

FMS 2010 Analysis

“The toughest challenge for the Schumachers of MBA 2010”

FMS is truly termed as “Speed-test” – A test that even the Schumachers of MBA 2010 find difficult to attempt completely. This together with the fact that the language section demands more efforts than what you aim for CAT and other exams, makes it the toughest exam of the season. 200 questions (earlier there were 175) in 120 min with negative penalties for wrong answers is certainly the most challenging stats for an MBA aspirant this year. The saving grace for the FMS takers is the number of options which are 4 every year. Therefore, they get to scan 4 choices in roughly the 2 min that they spend per question on average (considering the fact that mostly 75 out of 120 questions are attempted by the test takers)

FMS 2010 was a weaker challenge this year. Even though the total number of questions increased from 175 to 200, the overall difficulty level of the test dropped significantly as compared to last year. So student could still attempt a lot of questions despite an increase in total number of questions. Overall, the test was of **easy to moderate** level of difficulty, a level that was quite below that of Last year's. Hence, the cut-offs are expected to be higher for this paper. As always, the Verbal section was a little challenging one with one of the RC that was 5 pages in length. However, the fact that it had 24 questions was the good news. EU section was also challenging as it consisted majorly of vocabulary based questions and very few questions based on grammar. Even the LR & DI section was moderate in difficulty. Quant section was of moderate level of difficulty and was the only one where one could have tried to maximize one's attempt. The ideal attempt out of 200 min would have been 79+ with an accuracy of 85-90% accuracy. A 292+ score out of 800 would be highly likely for a GD / PI call.

Overall Analysis:

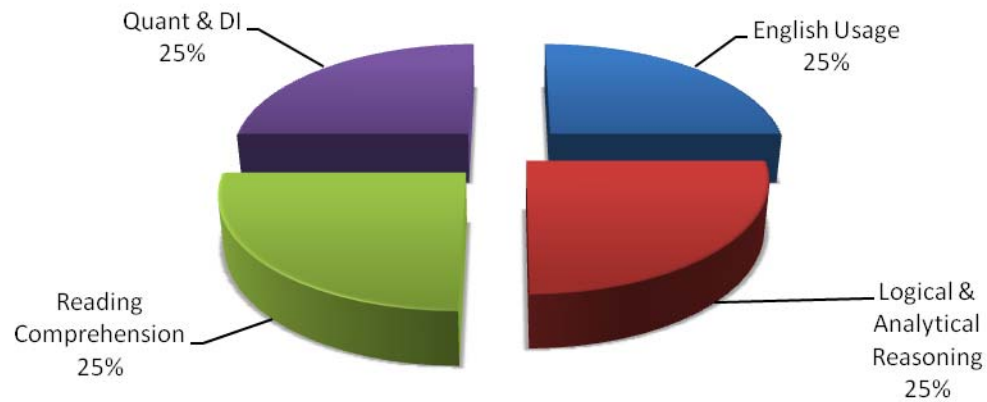
- No of Sections: 4
- Marking Scheme: 4 Mark per Question
- Negative Marking: Standard 25% for each wrong answer
- No of options per Question: 4
- Sectional Cut-offs: Yes (50 percentile)
- Expected Cut-offs: 292+



Question wise distribution of FMS 2010

FMS 2010

Question-wise Distribution



As can be seen above, FMS has finally zeroed in on an equal division of questions among all the 4 sections.

Expected Scores in FMS 2010

FMS 2010					Marks Per Question	4	
Section	No of Questions	Total Marks	Difficulty Level	Ideal Time	ideal Attempts @ 75-80% accuracy	Ideal Score	Expected Cut off Score(at 50 Percentile)
English Usage	50	200	Moderate	20 min	27+	75+	30+
Logical & Analytical Reasoning	50	200	Low to Moderate	30 min	24+	78+	32+
Reading Comprehension	50	200	Moderate (Lengthy Passages)	40 min	22+	60+	25+
Quant & DI	50	200	Low to moderate	30 min	24+	81+	34+
					79+	Overall 292+	
		200	800	Low to Moderate	120 min		

As you can see the test structure and pattern was almost the same as the FMS 2009 (shown below). The major differences were found in the difficulty level and number of questions of the exam. A careful selection of questions and sets would have helped maximizing the score.

FMS 2009					Marks Per Question	4
Section	No of Questions	Total Marks	Difficulty Level	Ideal Time	Possible Attempts @ 85-90% accuracy	Cut-off Score
English Usage	42	168	High	20 min	15+	50+
Logical & Analytical Reasoning	49	196	Moderate	30 min	20+	76+
Reading Comprehension	35	140	High (Lengthy Passages)	35 min	25+	45+
Quant & DI	49	196	Moderate to High	35 min	20+	70+

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175

700

Moderate

120 min

72+

240+

Therefore, the expected cut offs for the 208 seats would be a high as compared to last year's. Consequently, the sectional cutoffs are also expected to vary as compared to last year. Following are the expected cut-offs for the major programmes in this year's FMS.

Programme	Expected Cut-off Score (This Year)
MBA	292+
MBA (MS)	278+

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