

GRE Analytical Writing

Sample Paper 10

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 a society's scientific maturity is its willingness to fund high-risk exploratory research with no guaranteed practical applications over targeted applied research."

2. Issue

"True administrative efficiency within municipal governments is achieved by distributing policymaking power among highly localized neighborhood councils rather than centralizing authority."

3. Issue

"To genuinely evaluate the ethical health of a corporate entity, an observer should look at the discrepancy between executive compensation and entry-level wages rather than its stated philanthropic initiatives."

4. Issue

"Societies should restrict the implementation of predictive algorithmic systems in public governance to areas that do not directly impact individual civil liberties."

5. Issue

"The most influential historical figures are those who operated within established

institutions to reform them from within, rather than those who sought to overthrow them entirely.”

6. Issue

”An individual can gain a truer understanding of an unfamiliar society by studying its contemporary comedic and satirical media than by examining its official historical monuments.”

7. Issue

”Large-scale educational systems inevitably prioritize institutional conformity over the cultivation of distinct artistic or intellectual non-conformity.”

8. Issue

”The fundamental responsibility of a municipal infrastructure committee is to preserve historical open spaces rather than to expand high-density commercial real estate.”

9. Issue

”The relentless democratization of information via decentralized digital platforms has fundamentally degraded the public’s capacity to respect specialized expert authority.”

10. Issue

”A nation’s economic framework becomes structurally fragile if it heavily prioritizes rapid financial market speculation over the expansion of domestic tangible goods manufacturing.”

Section II: GRE Argument Essay

1. Argument:

The following appeared in a memorandum from the operations manager of Apex Logistics Consortium.

”Three years ago, our primary shipping competitor, Titan Transport, mandated that all their distribution terminal operators integrate automated sensory inventory tracking belts. Since then, Titan has recorded a 35 percent drop in misrouted regional cargo and their localized warehousing expenditures have plummeted. To reclaim our lost domestic market share, lower corporate operational overhead, and accelerate processing velocity, Apex should immediately reallocate our entire quarterly maintenance fund to purchase identical automated tracking belts for all our city hubs.”

2. Argument:

The following was published in an investment newsletter by a venture capital specialist in biotechnology.

”Financing a marine-derived pharmaceutical research laboratory in the coastal city of Deepport will guarantee immense financial returns for investors. Currently, the nearest specialized marine biotechnology incubator is located over 250 miles away,

ensuring that a new lab will establish an absolute monopoly over the regional aquatic enzyme market. Additionally, community engagement with environmental biology is exceptionally high in Deepport: the municipal marine science museum recorded a 60 percent spike in ticket sales last year, and over 5,000 residents volunteered for the annual 'Save the Coast' harbor cleanup project. Investing capital in this laboratory is a risk-free path to high profitability."

3. Argument:

The following appeared in a newsletter published by a real estate consultancy firm in Grandview.

"Opening an upscale, membership-only workspace and artisanal tea lounge in the historic district of Grandview will be an extraordinarily lucrative venture. Currently, the nearest co-working space or specialized tea house is over 40 miles away; thus, our proposed establishment, The Scholarly Leaf, will command an absolute monopoly over the local executive leisure market. Furthermore, public interest in premium wellness products is remarkably high in Grandview: more than 15,000 people attended the town's annual Holistic Health and Fitness Exhibition last month, several popular wellness lifestyle bloggers live in the downtown lofts, and the highest-rated local weekend podcast is 'Mindful Mornings.' The Scholarly Leaf will generate immense corporate profits."

4. Argument:

The following appeared in a workplace health memo from the human resources director at Vanguard Software Solutions.

"During the last fiscal period, Vanguard developers logged 45 percent more coding errors and software bugs than our direct competitor, Horizon Tech. Horizon Tech mandates that all their software engineering personnel utilize an algorithmic project-pacing software that locks employees out of their workstations for 10 minutes after every 50 minutes of continuous typing. Ergonomic research proves that mandatory micro-breaks significantly alleviate the mental fatigue that causes professional oversight. Therefore, to decrease our product defect rates and maximize software deployment efficiency, Vanguard should immediately install this project-pacing software on all company computers."

5. Argument:

The following appeared in an investment recommendation report from a technology market analyst.

"Over the next decade, the number of clinical research facilities seeking advanced data-security compliance software is projected to triple. Consequently, software firms that specialize in cryptographic clinical data locks will experience unprecedented profitability. Most market analysts predict that SecureData—the leading domestic supplier of medical system firewalls—will emerge as the most profitable company in this market. However, SecureData's primary encryption patent will expire in two years, legally allowing rivals to deploy exact generic copies of their firewall framework. Therefore, smart investors should instead buy stock in CryptoMed, which has recently designed an AI-driven behavioral threat-detection node that initial corporate trials indicate 90 percent of data administrators prefer over traditional firewalls."

6. Argument:

The following appeared in a memorandum from the director of urban development in the city of Sunvale.

"Four years ago, the neighboring city of Riverdale transitioned its municipal transit fleet from standard diesel buses to fully autonomous electric shuttles. Since then, Riverdale's public transit maintenance costs have decreased by 30 percent and transit related carbon emissions within the city center have plummeted. In order to lower our city budget deficit, improve urban air quality, and modernize our public transportation infrastructure, Sunvale should immediately replace our entire public bus fleet with identical autonomous electric shuttles."

7. Argument:

The following was posted on an online corporate strategy forum.

"When selecting an enterprise supply-chain analytics platform startup to back financially, LogiShield is a safer and more lucrative option than RouteSync. LogiShield actively maintains over 1,200 active enterprise shipping partnerships, whereas RouteSync records only 400, many of which remain completely inactive during major regional winter weather events. Furthermore, LogiShield's net profit margin last fiscal year was double that of RouteSync, and its standard annual software licensing fee averages \$150 per user compared to RouteSync's \$75. Platforms structured like LogiShield retain enterprise clients far longer: five years ago, I financed a platform structured precisely like RouteSync and it went bankrupt within eighteen months due to poor client retention; conversely, I backed a LogiShield clone last year and it has already reached 85,000 active corporate users. Select LogiShield for high returns."

8. Argument:

The following was written as part of a commercial real estate development proposal submitted to the town planning board of Maplewood.

"Opening an upscale specialty cheese and cured meat charcuterie boutique in Maplewood will be an exceptionally profitable venture. Currently, the nearest gourmet charcuterie shop is located over 55 miles away; thus, our proposed establishment, The Curated Board, will command an absolute monopoly over the local luxury culinary market. Furthermore, public enthusiasm for premium food items is incredibly high in Maplewood: more than 18,000 residents attended the town's annual Artisan Cheese and Wine Festival, several prominent food critics live in the historic village district, and the highest-rated local weekend radio segment is 'The Epicurean Table,' which airs every Saturday. A major national consumer index also notes that the typical artisanal food enthusiast spends over \$2,000 annually on premium culinary items. The Curated Board is guaranteed to generate immense profits."

9. Argument:

The following appeared in a corporate strategy memo distributed by the executive board of GreenHarvest Foods.

"BioPulse, a manufacturer of organic cold-brewed botanical energy drinks that currently distributes its products exclusively to a small, select network of high-end luxury fitness retreats, exhibits immense scaling potential. BioPulse recorded a 40 percent spike in regional sales last year, and its signature product, ElixirShield, has

broken its own retail sales records for three consecutive years. Because GreenHarvest Foods 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 BioPulse and focus our immediate capital on distributing ElixirShield to major supermarket chains nationwide.”

10. **Argument:**

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

”During the past twelve months, Ironclad Metalworks recorded 55 percent more heavy manufacturing accidents than our competitor, ForgeAll Alloys, which strictly enforces a mandatory 30-minute rest break after every four hours of continuous assembly operations. Ergonomic behavioral studies show that repetitive motion fatigue and physical exhaustion are the primary catalysts for industrial plant accidents. Therefore, to minimize workplace mishaps at Ironclad and dramatically maximize plant productivity, we should immediately implement an identical policy of 30-minute breaks every four hours so our machinery operators can maintain optimal alertness.”

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