

A Road Map to MCAT® Critical Analysis and Reasoning Skills in the Khan Academy MCAT Collection



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Introduction

The [Khan Academy CARS Collection](#) is a free resource created to help you understand and prepare for the Critical Analysis and Reasoning Skills (CARS) section of the Medical College Admission Test® (MCAT®) exam. In a series of videos, a cognitive scientist offers her descriptions of the CARS section and skills, including tips and examples from sample MCAT questions:

- [The Khan Academy CARS overview](#)
- [Foundations of comprehension](#)
- [Reasoning within the text](#)
- [Reasoning beyond the text](#)

This Road Map provides links to free practice passages with sample content from the CARS section of the MCAT exam. In the [What's on the MCAT Exam Content Outline](#), you will find the official AAMC descriptions for the CARS section and skills assessed:

- [The Critical Analysis and Reasoning Skills Section Overview](#)
- [CARS Passage Types](#)
- [Skill 1: Foundations of Comprehension](#)
- [Skill 2: Reasoning Within the Text](#)
- [Skill 3: Reasoning Beyond the Text](#)

The Khan Academy CARS Collection also includes worked examples where the same cognitive scientist walks you through reading a passage and answering questions. Finally, practice on your own with passage sets that include descriptions of the skills assessed and explanations of the solutions to each question. The AAMC identified the CARS skills assessed by each question from the Khan Academy CARS Collection worked examples and practice sets in this Road Map.

Visit aamc.org/mcatprep to find more free resources and low-cost products to help you prepare for the MCAT exam.

The [Khan Academy MCAT Collection](#) was created by Khan Academy with support and funding from the AAMC and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

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Select the links below to view the Khan Academy CARS Collection worked examples. The questions in each passage set are mapped to the skill being assessed.

Worked Examples

Foundations of Comprehension (CMP)	Reading Within the Text (RWT)	Reading Beyond the Text (RBT)
Worked example: Living in a rational society		
Question 1: The author’s argument suggests ... Question 2: A common thread in the discussion ...	none	Question 3: Information in the passage suggests ... Question 4: Suppose that the employee responses ...
Worked example: The happy American		
Question 1: According to the passage, positive feelings are ... Question 3: What best represents the author’s ...	none	Question 2: Suppose that economists ...
Worked example: Seeing color through Homer’s eyes		
Question 1: It can be inferred from the passage ...	none	Question 2: It has been suggested that ... Question 3: Gladstone would predict which ... Question 4: Homer’s sky is starry, or broad, ...
Worked example: Physical education in the UK		
Question 4: The author’s central theme ...	Question 1: What is the function ... Question 2: Which of the following assumptions ...	Question 3: Assume as true that students ...
Worked example: The honest truth about dishonesty		
Question 2: The author implies which ...	Question 1: Which of the following assumptions ... Question 4: The author most likely mentions ...	Question 3: Suppose a politician is re-elected ...

Select the links below to view the Khan Academy CARS Collection practice passage sets. The questions in each passage set are randomized and not displayed in any specific order. We have provided the first part of each question in order to identify the question assessed by each skill.

Practice Passage Sets

Foundations of Comprehension (CMP)	Reading Within the Text (RWT)	Reading Beyond the Text (RBT)
Practice passage set: The ultimatum game		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the discussion of the Ultimatum Game... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which of the following statements ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In some trials of the Ultimatum Game, ... Assume a “fair” offer is defined as ...
Practice passage set: Tools for thought		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on the passage, the author ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which of the following passage assertions is presented ... Which of the following passage assertions ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Of the following scenarios, which represents ...
Practice passage set: Deconstructionism and literature		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which of the following statements ... The passage implies that the declaration ... What is the author’s primary purpose ... The passage implies that ... 	<p><i>none</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> According to the views of the passage author ...
Practice passage set: Does free will exist?		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on the passage, which of the following ... With which of the following statements ... 	<p><i>none</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assume that the phenomenon ... Suppose that a scientist were to ...
Practice passage set: Designing courthouses		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> According to Maass, people’s reactions ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the passage, the author ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which of the following examples ...
Practice passage set: Censorship: An unnecessary evil		
<p><i>none</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The author’s attitude toward ... The author mentions ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which of the following explains ... Which of the following is most like ...

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Practice Passage Sets

Foundations of Comprehension (CMP)	Reading Within the Text (RWT)	Reading Beyond the Text (RBT)
Practice passage set: Puritan society		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which of the following statements ... Which of the following assertions ... Information in the passage tells ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All of the following examples of imagery ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suppose there is a newcomer ... The author would most likely ...
Practice passage set: Understanding Thomas Hardy		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on the philosophical beliefs ... According to the passage, which ... A central thesis in the passage is that Hardy... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The author's descriptions of ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which of the following endeavors ... Which of the following arguments ...
Practice passage set: Maternal psychology		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> According to the passage, homeostasis ... The main purpose of the author's ... In the passage, the author illustrates the ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which of the following assumptions ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The undoing effect would predict ... Assume that a sample of mothers ...
Practice passage set: Huns and Eurasian history		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which of the following statements BEST ... Which of the following statements does ... Information in the passage MOST STRONGLY ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The author mentions tributes paid ... Which of the following passage assertions ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which of the following new pieces ...
Practice passage set: Energy and sustainable development in Nigeria		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The author's attitude toward ... In the discussion of Nigeria's energy crisis ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which of the following passage assertions ... The author uses "great deforestation" ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The author argues that the Nigerian ... Which of the following recommendations ...

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Practice Passage Sets

Foundations of Comprehension (CMP)	Reading Within the Text (RWT)	Reading Beyond the Text (RBT)
Practice passage set: Primordial and complex jealousy		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on the passage, the purpose ... In both cases of complex and primordial jealousy: 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An assumption the author makes ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The author's use of the "third condition" ... As discussed in the passage Which of the following BEST represents ...
Practice passage set: What is life?		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The author's central message ... It can be inferred from the passage ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which of the following assumptions ... In paragraph 3, the author ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which of the following is LEAST analogous ... Suppose scientists discover a spongy substance ...
Practice passage set: Antenatal depression and anxiety in Pakistan		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> According to the passage ... The passage author's study found ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the passage, which of the following facts ... The main function of the statement ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suppose a brand new study ... Based on the passage ...
Practice passage set: Utilitarianism ethics		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The significance of the statement ... A common thread in the discussion ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which of the following statements about utilitarian beliefs ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on the passage ... According to the logic ... Which of the following statements about killing people ...
Practice passage set: Reflections on leaving Facebook		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which of the following BEST ... Based on the passage, the author ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which of the following passage assertions ... Which of the following issues ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The passage suggests that the author ... According to the views of ...

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Practice Passage Sets

Foundations of Comprehension (CMP)	Reading Within the Text (RWT)	Reading Beyond the Text (RBT)
Practice passage set: Walt Whitman: Poet of the people		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which of the following assertions ... Information in the passage suggests ... The author's central argument suggests ... In the discussion of the first ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The author quotes the views ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suppose a new artist emerged ...
Practice passage set: Political attitudes		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The author's general attitude ... According to the passage, which ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With regard to perception ... The author's mentioning ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Imagine a group of people ... Which of the following potential study ...
Practice passage set: The human footprint in Mexico		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which of the following statements is most ... Which of the following best ... The author mentions Mexico's history ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which of the following statements is NOT ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suppose there is a strong correlation ... Suppose you are asked to ...
Practice passage set: What separates science from art?		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which of the following CANNOT be inferred ... According to Huxley, the ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The author makes an allusion ... Which one of the following is an idea ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which of the following hypothetical ... Suppose a scientist were to demonstrate ...
Practice passage set: Post-colonialism in Papuan culture		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> According to the passage, which of the ... Which of the following is NOT mentioned ... Which of the following assertions ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The author mentions Hoiri's experiences ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suppose that currently, the majority ... Of the following premises ...

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Practice Passage Sets

Foundations of Comprehension (CMP)	Reading Within the Text (RWT)	Reading Beyond the Text (RBT)
Practice passage set: Film adaptation of Chinese literature		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> According to the passage, Deppman’s ... What is the function of the statement ... Which of the following conclusions ... A central message the author is trying ... 	<p><i>none</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which of the following is LEAST ... Because of changes in technology ...
Practice passage set: Disaster risk knowledge in Nepal		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which of the following statements ... Which of the following best captures ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is a weakness in the argument ... Which of the following claims ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which of the following would most ... Assume that recent data ...
Practice passage set: The ethics of drug-induced happiness		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the function of the phrase, ... It can be inferred from the passage ... One of the author’s central arguments ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which of the following is an assumption ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suppose the author meets a woman ... Which of the following is an example ...
Practice passage set: The roots of capitalism		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which of the following statements ... According to the passage ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which of the following is not part ... Which of the following assumption ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on the passage ... In paragraph 2, the author ...
Practice passage set: Adult learning across cultures		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The author’s argument suggest ... Which statement best captures ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which of the following assumptions ... Which of the following ideas about ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the country of Dimonbaru ... Suppose that public schools ...
Practice passage set: Sociology of participation		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the best summary ... The author’s attitude toward the view ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paragraph 4 includes the assertion ... Which of the following major assumptions ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paragraph 2 discusses tension ... Suppose that, historically, one ...

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Practice Passage Sets		
Foundations of Comprehension (CMP)	Reading Within the Text (RWT)	Reading Beyond the Text (RBT)
Practice passage set: Let's stop playing politics with vaccines		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The passage author's main message ... It can be inferred from the author's ... The function of paragraph 3 ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which of the following assumptions ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suppose that a national program ... Which of the following hypothetical politicians ...
Practice passage set: Buddhism and pessimism		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A commonality between Buddhism ... The statement in paragraph 2 that ... Which of the following statements ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which of the following is a weakness ... In paragraph 4, the author ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which of the following scenarios ...

Looking for more tips and strategies to prepare for the MCAT exam?

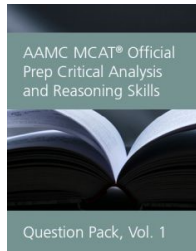
In the How I Prepared for the MCAT Exam testimonials, students share study tips and approaches they used. [Access the testimonials here](#) or go directly to the students who describe how they prepared for the CARS section of the MCAT exam:

- [Priya Thomas](#)
- [Da'Kuawn Johnson](#)
- [Jen Hao](#)

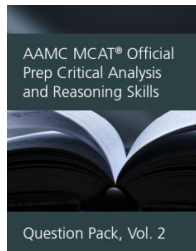
For more practice on critical analysis and reasoning skills, use other low-cost AAMC MCAT Official Prep CARS Products



[The MCAT Official Prep CARS Diagnostic Tool](#) is the first, section-specific diagnostic tool made available by the AAMC to help you identify and address areas of strengths and weaknesses as you prepare for the Critical Analysis and Reasoning section of the MCAT exam.



[The Critical Analysis and Reasoning Skills Question Pack, Volume 1](#) provides 120 passage-based questions and solutions, with passages from humanities and social science disciplines.



[The Critical Analysis and Reasoning Skills Question Pack, Volume 2](#) provides 120 passage-based questions and solutions, with passages from humanities and social science disciplines.

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