAT Prep software window, but make sure to take screenshots of your previous test sessions beforehand--frequent screenshots are a good idea anyway because the software is prone to crashing and losing your data. For your screenshots, use either the "Print Screen" (Windows Key + PrtScn) button on a PC or (Shift + Command + 3) on a Mac.It's important to remember that although these physical GMAT books are extremely helpful, the GMAT is still a computer-based test, which means that you should still spend at least 50% of your preparation time reading a screen instead of reading a piece of paper. For this reason, consider buying the Kindle versions of the guides, as well as making full use of the computer-based practice options (Exam Packs, Question Packs, Mobile App, etc.) available from the GMAC (see detailed product links below). Or, if you prefer to buy the physical books, then you can also use the access codes located in the sealed pouches in the back covers of the books to access a free web-based version of the books, where you can try most of the questions in the books in an online format, and organize quizzes by question type / difficulty level (easy, medium, hard). You will also have to create a Wiley account, which is mostly painless. I strongly suggest that you save your login information on your browser so that you wonÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t have to enter your username / password every time you access the Wiley site.Ã ƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â • Ã ƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •THE GREAT DEBATE: THE PRINT BOOKS + (INCLUDED) ACCESS TO THE FREE ONLINE

QUESTION BANK FROM WILEY vs. THE (not yet available) KINDLE VERSIONS OF THE BOOKSÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“In this cornerÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â¦ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â•First of all, remember that you should be spending lots of time exploring the GMAT Prep software (both the Exam Packs and the Question Packs) during your studies, in addition to the questions in these books / the Wiley question bank, especially if you are going for a score of 700 or above.Purchasing the print version of the books as a discount bundle seems like the obvious answer for many old-school GMAT tutors such as myself, since it also offers the option to use the online Wiley question bank, which includes nearly every question in the Official Guides in a computer-based format. Why not have the best of both worlds (print and digital) instead of digital only?The Kindle version of the booksÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •accessible not just for Kindle owners but on nearly any device with a screenÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •are exact copies of the physical books, in digital, searchable form. ItÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s very easy to navigate among the different chapters of the books, for example, and to review individual questions. ItÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s also helpful for Skype GMAT tutoring with a tutor like me, despite some formatting issues with equations, and it allows you to hold the entire Official Guide bundle in the palm of your hand.The Wiley question bank (accessible through the codes located in the back covers of the books) includes 6 months access to a question bank where you can try random questions from the Official Guides through the Wiley website. You can sort your questions by difficulty level / question type, and answer explanations are provided. You can also choose different modes of study, including ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“practice modeÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• and ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“exam mode,ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• and you can also name your sessions for later review. When the question bank works (at the moment it is down for maintenance, and any interface dependent on an internet browser is found to malfunction sometimes), it works quite well.The question bank is far from perfect, however, and the Kindle version clearly has its advantages, so this is not an obvious choice.In some regards, the Kindle version is superior, because the Wiley interface is not nearly as easy-to-use. Also, if you don’t have internet access, then the question bank is inaccessible, in contrast to the Kindle version, which is basically a static, searchable PDF that lives on your device instead of in the cloud.There are definitely advantages and disadvantages to both, but I think the print + Wiley combo is the way to go for most old-schoolers like me, who grew up in the era of paper tests and taking lots of notes. Keep in mind that if you don’t have internet access for a while, you can still access the roughly 1,500 questions on Exams 1 and 2 of the free GMATPrep software.I do have a Kindle, and I even use the Kindle versions of the books on my computer during my Skype sessions with private students, but I still enjoy the tangible feeling of having the physical books. That being said, the GMAT is still a computer-based test, so I would

advise you to spend at least 50% of your preparation time reading a screen instead of a book.It all depends on how you plan to use the books, their current costs, and your personal moral code. Here are some key factors:1) Wiley requires internet access, Kindle does not (other than the initial download, of course).2) Wiley allows you to select the difficulty level (E/M/H) of the questions, Kindle does not (remember, itÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s just a PDF-style replica of the print books, which are only roughly ordered in terms of difficulty).3) Kindle is quick and convenient, Wiley is not (you have to log into the question bank through your browser instead of a desktop application, you cannot access specific questions on demand, it has a clunky user interface)4) Wiley requires an actual computer, and the Kindle does not (it will work through the app on your cell phone, etc.).5) Like the GMATPrep Software (Exam Packs and Question Packs), Wiley resembles the actual GMAT exam more closely than does the Kindle version.6) Kindle is (probably) better for the environment. But remember that all those glowing screens use a lot of energy too.7) If you buy the Kindle version, then you will spend 100% of your time looking at a screen. If you buy the print + Wiley combo you will only be looking at a screen for about 50% of the time (GMATPrep software + Wiley question bank). In my opinion, 50/50 is better because we are human beings and thus subject to screen fatigue. Studying with paper versions of the books can be less stressful and is more convenient for taking notes, studying outside, etc.8) Not a big deal, but the books are offered as a discount bundle on and the Kindle versions are not.9) Perhaps most importantly, the Wiley bank is included, for free, with your purchase of the physical books. If you plan to do most of your work on the computer, then you could think of the physical books as a bonus to the online question bank, instead of the other way around.Some GMAT tutors are of the opinion that you should be working off a screen nearly all of the time that you prepare for the GMAT. If you agree with this assessment, then the Kindle version is probably the best option for you, since itÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s a lot better organized than is the Wiley question bank. However, I am of the opinion that working out of a book 50% of the time is fine, and in fact better for many, so IÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢m more inclined to recommend the print + Wiley combo for itÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“best of both worldsÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• (print and computer) quality. I also think that the random nature of the Wiley question bank (you cannot access specific questions by number, no answer key, etc.), one of its major weaknesses, is also one of its strengths, since this random question format is closer to the format of the GMAT itself, and the format of the GMAT Prep software (which contains far harder questions than nearly any question in the Official Guides!).However, donÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t expect the Wiley question banks to be a digital replica of the physical books. If you require that, then youÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢ll need to purchase the Kindle version. To state the obvious, the best thing to

have is both. But if I had to choose one, I would probably go with the print books and Wiley question bank.Finally, it should also be noted that the Reading Comprehension portions of the book are nearly impossible to study on the Kindle, due to the large number of digital "page flips" required to go back and forth between the questions and the passages.Instead of giving you a paper and pencil, the GMAC also requires you to use a water-based maker and a laminated sheet like this one:Ã Â Manhattan GMAT Test Simulation Booklet w/ MarkerÃ Â I don't recommend always using the laminated sheet when you study, because it's messy and harder to keep track of your notes that way. But it makes sense to at least use it a few times, just to get the feel of it before test day.ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“OVER 130 NEVER-BEFORE SEEN QUESTIONS / OVER 45 NEVER-BEFORE-SEEN QUESTIONSÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â•Approximately 15% of the questions in these 2017 editions of the OG are new to the Official Guides. However, it is worth noting that ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“never before seenÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• is not entirely true, since all of these questions are retired questions from past GMAT computer exams (it says so right there on the cover). A more accurate description would be ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“never before seen on paper,ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• but that probably wouldnÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t sell as many copies.For those of you who already have copies of the 2016 Bundle, here is a full list of the new questions in the 2017 version of the GMAT Official Guides:MAIN OG / WHITE BOOK (old edition with typos) OR GREEN BOOK (new edition with typos fixed). 131 new questions:ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •Integrated Reasoning (8 new questions): 9, 10, 11, 21, 28, 35, 41 & 43Problem Solving (36 new questions): 2, 5, 7, 13, 19, 23, 32, 44, 45, 47, 50, 53, 62, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 88, 89, 91, 96, 100, 109, 116, 120, 123, 127, 128, 132, 140, 152, 192, 194, 201 & 209.Data Sufficiency (26 new questions): 231, 237, 243, 252, 254, 255, 258, 259, 262, 274, 275, 278, 283, 288, 291, 294, 304, 305, 310, 315, 316, 325, 327, 332, 347 & 359.Sentence Correction (21 new questions): 668, 669, 683, 684, 685, 688, 696, 697, 703, 704, 705, 724, 725, 738, 739, 740, 747, 762, 771, 799, & 803.Critical Reasoning (19 new questions): 546, 549, 562, 571, 582, 587, 592, 599, 607, 610, 612, 616, 617, 618, 619, 627, 629, 661, 666Reading Comprehension (21 new questions): 415-423, 427-430, 460-462, 529-533QUANT REVIEW GUIDE / BLUE BOOK (47 new questions):ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â • ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •Problem Solving (26 new questions): 1, 10, 11, 16, 19, 24, 38, 53, 59, 63, 68, 71, 76, 77, 79, 83, 85, 87, 89, 114, 136, 137, 139, 145, 158, 164Data Sufficiency (19 new questions): 184, 185, 186, 189, 194, 199, 202, 208, 211, 218, 219, 222, 225, 230, 236, 262, 295, 297, 300VERBAL REVIEW GUIDE / PINK BOOK (45 new questions)ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â • ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •Sentence Correction (17 new questions): 189, 190, 200, 210, 211, 216, 241, 243, 245, 250, 254, 258, 260, 279, 281, 296, 299Critical Reasoning (13

new questions): 106, 110, 117, 124, 133, 139, 146, 153, 158, 166, 172, 180, 188Reading Comprehension (15 new questions): 11-16, 46-54-- --(For explanations and classifications of every question in the 2016 Official Guide, google "GMAT Club Guide to the GMAT Official Guide 2016.")Are the questions from the 2017 versions any better than the questions they are replacing from the 2016 edition? No, not really. All of the questions in the books are old questions from past GMAT exams (ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“retired questionsÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â•), so there is no guarantee that these 220+ ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“newÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• questions are either any newer or any more helpful than are the questions they supplant from the 2016 Editions of the OGs. Moreover, early adopters of the 2017 editions will find that certain questions are so new that itÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s hard to access online explanations until GMAT tutors like me (GMATClub username: mcelroytutoring) start posting them, which could take weeks or even months.While I will concede that the questions in this book are roughly ordered from easy to hard, there are some curious places where low-numbered questions are quite difficult for most of my students, and vice-versa. Thus, I think that we canÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t necessarily take GMAC at their word here, especially since there has already been evidence in past official guides of the GMAC moving the exact same questions to radically different locations in the books, which suggests that we shouldnÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t trust the GMAC at its word in this regard. If the questions are truly ordered from easy to hard, for example, then why would a question numbered in the 30s suddenly show up numbered in the 90s in the next yearÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s edition?ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •A WARNING ABOUT THE DIFFICULTY LEVEL OF THE QUESTIONS IN THE OFFICIAL GUIDES:It is important to note that the difficulty level of questions in these books is sufficient for most test takers, but is admittedly a bit lacking on the high end. High scorers take note: If you are aiming for a GMAT score of 700-plus, then you should spend more time practicing on questions from the GMATPrep software and Exams Pack 1 and 2, which offer more difficult questions that will bear a closer resemblance to the questions you will see on your actual test day.Remember: the GMAT is an adaptive exam. If you answer a lot of questions right, then the test keeps getting harder (as your score rises), and if you answer a lot of questions wrong, then the test keeps getting easier (as your score lowers). And the questions on the test are ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“front-loadedÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• so that the first 1/3 of questions have a much larger impact on your score than does the final 1/3 of questions. (There is a SEVERE penalty for not finishing the sections, however, so make sure that you give yourself time answer all the questions before time expires, even if they are just random guesses. At all costs, make sure to answer every question before time expires.)If you do run out of official GMAT Prep computer tests (the first two

are free, and you can buy four more from GMAC), then I can recommend the Manhattan GMAT CATs (computer adaptive tests). Just buy one book from the Manhattan GMAT series, and it will give you access to all 6 online CATs: GMAT Sentence Correction (Manhattan Prep GMAT Strategy Guides)For free video explanations to all the math questions in these books, google "GMAT Quantum," or if you prefer to read your explanations, then just try google searching the first few lines of your question's text. I would also strongly recommend that you check out informative websites such as GMAT Club, Beat the GMAT, and Atlantic GMAT, and that you consider retaining the services of a qualified private tutor such as myself.ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â • ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •HOW TO STUDY FOR THE GMAT:My core philosophy: use official GMAT questions only! ItÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s OK if you end up memorizing all the solutions and answersÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •thatÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s part of the point, as is repetition of certain questions until you fully understand them. There are thousands of real GMAT questions available from the GMAC, so itÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s unlikely that you will ever run out. Imitation questions are not quite the same, so why settle for anything less than the real deal?For purposes of brevity, I am only including a one-month study plan, but the truth is that most students need at least 3-6 months to study for the GMAT. To turn this 1-month study plan into a 3-month or 6-month study plan, simply break the study plan into smaller increments.Ideally, your studying should be done at regular intervals throughout the day, instead of one large chunk, to maximize retention. Take frequent breaks, but also try to get used to working for 4 hours straight at least once a week, to simulate test conditions.If you donÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t have time to take a full section, then donÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t use the GMAT Prep Exams, because you will need to finish the entire test in order to review the questions afterward. Even if you only want to try a Quant section, for example, you will have to click through the rest of the test, or wait for time to expire, which is annoying. Better to use the Question Packs, the OGs or the Mobile App for smaller increments of time. Also, if youÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢re a Mac user like me, then you should know that the ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“EscapeÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• button does not work on the GMAT Prep software. Instead, try (Command + Tab) to switch to other open applications.DonÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t forget to utilize GMAT club for explanations to any questions whose explanations in the books donÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t make sense. Just google search the first few lines of your questionÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s text.ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â • ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •MY RECOMMENDED GMAT STUDY PLAN:"Section" = a timed, scored section from the GMATPrep Software (Exams 1 through 6). Helps you practice test-taking techniques, and leveraging the GMAT algorithm."Practice" = unscored (no composite score, only correct/incorrect) and the time limit is less strict. Take as long as you need for understanding.Remember that you donÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t

necessarily need to pay for Exam Packs 1 and 2, because there are approximately 1,500 potential questions in (free) Exams 1 and 2, so you can just keep resetting the tests and using them again. The IR sections will be exactly the same (not adaptive!), but the quant and verbal sections will be different every time.Another option is to install the GMAT Prep software on 2 different computers. 2 different computers = 2 different versions of the test = nearly twice as many questions to practice.Here is a sample weekly schedule that I would recommend IF YOU ARE TRYING TO PREPARE IN ONLY ONE MONTH (see modifications for 2-6 month study plans below).Day 1: COMPUTER DAY1) 75 minute Quant Section - GMATPrep2) 75 minute Verbal Section - GMATPrep3) Review Incorrectly Answered Quant Questions + Math Concepts and Strategies4) Review Incorrectly Answered Verbal Questions + Verbal Concepts and Strategies5) 30 minute IR Section or Practice - GMAT Prep / IR tool from Wiley6) 30 minutes Essay PracticeDay 2: BOOK (OG) / WILEY DAY1) 37 Quant Questions in OG / Wiley2) 41 Verbal Questions in OG / Wiley3) Review Incorrectly Answered Quants4) Review Incorrectly Answered Verbals5) 12 IR Questions - Any SourceDay 3: COMPUTER DAY1) 37 Quant Questions in GMATPrep (Question Packs)2) 41 Verbal Questions in GMATPrep (Question Packs)3) Review Incorrectly Answered Quants + Math Concepts and Strategies4) Review Incorrectly Answered Verbals + Verbal Concepts and StrategiesDay 4: BOOK (OG) / WILEY DAY1) 37 Quant Questions in OG / Wiley2) 41 Verbal Questions in OG / Wiley3) Review Incorrectly Answered Quants + Math Concepts and Strategies4) Review Incorrectly Answered Verbals + Verbal Concepts and Strategies5) 12 IR Questions - Any SourceDay 5: COMPUTER DAY1) 75 minute Quant Section - GMATPrep2) 75 minute Verbal Section - GMATPrep3) Review Incorrectly Answered Quants + Math Concepts and Strategies4) Review Incorrectly Answered Verbals + Verbal Concepts and Strategies5) 30 minute IR Section or Practice - GMAT Prep / IR tool from Wiley6) 30 minutes Essay PracticeDay 6: BOOK (OG) / WILEY DAY1) 37 Quant Questions in OG / Wiley2) 41 Verbal Questions in OG / Wiley3) Review Incorrectly Answered Quants + Math Concepts and Strategies4) Review Incorrectly Answered Verbals + Verbal Concepts and Strategies5) 12 IR Questions - Any SourceDay 7: Take a rest!
YouÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢re only human.Repeat for three more weeks, and youÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢ve completed approximately 2,160 real GMAT questions out of the approximately 4,000 official GMAT questions available.Here are my modifications for 2-6 month study plans:2-month study plan: complete 3 assignments (numbered above) per day.3-month study plan: complete 2 assignments per day.4-month study plan: complete 1-2 assignments per day.6-month study plan: complete 1 assignment per day.The founder of the GMAT Club forum has also written an excellent GMAT Study Plan on GMAT club. To see it, google ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“GMAT Study Plan - 2016 Edition :

General GMAT Questions and Strategies.ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â•ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â • ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •A QUICK AND IMPORTANT NOTE ON HOW TO REVIEW INCORRECTLY ANSWERED GMAT QUESTIONS:Yes, the correct answers (along with mildly helpful explanations) are all right there in the books. But at all costs, donÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t check the correct answer right away, because in many ways it ruins the utility of that question.When it comes time to re-try the questions that you answered incorrectly, I recommend that you either buy a 2nd copy of the books to keep blank, or that you simply re-try the questions on your computer screenÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â¦BEFORE checking the answer. It's what I call a "blind review": going over all the questions you got wrong without first checking the correct answer/explanation, or seeing any of your previous work.Yes, I knowÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â¦when you get something wrong that you thought you got right, your first instinct is to immediately check the correct answer choice. However, try your best to avoid this temptation.In my opinion, blind review is one of the key facets of effective test prep. Thus, when using the physical book, you should only mark your answers in the book as correct or incorrect (this is easier when working with a partner). Most importantly, don't write down or look at the correct answers before you get a chance to review / re-try them at least once.Obviously, this type of study is much easier with a partner. If youÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢re working by yourself out of the physical books or the Kindle editions, then there is no way to check your answers without actually looking at the correct letter answers. So, if youÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢re studying solo, then I recommend that you write your answersÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •only your answers, not your workÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â • on a separate sheet of paper. Do at least 40 questions at a time, to get a feel for what a GMAT Quant or Verbal section feels like. When you correct them, donÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t indicate the correct answers in the book yetÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •simply mark incorrect answers as incorrect. And try to correct your questions all at once instead of one at a time, so that when you review the actual question afterward, you are less likely to remember the correct answer.In contrast, if you go over questions by checking the correct answers right away, then you can create false confidence by fooling yourself into thinking that you understand the questions fully, when in fact you are still prone to those types of mistakes. The best way to know for sure is to try the questions again, from scratch, *without* the aid of the answer key, your previous answer, or the answer explanations. Only then should you confirm the correct answer and read the explanation provided.ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â • ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •For those of you who are just getting started, here is the overall structure of the GMAT:1) Analysis of an Argument Essay (AWA or Analytical Writing Assessment): 30 minutes, 1 question.2) Integrated Reasoning (Multi-Source Reasoning, Table Analysis, Graphics Interpretation, Two Part Analysis): 30 minutes, 12 questions. Please note: unlike the Verbal and Quantitative

sections, the IR section is not adaptive. For this reason, every time you try a GMATPrep Exam you will see the same 12 IR questions.3) Optional 8-minute break4) Quantitative Section (Problem Solving, Data Sufficiency): 75 minutes, 37 questions (2 minutes per question)5) Optional 8-minute break6) Verbal Section (Reading Comprehension, Critical Reasoning, Sentence Correction): 75 minutes, 41 questions (1.8 minutes per question)Keep in mind that on the GMAT you cannot go back or skip any questions, and that the first 12-15 questions of the Verbal and Quantitative sections have the most impact on your score due to the adaptive scoring algorithm. A correct answer will yield a slightly harder question in most cases, and vice versa, and the GMAT will gradually determine your score as you go. The largest adjustments are made at the beginning of the test, which is why the first 1/3 of questions are so essential. Also, approximately 10 to 25% of the questions on the actual GMAT (and 4 of the 12 IR questions) are experimentalÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •you donÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t know which ones they are, and they donÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t count toward your score.Here are my most essential GMAT Resources:Practice:1) Free GMATPrep Software - 2 diagnostic CATs (Exams 1 and 2: 180 questions total) and 90 practice questions out of 1,500 possible questions2) GMAT 2017 Official Guide Bundle - 1 diagnostic test and over 1,500 practice questions and answer explanations (you are here) - about $453) GMATPrep Exam Pack 1 - 2 diagnostic CATs (Exams 3 and 4: 180 questions total) out of 400 possible questions -Ã Â GMATPrep Exam Pack 1 [Online Code] $504) GMAT Prep Exam Pack 2 (New Release with 2 New Tests -- not yet available on) - 2 more diagnostic CATs (Exams 5 and 6: 180 questions total) out of 400 possible questions - $50Please note: you can save $10 by buying #3 and #4 together as an Exam Pack Bundle from the GMAT website for $90.5) GMATPrep Question Pack 1 - 404 questions with answer explanations and ability to sort questions by type and difficulty - $30Ã Â GMATPrep Question Pack 1 [Online Code]6) The Official Guide for GMATÃƒâ Ã Â® Review 2016 Mobile AppÃ Â The Official Guide for GMATÃƒâ Ã Â® Review 2016Ã Â -$5 for 50 questions and $30 upgrade for an additional 800 questions7) GMAT Focus Quizzes - 24 questions per quiz (math only) - $30 per quiz and 4 total. GMAT Focus Online Quantitative Diagnostic Tool: Single UseÃ Â GMAT Focus Online Quantitative Diagnostic Tool: Single Use [Online Code]8) IR Prep Tool - 48 Integrated Reasoning QuestionsÃ Â GMAT IR Prep Tool [Online Code] - $209) GMAT Write - 4 Auto-Graded Essays for $3010) GMAT Enhanced Score Report - Technically this is not a practice tool, but it provides an in-depth look at your score, including overall rankings, rankings by question type, time management information and a summary of your strengths and weaknesses, which can be helpful if you plan to take the test more than once. - $25Strategy:1) GMAT Club Forum - Free explanations to nearly every official GMAT question, as well as questions written by

other companies (I do not recommend practicing on non-official questions).2) GMAT Quantum - Free video explanations to nearly every official GMAT quantitative question.3) Manhattan Prep GMAT Series: $144 for the entire seriesÃ Â Complete GMAT Strategy Guide Set (Manhattan Prep GMAT Strategy Guides)Ã Â or about $49 for access to 6 online CATs.4) Ace the GMAT by Brandon Royal: $8 for Kindle versionÃ Â Ace the GMAT: Master the GMAT in 40 Days5) LSAT Preptests for Extra Critical Reasoning and Critical Reading Practice: $20 for 10 testsÃ Â 10 More, Actual Official LSAT PrepTests: (PrepTests 19 through 28) (Lsat Series)6) Magoosh Free Online Materials7) Powerscore Critical Reasoning Bible: $21Ã Â The PowerScore GMAT Critical Reasoning Bible8) Powerscore Reading Comprehension Bible: $35Ã Â The PowerScore GMAT Reading Comprehension Bible9) The Complete GMAT Sentence Correction Guide by Erica MeltzerÃ Â The Complete GMAT Sentence Correction GuidePrincetonÃ Â Cracking the GMAT Premium Edition with 6 Computer-Adaptive Practice Tests, 2017 (Graduate School Test Preparation)Ã Â and Kaplan are OK for strategy too. I prefer Princeton ReviewÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s GMAT guide (full disclosure: P.R. is my former employer) to KaplanÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s (in my humble opinion, a mediocre, corporate behemoth who somehow always manages to rank #1 on with lots of suspect 5-star reviews), but any effort to write an "all in one" guide to a test as complex as the GMAT is destined to be at least a partial failure. The Kaplan and Princeton guides can be helpful if you are a below-average scorer trying to obtain an above-average score without too much effort, but the perfectionists among us will be frustrated by their lack of depth and unrealistic practice questions.Finally, you can google "GMAT Action Plan - McElroy Tutoring" to read my personal, frequently updated recommendations for GMAT Prep.Please feel free to leave comments and/or ask questions below--I enjoy analyzing the intricacies of this challenging test.

Update 7/21/16: For some reason, this edition of the usually flawless Official Guide is riddled with 50+ errors, so I recommend the 2016 Bundle instead.GMAT 2016 Official Guide BundleÃ Â See comments for more info.I am a Harvard grad, 99% scorer and professional GMAT tutor with 16 years of experience, and am fairly obsessed with this test. I also take the GMAT at least once a year to stay up-to-date, including a recent score of 770 (48 V/47 Q). The 2017 GMAT Official Guide Bundle receives my strong recommendation because it provides a great source of real GMAT questions at a decent price (it normally retails for about $45).One aspect of these books that you must understand is that they are not meant to teach you GMAT test-taking strategy. For that, look elsewhere (see product links below). However, they include some of the very best practice materials available, straight from the test-maker, and although the answer explanations are often convoluted,

they are still useful in understanding how the GMAC thinks.Why are the 2017 Official Guides the very best place to start your GMAT preparation, other than the free GMATPrep software? Because the questions in these books are super-realistic. They are just like the questions on the real GMAT, because these books are written by the test-maker and use actual, retired GMAT questions. Don't waste your time and money practicing on questions made by any other companies--these are merely inferior imitations of the real thing. If you must use other materials for test strategy, then that's fine, and in most cases necessary, but try your best to stick to official questions whenever possible.Pro tip: You can take each of the 6 GMAT Prep CATs more than once, because the GMAT is an adaptive test (it adjusts the difficulty level of later questions based on your previous responses). There are about 4 to 16 times as many questions in the GMAC's question pool as there are in any given test, which means that every test you take will be different. Tests 1 and 2 draw from a (gigantic!) pool of about 1,500 questions, and tests 3, 4, 5, and 6 draw from a more modest pool of about 400 questions each. To re-take your GMAT Prep tests, click "reset" in the lower-left hand corner of the GMAT Prep software window, but make sure to take screenshots of your previous test sessions beforehand--frequent screenshots are a good idea anyway because the software is prone to crashing and losing your data. For your screenshots, use either the "Print Screen" (Windows Key + PrtScn) button on a PC or (Shift + Command + 3) on a Mac.It's important to remember that although these physical GMAT books are extremely helpful, the GMAT is still a computer-based test, which means that you should still spend at least 50% of your preparation time reading a screen instead of reading a piece of paper. For this reason, consider buying the Kindle versions of the guides, as well as making full use of the computer-based practice options (Exam Packs, Question Packs, Mobile App, etc.) available from the GMAC (see detailed product links below). Or, if you prefer to buy the physical books, then you can also use the access codes located in the sealed pouches in the back covers of the books to access a free web-based version of the books, where you can try most of the questions in the books in an online format, and organize quizzes by question type / difficulty level (easy, medium, hard). You will also have to create a Wiley account, which is mostly painless. I strongly suggest that you save your login information on your browser so that you wonÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t have to enter your username / password every time you access the Wiley site.ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •THE GREAT DEBATE: THE PRINT BOOKS + (INCLUDED) ACCESS TO THE FREE ONLINE QUESTION BANK FROM WILEY vs. THE (not yet available) KINDLE VERSION OF THE BOOKSÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“In this cornerÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â¦ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â•First of all, remember that you should be spending lots of time exploring the GMAT Prep software (both the Exam Packs and the Question Packs) during your

studies, in addition to the questions in these books / the Wiley question bank, especially if you are going for a score of 700 or above.Purchasing the print version of the books as a discount bundle seems like the obvious answer for many old-school GMAT tutors such as myself, since it also offers the option to use the online Wiley question bank, which includes nearly every question in the Official Guides in a computer-based format. Why not have the best of both worlds (print and digital) instead of digital only?The Kindle version of the booksÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •accessible not just for Kindle owners but on nearly any device with a screenÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •are exact copies of the physical books, in digital, searchable form. ItÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s very easy to navigate among the different chapters of the books, for example, and to review individual questions. ItÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s also helpful for Skype GMAT tutoring with a tutor like me, despite some formatting issues with equations, and it allows you to hold the entire Official Guide bundle in the palm of your hand.The Wiley question bank (accessible through the codes located in the back covers of the books) includes 6 months access to a question bank where you can try random questions from the Official Guides through the Wiley website. You can sort your questions by difficulty level / question type, and answer explanations are provided. You can also choose different modes of study, including ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“practice modeÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• and ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“exam mode,ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• and you can also name your sessions for later review. When the question bank works (at the moment it is down for maintenance, and any interface dependent on an internet browser is found to malfunction sometimes), it works quite well.The question bank is far from perfect, however (in fact, it is not functional at the moment as they are upgrading to the 2017 version), and the Kindle version clearly has its advantages, so this is not an obvious choice.In some regards, the Kindle version is superior, because the Wiley interface is not nearly as easy-to-use. Also, if you don’t have internet access, then the question bank is inaccessible, in contrast to the Kindle version, which is basically a static, searchable PDF that lives on your device instead of in the cloud.There are definitely advantages and disadvantages to both, but I think the print + Wiley combo is the way to go for most old-schoolers like me, who grew up in the era of paper tests and taking lots of notes. Keep in mind that if you don’t have internet access for a while, you can still access the roughly 1,500 questions on Exams 1 and 2 of the free GMATPrep software.I do have a Kindle, and I even use the Kindle versions of the books on my computer during my Skype sessions with private students, but I still enjoy the tangible feeling of having the physical books. That being said, the GMAT is still a computer-based test, so I would advise you to spend at least 50% of your preparation time reading a screen instead of a book.It all depends on how you plan to use the books, their current costs, and your personal moral code. Here are some key factors:1) Wiley requires internet access, Kindle does

not (other than the initial download, of course).2) Wiley allows you to select the difficulty level (E/M/H) of the questions, Kindle does not (remember, itÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s just a PDF-style replica of the print books, which are only roughly ordered in terms of difficulty).3) Kindle is quick and convenient, Wiley is not (you have to log into the question bank through your browser instead of a desktop application, you cannot access specific questions on demand, it has a clunky user interface, it logs you out frequently, etc.)4) Wiley requires an actual computer, and the Kindle does not (it will work through the app on your cell phone, etc.).5) Like the GMATPrep Software (Exam Packs and Question Packs), Wiley resembles the actual GMAT exam more closely than does the Kindle version.6) Kindle is (probably) better for the environment. But remember that all those glowing screens use a lot of energy too.7) If you buy the Kindle version, then you will spend 100% of your time looking at a screen. If you buy the print + Wiley combo you will only be looking at a screen for about 50% of the time (GMATPrep software + Wiley question bank). In my opinion, 50/50 is better because we are human beings and thus subject to screen fatigue. Studying with paper versions of the books can be less stressful and is more convenient for taking notes, studying outside, etc.8) Not a big deal, but the books are offered as a discount bundle on and the Kindle versions are not.9) Perhaps most importantly, the Wiley bank is included, for free, with your purchase of the physical books. If you plan to do most of your work on the computer, then you could think of the physical books as a bonus to the online question bank, instead of the other way around.Some GMAT tutors are of the opinion that you should be working off a screen nearly all of the time that you prepare for the GMAT. If you agree with this assessment, then the Kindle version is probably the best option for you, since itÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s a lot better organized than is the Wiley question bank. However, I am of the opinion that working out of a book 50% of the time is fine, and in fact better for many, so IÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢m more inclined to recommend the print + Wiley combo for itÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“best of both worldsÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• (print and computer) quality. I also think that the random nature of the Wiley question bank (you cannot access specific questions by number, no answer key, etc.), one of its major weaknesses, is also one of its strengths, since this random question format is closer to the format of the GMAT itself, and the format of the GMAT Prep software (which contains far harder questions than nearly any question in the Official Guides!).However, donÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t expect the Wiley question banks to be a digital replica of the physical books. If you require that, then youÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢ll need to purchase the Kindle version. To state the obvious, the best thing to have is both. But if I had to choose one, I would probably go with the print books and Wiley question bank.One very annoying aspect of the 2016 version of the Wiley site was that it automatically logged you out due to inactivity after a very

short amount of time. Hopefully the 2017 version of the website will fix this bug. Check the comments section below for updates on this issue (although I have received the physical book, I canÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t comment on any potential improvements or changes to the somewhat frustrating Wiley Question Bank interface because it is not yet fully functional on my end).Instead of giving you a paper and pencil, the GMAC also requires you to use a water-based maker and a laminated sheet like this one:Ã Â Manhattan GMAT Test Simulation Booklet w/ MarkerÃ Â I don't recommend always using the laminated sheet when you study, because it's messy and harder to keep track of your notes that way. But it makes sense to at least use it a few times, just to get the feel of it before test day.ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“OVER 130 NEVER-BEFORE SEEN QUESTIONS / OVER 45 NEVER-BEFORE-SEEN QUESTIONSÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â•Approximately 15% of the questions in these 2017 editions of the OG are new to the Official Guides. However, it is worth noting that ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“never before seenÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• is not entirely true, since all of these questions are retired questions from past GMAT computer exams (it says so right there on the cover). A more accurate description would be ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“never before seen on paper,ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• but that probably wouldnÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t sell as many copies.For those of you who already have copies of the 2016 Bundle, here is a full list of the new questions in the 2017 version of the GMAT Official Guides:MAIN OG / WHITE BOOK (131 new questions):ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •Integrated Reasoning (8 new questions): 9, 10, 11, 21, 28, 35, 41 & 43Problem Solving (36 new questions): 2, 5, 7, 13, 19, 23, 32, 44, 45, 47, 50, 53, 62, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 88, 89, 91, 96, 100, 109, 116, 120, 123, 127, 128, 132, 140, 152, 192, 194, 201 & 209.Data Sufficiency (26 new questions): 231, 237, 243, 252, 254, 255, 258, 259, 262, 274, 275, 278, 283, 288, 291, 294, 304, 305, 310, 315, 316, 325, 327, 332, 347 & 359.Sentence Correction (21 new questions): 668, 669, 683, 684, 685, 688, 696, 697, 703, 704, 705, 724, 725, 738, 739, 740, 747, 762, 771, 799, & 803.Critical Reasoning (19 new questions): 546, 549, 562, 571, 582, 587, 592, 599, 607, 610, 612, 616, 617, 618, 619, 627, 629, 661, 666Reading Comprehension (21 new questions): 415-423, 427-430, 460-462, 529-533QUANT REVIEW GUIDE / BLUE BOOK (47 new questions):ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â • ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •Problem Solving (26 new questions): 1, 10, 11, 16, 19, 24, 38, 53, 59, 63, 68, 71, 76, 77, 79, 83, 85, 87, 89, 114, 136, 137, 139, 145, 158, 164Data Sufficiency (19 new questions): 184, 185, 186, 189, 194, 199, 202, 208, 211, 218, 219, 222, 225, 230, 236, 262, 295, 297, 300VERBAL REVIEW GUIDE / PINK BOOK (45 new questions)ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â • ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •Sentence Correction (17 new questions): 189, 190, 200, 210, 211, 216, 241, 243, 245, 250, 254, 258, 260, 279, 281, 296, 299Critical Reasoning (13 new questions): 106, 110, 117, 124, 133, 139, 146, 153, 158, 166, 172,

180, 188Reading Comprehension (15 new questions): 11-16, 46-54-- --(For explanations and classifications of every question in the 2016 Official Guide, google "GMAT Club Guide to the GMAT Official Guide 2016.")Are the questions from the 2017 versions any better than the questions they are replacing from the 2016 edition? No, not really. All of the questions in the books are old questions from past GMAT exams (ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“retired questionsÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â•), so there is no guarantee that these 220+ ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“newÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• questions are either any newer or any more helpful than are the questions they supplant from the 2016 Editions of the OGs. Moreover, early adopters of the 2017 editions will find that certain questions are so new that itÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s hard to access online explanations until GMAT tutors like me (GMATClub username: mcelroytutoring) start posting them, which could take weeks or even months.While I will concede that the questions in this book are roughly ordered from easy to hard, there are some curious places where low-numbered questions are quite difficult for most of my students, and vice-versa. Thus, I think that we canÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t necessarily take GMAC at their word here, especially since there has already been evidence in past official guides of the GMAC moving the exact same questions to radically different locations in the books, which suggests that we shouldnÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t trust the GMAC at its word in this regard. If the questions are truly ordered from easy to hard, for example, then why would a question numbered in the 30s suddenly show up numbered in the 90s in the next yearÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s edition?ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â • ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •A WARNING ABOUT THE DIFFICULTY LEVEL OF THE QUESTIONS IN THE OFFICIAL GUIDES:It is important to note that the difficulty level of questions in these books is sufficient for most test takers, but is admittedly a bit lacking on the high end. High scores take note: If you are aiming for a GMAT score of 700-plus, then you should spend more time practicing on questions from the GMATPrep software and Exams Pack 1 and 2, which offer more difficult questions that will bear a closer resemblance to the questions you will see on your actual test day.Remember: the GMAT is an adaptive exam. If you answer a lot of questions right, then the test keeps getting harder (as your score rises), and if you answer a lot of questions wrong, then the test keeps getting easier (as your score lowers). And the questions on the test are ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“front-loadedÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• so that the first 1/3 of questions have a much larger impact on your score than does the final 1/3 of questions. (There is a SEVERE penalty for not finishing the sections, however, so make sure that you give yourself time answer all the questions before time expires, even if they are just random guesses. At all costs, make sure to answer every question before time expires.)If you do run out of official GMAT Prep computer tests (the first two are free, and you can buy four more from GMAC), then I can recommend the Manhattan GMAT

CATs (computer adaptive tests). Just buy one book from the Manhattan GMAT series, and it will give you access to all 6 online CATs: GMAT Sentence Correction (Manhattan Prep GMAT Strategy Guides)For free video explanations to all the math questions in these books, google "GMAT Quantum," or if you prefer to read your explanations, then just try google searching the first few lines of your question's text. I would also strongly recommend that you check out informative websites such as GMAT Club, Beat the GMAT, and Atlantic GMAT, and that you consider retaining the services of a qualified private tutor such as myself.ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â • ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •HOW TO STUDY FOR THE GMAT:My core philosophy: use official GMAT questions only! ItÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s OK if you end up memorizing all the solutions and answersÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •thatÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s part of the point, as is repetition of certain questions until you fully understand them. There are thousands of real GMAT questions available from the GMAC, so itÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s unlikely that you will ever run out. Imitation questions are not quite the same, so why settle for anything less than the real deal?For purposes of brevity, I am only including a one-month study plan, but the truth is that most students need at least 3-6 months to study for the GMAT. To turn this 1-month study plan into a 3-month or 6-month study plan, simply break the study plan into smaller increments.Ideally, your studying should be done at regular intervals throughout the day, instead of one large chunk, to maximize retention. Take frequent breaks, but also try to get used to working for 4 hours straight at least once a week, to simulate test conditions.If you donÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t have time to take a full section, then donÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t use the GMAT Prep Exams, because you will need to finish the entire test in order to review the questions afterward. Even if you only want to try a Quant section, for example, you will have to click through the rest of the test, or wait for time to expire, which is annoying. Better to use the Question Packs, the OGs or the Mobile App for smaller increments of time. Also, if youÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢re a Mac user like me, then you should know that the ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“EscapeÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• button does not work on the GMAT Prep software. Instead, try (Command + Tab) to switch to other open applications.DonÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t forget to utilize GMAT club for explanations to any questions whose explanations in the books donÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t make sense. Just google search the first few lines of your questionÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s text.ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â • ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •MY RECOMMENDED GMAT STUDY PLAN:"Section" = a timed, scored section from the GMATPrep Software (Exams 1 through 6). Helps you practice test-taking techniques, and leveraging the GMAT algorithm."Practice" = unscored (no composite score, only correct/incorrect) and the time limit is less strict. Take as long as you need for understanding.Remember that you donÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t necessarily need to pay for Exam Packs 1 and 2, because there are approximately 1,500 potential

questions in (free) Exams 1 and 2, so you can just keep resetting the tests and using them again. The IR sections will be exactly the same (not adaptive!), but the quant and verbal sections will be different every time.Another option is to install the GMAT Prep software on 2 different computers. 2 different computers = 2 different versions of the test = nearly twice as many questions to practice.Here is a sample weekly schedule that I would recommend IF YOU ARE TRYING TO PREPARE IN ONLY ONE MONTH (see modifications for 2-6 month study plans below).Day 1: COMPUTER DAY1) 75 minute Quant Section - GMATPrep2) 75 minute Verbal Section - GMATPrep3) Review Incorrectly Answered Quant Questions + Math Concepts and Strategies4) Review Incorrectly Answered Verbal Questions + Verbal Concepts and Strategies5) 30 minute IR Section or Practice - GMAT Prep / IR tool from Wiley6) 30 minutes Essay PracticeDay 2: BOOK (OG) / WILEY DAY1) 37 Quant Questions in OG / Wiley2) 41 Verbal Questions in OG / Wiley3) Review Incorrectly Answered Quants4) Review Incorrectly Answered Verbals5) 12 IR Questions - Any SourceDay 3: COMPUTER DAY1) 37 Quant Questions in GMATPrep (Question Packs)2) 41 Verbal Questions in GMATPrep (Question Packs)3) Review Incorrectly Answered Quants + Math Concepts and Strategies4) Review Incorrectly Answered Verbals + Verbal Concepts and StrategiesDay 4: BOOK (OG) / WILEY DAY1) 37 Quant Questions in OG / Wiley2) 41 Verbal Questions in OG / Wiley3) Review Incorrectly Answered Quants + Math Concepts and Strategies4) Review Incorrectly Answered Verbals + Verbal Concepts and Strategies5) 12 IR Questions - Any SourceDay 5: COMPUTER DAY1) 75 minute Quant Section - GMATPrep2) 75 minute Verbal Section - GMATPrep3) Review Incorrectly Answered Quants + Math Concepts and Strategies4) Review Incorrectly Answered Verbals + Verbal Concepts and Strategies5) 30 minute IR Section or Practice - GMAT Prep / IR tool from Wiley6) 30 minutes Essay PracticeDay 6: BOOK (OG) / WILEY DAY1) 37 Quant Questions in OG / Wiley2) 41 Verbal Questions in OG / Wiley3) Review Incorrectly Answered Quants + Math Concepts and Strategies4) Review Incorrectly Answered Verbals + Verbal Concepts and Strategies5) 12 IR Questions - Any SourceDay 7: Take a rest!
YouÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢re only human.Repeat for three more weeks, and youÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢ve completed approximately 2,160 real GMAT questions out of the approximately 4,000 official GMAT questions available.Here are my modifications for 2-6 month study plans:2-month study plan: complete 3 assignments (numbered above) per day.3-month study plan: complete 2 assignments per day.4-month study plan: complete 1-2 assignments per day.6-month study plan: complete 1 assignment per day.The founder of the GMAT Club forum has also written an excellent GMAT Study Plan on GMAT club. To see it, google ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“GMAT Study Plan - 2016 Edition : General GMAT Questions and Strategies.ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â•ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â • ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •A

QUICK AND IMPORTANT NOTE ON HOW TO REVIEW INCORRECTLY ANSWERED GMAT QUESTIONS:Yes, the correct answers (along with mildly helpful explanations) are all right there in the books. But at all costs, donÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t check the correct answer right away, because in many ways it ruins the utility of that question.When it comes time to re-try the questions that you answered incorrectly, I recommend that you either buy a 2nd copy of the books to keep blank, or that you simply re-try the questions on your computer screenÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â¦BEFORE checking the answer. It's what I call a "blind review": going over all the questions you got wrong without first checking the correct answer/explanation, or seeing any of your previous work.Yes, I knowÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â¦when you get something wrong that you thought you got right, your first instinct is to immediately check the correct answer choice. However, try your best to avoid this temptation.In my opinion, blind review is one of the key facets of effective test prep. Thus, when using the physical book, you should only mark your answers in the book as correct or incorrect (this is easier when working with a partner). Most importantly, don't write down or look at the correct answers before you get a chance to review / re-try them at least once.Obviously, this type of study is much easier with a partner. If youÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢re working by yourself out of the physical books or the Kindle editions, then there is no way to check your answers without actually looking at the correct letter answers. So, if youÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢re studying solo, then I recommend that you write your answersÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •only your answers, not your workÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â • on a separate sheet of paper. Do at least 40 questions at a time, to get a feel for what a GMAT Quant or Verbal section feels like. When you correct them, donÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t indicate the correct answers in the book yetÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •simply mark incorrect answers as incorrect. And try to correct your questions all at once instead of one at a time, so that when you review the actual question afterward, you are less likely to remember the correct answer.In contrast, if you go over questions by checking the correct answers right away, then you can create false confidence by fooling yourself into thinking that you understand the questions fully, when in fact you are still prone to those types of mistakes. The best way to know for sure is to try the questions again, from scratch, *without* the aid of the answer key, your previous answer, or the answer explanations. Only then should you confirm the correct answer and read the explanation provided.ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â • ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •For those of you who are just getting started, here is the overall structure of the GMAT:1) Analysis of an Argument Essay (AWA or Analytical Writing Assessment): 30 minutes, 1 question.2) Integrated Reasoning (Multi-Source Reasoning, Table Analysis, Graphics Interpretation, Two Part Analysis): 30 minutes, 12 questions. Please note: unlike the Verbal and Quantitative sections, the IR section is not adaptive. For this reason, every time you try a GMATPrep Exam you

will see the same 12 IR questions.3) Optional 8-minute break4) Quantitative Section (Problem Solving, Data Sufficiency): 75 minutes, 37 questions (2 minutes per question)5) Optional 8-minute break6) Verbal Section (Reading Comprehension, Critical Reasoning, Sentence Correction): 75 minutes, 41 questions (1.8 minutes per question)Keep in mind that on the GMAT you cannot go back or skip any questions, and that the first 12-15 questions of the Verbal and Quantitative sections have the most impact on your score due to the adaptive scoring algorithm. A correct answer will yield a slightly harder question in most cases, and vice versa, and the GMAT will gradually determine your score as you go. The largest adjustments are made at the beginning of the test, which is why the first 1/3 of questions are so essential. Also, approximately 10 to 25% of the questions on the actual GMAT (and 4 of the 12 IR questions) are experimentalÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •you donÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t know which ones they are, and they donÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t count toward your score.Here are my most essential GMAT Resources, ranked from most important to least:Practice:1) Free GMATPrep Software - 2 diagnostic CATs (Exams 1 and 2: 180 questions total) and 90 practice questions out of 1,500 possible questions2) GMAT 2017 Official Guide Bundle - 1 diagnostic test and over 1,500 practice questions and answer explanations (you are here) - about $453) GMATPrep Exam Pack 1 - 2 diagnostic CATs (Exams 3 and 4: 180 questions total) out of 400 possible questions -Ã Â GMATPrep Exam Pack 1 [Online Code] $504) GMAT Prep Exam Pack 2 (New Release with 2 New Tests -- not yet available on) - 2 more diagnostic CATs (Exams 5 and 6: 180 questions total) out of 400 possible questions - $50Please note: you can save $10 by buying #3 and #4 together as an Exam Pack Bundle from the GMAT website for $90.5) GMATPrep Question Pack 1 - 404 questions with answer explanations and ability to sort questions by type and difficulty - $30Ã Â GMATPrep Question Pack 1 [Online Code]6) The Official Guide for GMATÃƒâ Ã Â® Review 2016 Mobile AppÃ Â The Official Guide for GMATÃƒâ Ã Â® Review 2016Ã Â -$5 for 50 questions and $30 upgrade for an additional 800 questions7) GMAT Focus Quizzes - 24 questions per quiz (math only) - $30 per quiz and 4 total GMAT Focus Online Quantitative Diagnostic Tool: Single Use [Online Code]8) IR Prep Tool - 48 Integrated Reasoning QuestionsÃ Â GMAT IR Prep Tool [Online Code] - $209) GMAT Write - 4 Auto-Graded Essays for $3010) GMAT Enhanced Score Report - Technically this is not a practice tool, but it provides an in-depth look at your score, including overall rankings, rankings by question type, time management information and a summary of your strengths and weaknesses, which can be helpful if you plan to take the test more than once. - $25Strategy:1) GMAT Club Forum - Free explanations to nearly every official GMAT question, as well as questions written by other companies (I do not recommend practicing on non-official questions).2) GMAT Quantum - Free video explanations to nearly every

official GMAT quantitative question.3) Manhattan Prep GMAT Series: $144 for the entire seriesÃ Â Complete GMAT Strategy Guide Set (Manhattan Prep GMAT Strategy Guides)Ã Â or about $19 for one book which gives you access to 6 online CATsÃ Â GMAT Sentence Correction (Manhattan Prep GMAT Strategy Guides).4) LSAT Preptests for Extra Critical Reasoning and Critical Reading Practice: $20 for 10 testsÃ Â 10 More, Actual Official LSAT PrepTests: (PrepTests 19 through 28) (Lsat Series)5) Magoosh Free Online Materials6) Powerscore Critical Reasoning Bible: $21Ã Â The PowerScore GMAT Critical Reasoning Bible7) Powerscore Reading Comprehension Bible: $35Ã Â The PowerScore GMAT Reading Comprehension BiblePrincetonÃ Â Cracking the GMAT Premium Edition with 6 Computer-Adaptive Practice Tests, 2017 (Graduate School Test Preparation)Ã Â and Kaplan are OK for strategy too. I prefer Princeton ReviewÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s GMAT guide (full disclosure: P.R. is my former employer) to KaplanÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s (in my humble opinion, a mediocre, corporate behemoth who somehow always manages to rank #1 on with lots of suspect 5-star reviews), but any effort to write an "all in one" guide to a test as complex as the GMAT is destined to be at least a partial failure. The Kaplan and Princeton guides can be helpful if you are a below-average scorer trying to obtain an above-average score without too much effort, but the perfectionists among us will be frustrated by their lack of depth and unrealistic practice questions.Finally, you can google "GMAT Action Plan - McElroy Tutoring" to read my personal, frequently updated recommendations for GMAT Prep.Please feel free to leave comments and/or ask questions below--I enjoy analyzing the intricacies of this challenging test

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