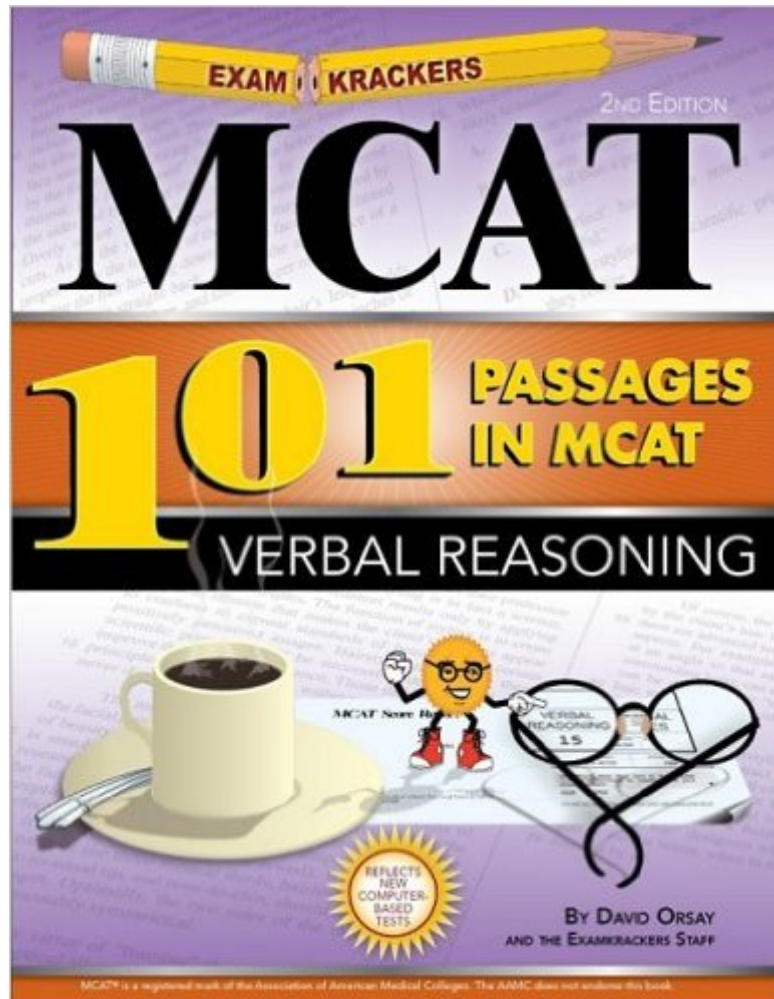


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Examcrackers 101 Passages In MCAT Verbal Reasoning



Synopsis

The passages in this book have been designed to closely resemble official MCAT Verbal passages. This volume includes fourteen 60-minute, full-length practice MCAT Verbal Exams in official MCAT format, 560 MCAT Verbal questions in total, 2,240 detailed explanations for all answer choices, and 14 tear-out answer sheets.

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Customer Reviews

This is a good book for practice. However I think this book can be misleading at times. For those studying for the MCAT, use this book to practice passages and more less of actually taking a test one by one. I would say use this book to practice a few passages a day. The questions are very challenging and will you get you thinking and focused for the real thing. I would say this can be easier than the real MCAT or AAMC verbal, but it is harder at times as well. So I guess we can say it balances out. The passages for the most part are very interesting, compared to most verbal passages I have seen in the real MCAT and other prep companies. This book lacked humanity and philosophy passages, which is almost always present on the real MCAT. Although the questions are extremely difficult, some of the questions all over the book have more than one right answer, and will keep you guessing. So this book does have it's mistakes. I would not actually score each practice verbal test based on the scale given in the back of the book. In my opinion I think some

tests are harder than others in the book. Because of this I think that one and only scale in the back of the book should not be representative of each test in this book. If each test were graded accordingly, based on a pool of people getting certain questions right and wrong, then we would know each real score for each test. A lot of people I know, including myself, had verbal scores which fluctuated from this book. As I mentioned before, use this book as practice. See which questions you got right and wrong, and why and how it lead you to the answer. Just use this book to polish your test-taking technique for the Verbal section, whatever technique it might be. I give this book a 3.7 rating, which rounds up to 4. I do recommend this book, but with caution.

I have taken 6 practice MCATs under real timed conditions and I just took the full thing. My average on the practices are about a 12 or 13 in this section. If you miss 3 I think you get a 13. I haven't gotten my score back on the real MCAT yet. While it is true that the MCAT has ambiguous answers, I decided to start taking actual practice MCATs and found that I had to stop using this book. The answers in it were too "tricky" and I kept getting obvious/straightforward questions wrong on the actual practice MCATs because when I saw an answer that seemed too obvious, this book had trained me to think it was a trick answer. Although the MCAT does ask you questions about the main idea and other things that you must make inferences about, they also ask you many questions (I would say over 50%) where they expect you to look in the passage to either confirm a correct answer or eliminate other answers based on a pretty straightforward review of the text. The Exam Krackers method focuses way too much on teaching you that the MCAT is trying to trick you and making you second guess what seem like obvious answers. Now having said that, I am very good at this section, in fact, it's my strongest section so maybe what seems like a straightforward answer to me doesn't to someone else. But the reality is I had to stop using this book because it was causing me to miss questions on the real MCATs. The book is good for practicing timing, although why not just buy the actual MCAT practices? They aren't that expensive and you know you are getting an accurate representation of what you will face. As many others have noted, there are many very suspect answers to passages, which is probably again because many of the "wrong" answers were written to try and trick you into choosing them. I have encountered suspect answers on real MCAT practices also though, to be fair, and even some where it didn't seem that the question writer understood the point of certain paragraphs and arguments made.

This book is best if you have run out of other materials to practice with. Therefore, I recommend that you finish all of the AAMC verbal reasoning materials before you try out this book. Additionally, it

wouldn't hurt to do a 60 minute test between AAMC practice materials. The book may mislead you and make you think in more complex ways that can be detrimental on the actual MCAT questions. The reasons why: Pros: somewhat similar to actual verbal reasoning (as compared to most other test prep companies' books) good practice with concentrated readings similar passage and question structure Cons: the difficulty was greater than AAMC materials due to: too much focus on small details and wording - sometimes you had to know the exact meaning of a strange word (this is VERY rare in the actual MCAT) too little focus on general idea and clarifying questions sometimes extremely convoluted and contrived logic - answer solution doesn't always help while the actual AAMC materials have very explicit explanation why a choice is incorrect flawed logic - there are clearly illogical or contradicting explanations

Has errors and poor choice of questions/answers. The book is riddled with errors, including the first set of answers, which distracts a lot from studying efforts. AAMC practice exams will be much more helpful for working with passages. Cheers

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