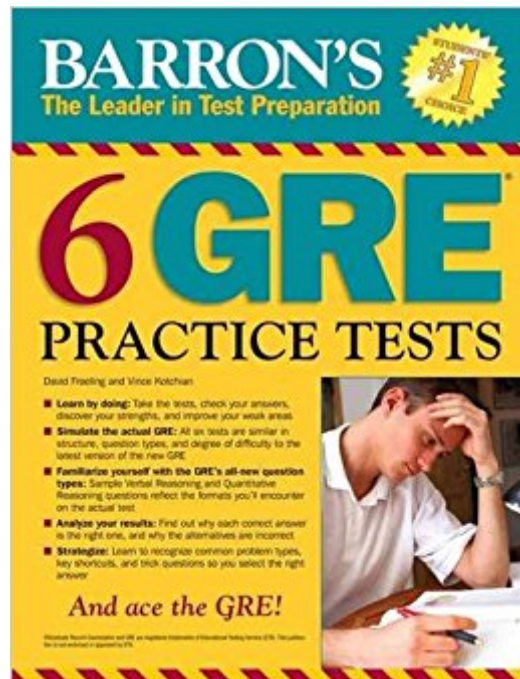


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Barron's 6 GRE Practice Tests, 2nd Edition



Synopsis

Those preparing to take the Graduate Record Exam will get plenty of hands-on test-taking practice with this thoroughly updated and revised book. Students will find: Six full-length practice exams similar in length, structure, question types and degree of difficulty to the actual GRE exam All questions answered and explained Extra features include a detailed overview of all of the different types of GRE questions and a series of tips and strategies to help test takers maximize their scores This book offers excellent test preparation when used alone, and also makes a fine companion when used along with Barron's GRE with CD-ROM, 21st Edition (978-1-4380-7548-8).

Book Information

Paperback: 384 pages

Publisher: Barron's Educational Series; 2 edition (July 1, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1438006292

ISBN-13: 978-1438006291

Product Dimensions: 8.3 x 0.6 x 10.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.8 out of 5 stars 57 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #35,971 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #32 in Books > Education & Teaching > Higher & Continuing Education > Test Preparation > Graduate School > GRE #183 in Books > Education & Teaching > Studying & Workbooks > Study Guides #450 in Books > Textbooks > Test Prep & Study Guides

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I run a private tutoring business, and we will use this book with our clients preparing for the GRE in addition to the official GRE study guide published by ETS. There are several things that make this book stand out:

1. The authors are tutors themselves, and their explanations are written with the same clarity and precision that an excellent tutor would use. Other GRE books on the market, including the ETS one, often have overly complex and wordy explanations that serve to confuse more than clarify. For students working independently, having clear explanations is essential.
2. The authors did not take shortcuts in crafting this book. Many times authors will use pre-1922 public domain works because they do not have to worry about securing copyright permissions. The actual GRE uses modern reading selections, mostly from within the past few years. The authors took the time to secure permissions to very recent reading passages, making this book very reflective of the actual test.
3. The questions are well-crafted. They replicate the style, voice, and rigor of the actual GRE, which is no easy task, especially with some of the multi-answer verbal questions. If you are practicing with inferior materials, you are wasting your time. It is great to know that there is a collection of 6 full-length tests we can use with our clients in addition to the four that are available in the official book.
4. The book is very affordable. With the GRE costing at least \$195 to take, purchasing this book is a minuscule investment. The current list price of the official GRE guide is \$38, so this is a bargain if you are looking for just one book to use.

All in all, a great resource for college students applying to graduate school who are looking to sharpen their standardized test-taking skills after the essays and projects of the university. Highly recommend.

Compared to the official materials the test felt too easy. The verbal sections repeated words a lot. The math didn't feel consistent with the format of the test. I would use Magoosh and the official

guide to study instead.

As some other reviewers have pointed out--some verbal answers listed as correct simply aren't correct. There are clear grammatical errors or editing problems in some passages. The questions seem to have been written by one person, while the correct answers were determined by another. Math is better, but at least a few will leave you saying, "No way would that be on a real test." The one that was most upsetting involved reading a bar graph and approximating a graphical value--the scale was far too imprecise for the precision supposed by the answer options, which would have differed by fractions of a millimeter on the page. 163/161 on the first test, quit after the second.

These 6 practice exams were just what I was looking for. Although, it is not a perfect representation of what the exam will be (does not include an experimental section) it does a decent job at preparing you for the exam. Take all 6 of these exams and most importantly time yourself. These 6 GRE tests, plus the Barrons GRE flash cards and the Manhattan prep course helped me get into the 94% . Good Luck.

If you have crammed important words, practiced math from appropriate sources, this book is all you need to get into test mode. Make sure you time yourself while doing these tests.

Did all of the tests and was very happy with my score. I did pair it with vocabulary practice outside of the book.

The benefit of this book is that all GRE practice and repetition can be helpful. However, that's about as far as it goes for this book. The structure of the practice exams are hardly similar to the GRE and the difficulty/types of quantitative questions asked on these practice tests do not mirror the actual exam at all. I thought I was much better off with the practice tests provided by Magoosh or even Kaplan.

Not as good as the real tests but a decent supplement.

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