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CAT Toppers' Last 60 Days and Exam Day Checklist

What 50+ CAT toppers did in the final weeks and on exam day | For CAT 2026: Sunday, November 29, 2026

4 rules every topper followed

1. Last two months = mocks and revision. No new topics.
2. Analyse every mock before you take the next one.
3. Once the admit card is out, practise in your CAT slot time.
4. Protect your calm. It is half the exam.

Your 60-Day Countdown

When	Tick off as you go	Topper who did it
Day 60 to 31	☐ Finish pending syllabus; from here, revise only ☐ 2–3 full mocks a week, each analysed the next day	Harsh Khudania, 99.93 Shrey Srivastava, 99.24 Mehak Rathi, 98.08
Day 30 to 8	☐ Step up to a mock a day or every alternate day ☐ After the admit card: mocks at your exact slot time ☐ Practise sitting idle for 20–30 minutes before a mock	Nishakar Kumar, 99.83 Prateek Kumar Rai, 99.80 Shivam, 99.84
Day 7 to 2	☐ Last full mock 2–7 days before CAT ☐ Short VARC sectionals to keep the momentum ☐ Revise your formula book and error log only	Nikita Agarwal, 99.22 Sruthy S Kumar, 97.71 Shefali Chhaya, IIM Ahmedabad

When	Tick off as you go	Topper who did it
Day before	☐ No full mock on the penultimate day ☐ Light formula revision only ☐ New city? Visit the centre a day earlier ☐ Sleep for 8 hours	Shantanu Yadav, 99.73 Tanishq Diddee, 99.70 Aditya Uday Manolkar, 99.56

Note: Sanjiv Kumar (99.99) took a mock the day before CAT to keep his momentum. Choose whatever keeps you calm.

Exam Day Checklist

Before you leave home

☐ Admit card and ID proof, as per the official CAT 2026 instructions	Official requirement
☐ Glance through key formulas. Nothing new.	Sahiti Potnuru, 98.23
☐ Stay away from slot-1 news and WhatsApp groups	Nancy Jain, 99.72
☐ Read one short essay to warm up for RCs	Kunal, 98.44
☐ Reach the centre well ahead of time	Shuktisindhu Mondal, IIM Ahmedabad

Inside the exam hall

Section	Toppers' exam-day rule	Topper
VARC	Skim all RCs for 10–15 seconds before choosing which to attempt	Srishti Vazirani, 99.00
DILR	Pick your sets in the first 4–5 minutes; drop any set you cannot structure in about 3 minutes	Pranshav Shah, 99.80; Sanjiv Kumar, 99.99
Quant	Easy questions first, then medium, then tough: the "ABC technique"	Kunal, 98.44
Bad section?	Forget it and reset for the next section	Tanuj Ruia, 99.69

"I treated CAT as just another mock test that I had to take at the centre." — Pranshav Shah, CAT 2025, 99.80

"Remember that CAT is about 50% preparation and 50% state of mind." — Nandan Goel, CAT 2020, 99.95, IIM Calcutta

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