

CAT 2026 Logical Reasoning: Syllabus, Questions, Preparation Strategy, Topper Tips

CAT Logical Reasoning 2026: Logical Reasoning (LR) is an important part of the Data Interpretation & Logical Reasoning (DILR) section in the [CAT exam](#). CAT DILR section has almost equal weightage for DI and LR questions, although there is a considerable variation in slots. **CAT 2025 Slot 1 had 13 LR questions, Slot 2 had 9 LR questions, and Slot 3 had only 8 LR questions.** CAT 2026 Logical Reasoning section evaluates a candidate's ability to **analyze patterns, identify relationships, and solve complex problems.** CAT Logical Reasoning questions do not require any specific mathematical formulas, but require strong reasoning and structured problem-solving ability. Important CAT Logical Reasoning questions are based on **Arrangements, Puzzles, Blood Relations, Syllogisms, Venn Diagrams, and Logical Sequences.** Read how to prepare for CAT 2026 Logical Reasoning section in the article below. **CAT 2026 Logical Reasoning PDF Free Download link is given below.** CAT 2026 is expected to be held on November 29, 2026 (date to be officially confirmed by IIMs in last week of July). Also read in-depth article on [CAT 2026 Data Interpretation](#).



Logical Reasoning for CAT 2026

Pattern, Syllabus, Questions, Preparation Guide

CAT Exam Pattern 2026

Before we discuss how to prepare for CAT Logical Reasoning Section, it is important to understand the overall [CAT exam pattern](#) and type of questions appeared in previous CAT exams. Check expected CAT 2026 Exam Pattern in the tables below.

CAT Exam Pattern 2026 (Expected)

Section No.	Section Name	Duration	MCQs	TITA	Total
I	VARC	40 min	20	4	24

Section No.	Section Name	Duration	MCQs	TITA	Total
II	DI and LR	40 min	11	11	22
III	QA	40 min	14	8	22
Total		120 min	45	23	68

CAT 2026 Logical Reasoning Pattern

- CAT Data Interpretation & Logical Reasoning section has almost equal with 50% each for DI and LR questions, although there is a considerable variation in slots. CAT 2025 Slot 1 had 13 LR questions, Slot 2 had 9 LR questions, and Slot 3 had only 8 LR questions.
- CAT Data Interpretation syllabus includes questions on Charts and Graphs.
- CAT Logical Reasoning syllabus includes questions on arrangements, puzzles, blood relations, syllogisms, and Venn diagrams.

Check CAT 2026 Logical Reasoning Pattern from CAT 2025 exam in the table below

CAT Logical Reasoning Questions: CAT 2025 Slot 1

Area	Set Description	No. of Questions	Question Type
Logical Reasoning	Circular arrangement set involving 4 persons and 7 chairs	5	4 MCQ 1 TITA
Logical Reasoning	Five persons tapping yes and no	4	2 MCQ 2 TITA
Logical Reasoning	Train movement from stations A to E	4	4 TITA
Total No of Questions		13	MCQ & TITA

CAT Logical Reasoning Questions: CAT 2025 Slot 2

Area	Set Description	No. of Questions	Question Type
Logical Reasoning	Ranking (6 balls and 4 holes)	4	1 MCQ 3 TITA
Logical Reasoning	Musicians	5	2 MCQ 3 TITA

Area	Set Description	No. of Questions	Question Type
Total No of Questions		9	MCQ & TITA

CAT Logical Reasoning Questions: CAT 2025 Slot 3

Area	Set Description	No. of Questions	Question Type
Logical Reasoning	6 friends calling each other	4	1 MCQ 3 TITA
Logical Reasoning	Circular Arrangement (7 students)	4	4 MCQ
Total No of Questions		8	MCQ & TITA

What is Logical Reasoning for CAT 2026?

After understanding CAT exam pattern and type of questions appearing in this section, let us understand in detail what the CAT Logical Reasoning Section is.

Logical Reasoning (LR) is a key part of the Data Interpretation & Logical Reasoning (DILR) section in the CAT exam. Logical Reasoning for CAT evaluates a candidate's ability to analyze patterns, identify relationships, and solve complex problems. It is important to note here that questions in CAT Logical Reasoning section do not require any specific mathematical formulas, but require reasoning and structured problem-solving ability.

Common Logical Reasoning questions in CAT exam include arrangements, puzzles, blood relations, syllogisms, Venn diagrams, and logical sequences. Read more in next section.

CAT Logical Reasoning Syllabus 2026

CAT 2026 logical reasoning syllabus includes topics that test a candidate's ability to answer logical questions. While there is no fixed CAT LR syllabus, the key topics covered in this section are in table below.

CAT Logical Reasoning Syllabus 2026

Question Type	Description
Seating Arrangements	Questions based on linear, circular, or rectangular arrangements, requiring logical placement of people or objects based on given conditions.
Blood Relations	Tests the ability to analyze family relationships and determine connections between individuals.

Syllogisms	Involves logical deductions based on given statements using concepts like "All," "Some," and "None."
Coding-Decoding	Questions where words, letters, or numbers follow a pattern or code that must be identified to decode information.
Direction Sense	Requires understanding movement-based clues to determine direction and final positions.
Puzzles	Logical sets involving constraints and conditions that require systematic analysis to arrive at a solution.
Venn Diagrams & Set Theory	Questions involving overlapping sets, intersections, and unions, requiring logical grouping of data.
Input-Output	Questions based on a sequence of operations applied to an input, requiring identification of the underlying logical pattern.
Clocks & Calendars	Questions related to time calculations, angles in clocks, and calendar-based date problems.
Logical Sequences	Requires identifying the missing element in a given pattern or sequence based on logical rules.
Data Sufficiency (Logical Reasoning)	Tests whether given statements provide enough information to answer a logical reasoning question.

Read more about [CAT Logical Reasoning](#) pattern, syllabus and preparation.

CAT Logical Reasoning Preparation Strategy 2026

CAT 2026 Logical Reasoning Preparation Strategy involves understanding different types of LR questions and finding their solutions. Logical Reasoning for CAT preparation tips are as follows:

- 1. Understand Key Question Types:** Familiarize yourself with different types of Logical Reasoning questions such as arrangements, puzzles, blood relations, and Venn diagrams. This will help you solve them efficiently.
- 2. Develop a Step-by-Step Approach:** To solve LR questions effectively, break down complex questions/problems into smaller parts, identify constraints, and create a structured approach to solving them.
- 3. Use Diagrams and Tables:** For puzzles, seating arrangements, and Venn diagrams, use "visual representation methods" like preparing tables and flowcharts to simplify information and avoid confusion. As you read the question, you can prepare a diagram on paper which will help you solve it.
- 4. Improve your Analytical Thinking:** Strengthen your logical and deduction skills by solving general brain teasers, Sudoku, and reasoning-based puzzles. This helps in developing a logical mindset.

5. **Learn Shortcuts and Techniques:** Time-saving techniques like elimination methods, pattern recognition, and approximation can help you to solve LR problems quickly.
6. **Take Sectional Tests, Mocks and Past Year Papers:** After understanding fundamental concepts, attempt sectional tests and full-length mock exams regularly. Solve LR questions from previous CAT papers to understand the difficulty level, trends, and types of logical reasoning sets frequently asked in the CAT exam.

CAT 2026 Logical Reasoning Books and Study Material

Now that you have understood the type of questions and preparation approach, read about best CAT Logical Reasoning Books 2026 and study material.

1. **How to Prepare for Logical Reasoning for CAT by Arun Sharma (9th Edition, 2026)** Logical Reasoning for CAT 2026 by Arun Sharma has many important changes compared to the 2023 edition. New chapters on Scheduling & Crypt Arithmetic, 8 new Abstract Reasoning chapters, 100+ assisted videos, and 32 solved mock papers. Read more about latest editions and prices of [Arun Sharma CAT Preparation Books](#).
2. **Previous Year CAT Papers:** Solving actual CAT questions from past years helps understand exam patterns and difficulty levels. Check [CAT Mock Tests](#) and [CAT Previous Year Question Papers](#).
3. **TIME, IMS, and Career Launcher Study Material:** These top CAT coaching institutes provide comprehensive LR modules for structured preparation.
4. **Mock Tests and Sectional Tests:** Enrolling in mock test series from platforms like MBAUniverse.com, TIME, IMS, Career Launcher, and Cracku helps with online practice and performance analysis.
5. **Puzzle and Logical Thinking Books** – Books like “A Modern Approach to Verbal & Non-Verbal Reasoning” by R.S. Aggarwal and “Puzzles to Puzzle You” by Shakuntala Devi help in strengthening logical thinking skills.
6. **YouTube Channels for LR Preparation:** Channels like Rodha, 2IIM CAT, and Cracku have free video lessons for DI preparation.

CAT 2026 Logical Reasoning Preparation Tips by Toppers

Read the following logical reasoning for CAT 2026 preparation tips by CAT toppers. Use the insights to develop your own logical reasoning preparation strategy.

Srishti Yadav, CAT Topper 99.69%, IIM Kozhikode MBA 2023-25: “For DILR, I completed the Arun Sharma book end to end. It really improved my way of tackling the sets. I used to get my doubts clarified if I couldn’t solve a set. Again, I practiced via sectional tests as well, as you need to monitor the time as well. I took coaching from TIME, so their booklets were useful as well to solve high level sets. DILR needs a lot of practice. You need to be able to formulate the right approach”

Pooja Sudhakar, CAT Topper 99.11%, SPJIMR PGDM 2023-25: “Out of 80 pager collation of all DILR cases covering different types of cases that can come up in CAT, I tried

to solve them all. With this, I also understood which cases to select and which to avoid (really important as we typically end up solving 1-2 cases in DILR)”

Akshat Agarwal, CAT Topper 99.44%, IIT Delhi MBA 2023-25: “My key focus areas in DILR preparation were Data Familiarity to get comfortable with different types of data sets and formats; Solved a variety of DILR sets from previous CAT papers; Focused on solving sets quickly while maintaining accuracy; Learned to classify and organize data effectively; Enhanced logical deduction skills for complex problems; Collaborated with peers to solve DILR sets together; Took full-length mock tests to simulate real exam conditions and Allocated time wisely to different sets based on difficulty levels.”

CAT Logical Reasoning vs Data Interpretation: Key Differences

Logical Reasoning and Data Interpretation questions together form the DILR section of CAT, but they demand fundamentally different skills, preparation approaches, and mind-sets. Understanding the distinction between DI and LR is the first step to building a targeted preparation strategy. DI rewards numerical fluency and approximation speed. LR rewards structured thinking and constraint management. Check difference between CAT DI and LR sections in the table below.

CAT Data Interpretation Vs Logical Reasoning: Key Differences

Parameter	Data Interpretation (DI)	Logical Reasoning (LR)
Core Skill Tested	Ability to read, analyse, and calculate from numerical data	Ability to identify patterns, apply constraints, and deduce conclusions
Primary Question Formats	Tables, bar graphs, line charts, pie charts, scatter plots, caselets, mixed graphs	Seating arrangements, puzzles, blood relations, Venn diagrams, input-output, syllogisms
Mathematical Requirement	High — percentages, ratios, averages, approximations	Low to moderate — arithmetic used only for counting or elimination
Key Preparation Resource	Arun Sharma's DI book; Cracku DI sectional tests; Mint data pages	Elites Grid (Shahzar Sir); 2IIM (Raghu Sir); previous CAT LR sets
Time Per Set (Approx.)	8–12 minutes depending on calculation load	8–12 minutes depending on constraint complexity
Best Strategy	Scan data format first; use approximation; avoid precise calculations where estimation suffices	Set up a grid or table before solving; identify the binding constraint first
TITA Questions	Present in most DI sets — always attempt	Present in most LR sets — always attempt
Common Mistake	Getting stuck on a calculation-heavy set instead of moving on	Misreading a constraint early and building the entire solution on a wrong assumption

CAT 2025 Examples	Scatter plot (Slot 2), Currency exchange table (Slot 3), Weighted average caselet (Slot 2)	Performance rating of employees (Slot 1), Four friends solving puzzles (Slot 3)
Overlap Zone	Logical DI sets — require both data analysis and constraint-based deduction	Data-heavy LR sets — require interpreting numerical information to apply logic

CAT 2026 Logical Reasoning Questions

Looking for Logical Reasoning Questions for CAT with solutions PDF? You can download CAT Logical Reasoning questions PDF document from the link below. This document contains CAT LR questions from previous years' papers. Some sample questions from Logical Reasoning for CAT Arun Sharma PDF are also given.

CAT Logical Reasoning Mock Tests & PYQs

According to Toppers, CAT Mock Tests and Previous Year Question Papers play a very important role in CAT **Logical Reasoning** Preparation. You can take CAT **Logical Reasoning** Mock Tests free on MBAUniverse.com. These tests provide instant, data-backed performance analytics, allowing you to identify accuracy gaps in LR sets before they impact your actual percentile. Click on the links below and take test now.

- [CAT Logical Reasoning Mock Tests](#)
- [CAT Logical Reasoning Previous Years Question Papers](#)

Summary

In summary, Logical Reasoning (LR) an important part of Data Interpretation & Logical Reasoning (DILR) section of CAT Exam. Common Logical Reasoning questions in CAT exam include arrangements, puzzles, blood relations, syllogisms, Venn diagrams, and logical sequences. Read how to prepare for CAT Logical Reasoning section in the above article. Also read about [CAT 2026 Registration](#), [CAT 2026 Preparation](#) and take free [CAT Mock Tests](#).