

GRE Analytical Writing

Sample Paper 06

A) Subject: Analytical Writing

B) Total Tasks: 2 Tasks (Section I: Analyze an Issue — Section II: Analyze an Argument)

C) Marking Scheme & Rules:

- **Score Scale:** 0.0 – 6.0 (in half-point increments).
- **Task 1 (Issue):** Evaluate your ability to think critically about a topic of general interest and clearly express your thoughts in writing.
- **Task 2 (Argument):** Evaluate your ability to understand, analyze, and evaluate arguments and convey your evaluation in writing.
- **Time Limit:** 30 Minutes per task.

Section I: GRE Issue Essay

1. **Issue**

"The primary indicator of an effective political leader is their ability to preserve traditional values and maintain structural stability, rather than their willingness to introduce radical social modifications."

2. **Issue**

"True learning occurs only when a student is forced to confront and struggle with ideas that contradict their core moral convictions, rather than when they are guided through an objective, neutral curriculum."

3. **Issue**

"To foster a highly capable workforce, educational systems must abandon generalized holistic education and mandate early professional specialization based strictly on national economic demands."

4. **Issue**

"The ultimate standard by which a society's ethical maturation should be judged is its treatment of incarcerated individuals, not the achievements of its most celebrated cultural figures."

5. **Issue**

"As automated algorithms and artificial networks assume a larger share of creative

tasks, the human capacity for authentic artistic expression and emotional originality will inevitably decay.”

6. Issue

”The fundamental responsibility of corporate enterprises is not to maximize value for their shareholders, but to ensure the economic stability and well-being of the communities in which they operate.”

7. Issue

”Significant intellectual breakthroughs are rarely born from collective research teams or institutional collaboration; they are almost universally produced by isolated individuals working in explicit defiance of mainstream scientific consensus.”

8. Issue

”Governments should strictly restrict medical and environmental funding to localized, immediate public wellness crises within their borders, rather than committing resources to international health initiatives.”

9. Issue

”The continuous, virtual nature of contemporary interpersonal communication has effectively destroyed the foundational psychological frameworks required for humans to build genuine communal trust.”

10. Issue

”A democratic state must prioritize safeguarding its citizens from market volatility and financial exploitation, even if doing so explicitly curtails absolute individual commercial liberties.”

Section II: GRE Argument Essay

1. Argument:

The following appeared in a memorandum from the operations manager of Apex Logistics to the executive board.

”Three years ago, our primary competitor, Vanguard Freight, transitioned its main packaging facilities from human-operated sorting lines to automated robotic sortation systems. Since then, their average cargo transit times have decreased by 35 percent and their local warehouse labor expenditures have dropped significantly. In order to reclaim our lost market share, lower overhead costs, and drastically optimize delivery speeds, Apex should immediately replace our human sorting staff with identical automated robotic sortation systems across all major hubs.”

2. Argument:

The following was posted on an online venture capital network forum.

”When selecting an enterprise data-security platform startup to back financially, CyberShield is an undeniably safer and more lucrative option than NetSync. CyberShield actively maintains over 900 corporate enterprise partnerships, whereas NetSync records only 400, many of which remain completely inactive during major federal holidays. Furthermore, CyberShield’s net profit margin last fiscal year was

double that of NetSync, and its standard annual licensing fee averages \$75 per user compared to NetSync's \$40. Software architectures optimized like CyberShield's retain enterprise clients far longer: four years ago, I financed a platform structured precisely like NetSync and it went bankrupt within a year due to poor client retention; conversely, I backed a CyberShield clone last year and it has already reached 80,000 active corporate users. To secure a high return on investment, select CyberShield."

3. Argument:

The following was written as part of a commercial real estate development proposal submitted to the town council of Fairview.

"Opening an upscale specialty cheese and wine boutique in Fairview will be an exceptionally profitable venture. Currently, the nearest gourmet food merchant is located over 40 miles away; thus, our proposed establishment, The Artisanal Platter, will command an absolute monopoly over the local luxury culinary market. Furthermore, public enthusiasm for premium food items is incredibly high in Fairview: more than 15,000 residents attended the town's annual Autumn Harvest Food and Wine Gala, several prominent culinary influencers live in the downtown district, and the highest-rated local weekend radio segment is 'Gourmet Entertaining,' which airs every Saturday morning. A major national consumer index also notes that the typical specialty food enthusiast spends over \$1,500 annually on premium artisanal items. The Artisanal Platter is guaranteed to generate immense profits."

4. Argument:

The following appeared in a corporate strategy memo distributed by the executive board of VitaLife Organics.

"PureJuice, a manufacturer of organic cold-pressed wellness shots that currently distributes its products exclusively to a small, select network of high-end luxury wellness resorts, exhibits immense scaling potential. PureJuice recorded a 30 percent spike in regional sales last year, and its signature product, GingerShield, has broken its own retail sales records for three consecutive years. Because VitaLife Organics is explicitly aiming to capture the 18-to-30 age demographic—the consumer group that purchases the highest per-capita volume of holistic health supplements—we should acquire PureJuice and focus our immediate capital on distributing GingerShield to major supermarket chains nationwide."

5. Argument:

The following appeared in a safety newsletter from the operations director at Ironclad Manufacturing.

"During the past twelve months, Ironclad Manufacturing recorded 45 percent more industrial machinery accidents than our close competitor, Titan Foundries, which strictly enforces a mandatory 20-minute rest break after every three hours of continuous line operations. Ergonomic behavioral studies show that repetitive task fatigue and physical exhaustion are the primary catalysts for heavy equipment accidents. Therefore, to minimize workplace mishaps at Ironclad and dramatically maximize plant productivity, we should immediately implement an identical policy of 20-minute breaks every three hours so our machinery operators can maintain optimal alertness."

6. Argument:

The following appeared in a report written by the real estate expansion director of EcoMarket, a grocery chain specializing in sustainable, zero-waste consumer goods.

"Our historical corporate data proves that our retail grocery branches yield their highest net profits in municipalities where residents display an active commitment to ecological conservation. We should therefore build our next storefront in the town of Silverton. Silverton retailers report that sales of home composting kits and reusable glass storage containers are at an all-time high. Furthermore, the local conservation center, which suffered from low community engagement a decade ago, is now fully booked for weekend volunteer tree-planting events. We can also count on a reliable pipeline of future buyers: the Silverton school board recently implemented a mandatory 'Ecological Citizenship' curriculum that teaches children the importance of reducing plastic waste. Building a branch in Silverton is a clear path to high revenue."

7. Argument:

The following appeared in an article in a national business and employment review.

"In the management consulting sector, the number of senior strategists leaving prestigious, multinational firms to work for boutique, remote-only consulting agencies increased by 35 percent over the past two years. Even though traditional multinational firms offer significantly higher baseline salaries and robust corporate pension structures, consultants are choosing boutique firms because they heavily prioritize the freedom of working from any geographic location. In a recent survey administered to top-tier MBA graduates, the vast majority answered that geographic flexibility was a significantly higher priority than an elevated starting base salary. This clear trend indicates that multinational consulting firms must transition to fully remote operational models if they intend to successfully recruit top-tier talent."

8. Argument:

The following appeared in the medical investment analysis section of a global financial newsletter.

"Given that the global demographic of individuals diagnosed with chronic dry eye syndrome is projected to rise from 30 million to 55 million over the next decade, medical device companies manufacturing advanced ophthalmic micro-misters will experience exceptional profitability. Many market analysts predict that OptiDrop, which manufactures the 'MistRelief' device—the current best-selling treatment on the market—will emerge as the most profitable firm in the sector in ten years. However, OptiDrop's core fluid-delivery patent expires in two years, which will legally permit competitors to launch cheap generic duplicates of the device. Thus, it is highly probable that the top spot will actually be secured by TearTech, the creator of a new, ultra-silent micro-mister called 'HydroMist,' which initial clinical trials reveal is preferred by nine out of ten patients suffering from severe ophthalmic discomfort."

9. Argument:

The following appeared in a letter to the editor of the Grandview Chronicle.

"In the upcoming municipal election, residents of Grandview should cast their votes for Julian Vance, a dedicated advocate for the Clean Air Taskforce, instead of the in-

cumbent city councilman, Donald Sterling. Under Councilman Sterling's oversight, the number of industrial zoning permits in Grandview has doubled, verified particulate matter levels have steadily climbed, and the local pediatric clinic has reported a 35 percent spike in children treated for acute asthma attacks. If we elect Julian Vance, Grandview's public environmental challenges will undoubtedly be completely resolved."

10. **Argument:**

The following appeared in a memo from the town administrator of Pine Valley.

"Two years ago, environmental engineering models predicted that Pine Valley's primary underground fresh-water aquifer would deplete entirely within four years due to over-extraction. Over the past two years, however, town residents have reduced their total household water consumption by exactly 45 percent compared to historical averages. Next month, usage metrics are anticipated to drop even further because the town council is doubling the residential utility rates for excessive water consumption. Furthermore, over eighty-five percent of residents who responded to a recent town survey stated that they intend to install high-efficiency water-saving fixtures in the near future. Because of our community's demonstrable dedication to conservation, our local water supply will last significantly longer than the engineers originally forecast."