NDA 2026 GAT Preparation Tips (English & GK)

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The **General Ability Test (GAT)** is the **most scoring and highest-weightage paper** in the **NDA 2026 examination**, carrying **600 out of 900 marks** in the written exam. A strong performance in **English and General Knowledge (GK)** can significantly boost your overall NDA score—even if Maths is average.

This article provides a **comprehensive, beginner-friendly, and SEO-optimised guide** to **NDA 2026 GAT preparation**, covering **English and GK preparation tips, study plans, smart strategies, common mistakes, and FAQs**.

NDA 2026 GAT – Exam Overview

Section	Marks	Questions
English	200	~50
General Knowledge (GK)	400	~100
Total GAT	**600 Marks**	**150 Questions**

- Time Duration: **2.5 Hours**
- Negative Marking: **–1.33 marks per wrong answer**

Why GAT is Crucial for NDA 2026

- Highest weightage (67% of written exam)
- Easier to score than Maths
- Helps balance average Maths performance
- Strong GAT score improves **final merit rank**

Part A: NDA 2026 English Preparation Tips

English tests **grammar, vocabulary, and comprehension skills**. Regular practice makes it one of the **easiest scoring sections**.

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1. NDA English Syllabus (Quick Recap)

- Grammar & Usage
- Vocabulary (Synonyms, Antonyms)

- Error Spotting
- Sentence Improvement
- Idioms & Phrases
- Comprehension Passages
- Cloze Test

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2. Step-by-Step English Preparation Strategy

Build Grammar Basics

- Parts of Speech
- Tenses
- Articles
- Prepositions
- Active & Passive Voice
- Direct & Indirect Speech

Strong grammar = fewer mistakes.

Improve Vocabulary Daily

- Learn **10–15 new words daily**
- Focus on synonyms, antonyms, and usage
- Revise regularly

Practice Comprehension

- Read newspapers/editorials daily
- Practice one passage every day
- Improve speed and understanding

English Daily Study Plan (30–45 Minutes)

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Activity	Time
Grammar practice	15 min
Vocabulary	10 min
Reading/Comprehension	15 min

English Score Target

- Safe Score: **120–150 marks**
- Accuracy matters more than attempts

Part B: NDA 2026 GK Preparation Tips

GK contributes **400 marks**, making it the **most decisive section**.

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1. NDA GK Syllabus Overview

Physics

- Motion, Laws of Motion
- Work, Energy & Power
- Heat, Light & Sound
- Electricity & Magnetism

Chemistry

- Acids, Bases & Salts
- Metals & Non-Metals
- Fuels & Combustion
- Physical & Chemical Changes

General Science

- Human Body & Diseases
- Plants & Animals
- Environment & Ecology

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History

- Ancient, Medieval & Modern India
- Freedom Struggle
- Important Movements

Geography

- Physical Geography
- Indian Geography
- Climate & Natural Resources

Polity

- Indian Constitution
- Fundamental Rights & Duties
- Parliament, Judiciary

Current Affairs

- National & International Events
- Defence News
- Sports, Awards, Appointments

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2. Smart GK Preparation Strategy

Study Concept-Based

- Read NCERT Class 9–10 for Science
- Understand concepts instead of memorising facts

Daily Current Affairs

- Read newspapers

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- Make short notes
- Revise weekly

Static GK Focus

- Polity, History, Geography are high-scoring
- Revise frequently

GK Daily Study Plan (60–90 Minutes)

Activity	Time
Static GK	45 min
Science	20 min
Current Affairs	15–20 min

GK Score Target

- Safe Score: **220–260 marks**

GAT Attempt Strategy (English + GK)

- Attempt questions you are sure about
- Avoid blind guessing
- English → high accuracy
- GK → balanced attempts with logic

□□ Ideal Attempts**95–110 questions**

Common Mistakes to Avoid in GAT

□ Ignoring English practice
□ Memorising GK without understanding
□ Skipping revision
□ Guessing answers blindly
□ Ignoring current affairs

Last-Month GAT Preparation Strategy

- Revise English grammar rules

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- Practice comprehension daily
- Revise static GK
- Focus on last 6–8 months current affairs
- Solve full-length GAT mock tests

Why This GAT Strategy Works

- High weightage focus
- Balanced English & GK preparation
- Beginner-friendly approach
- Proven scoring methods

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Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q1. Is GAT more important than Maths in NDA?

Yes, GAT carries **600 marks**, making it more important in scoring.

Q2. How much time should I give to GAT daily?

At least **1.5–2 hours daily** is recommended.

Q3. Are NCERT books enough for NDA GK?

NCERT covers basics, but **current affairs and practice questions** are essential.

Q4. Can I crack NDA with strong GAT and average Maths?

Yes, provided you **clear Maths cut-off**.

Q5. How many months of current affairs are needed?

Minimum **6–8 months** before the exam.

Conclusion

A smart **NDA 2026 GAT preparation strategy for English & GK** can be the **game-changer** in your selection journey. With regular practice, conceptual clarity, and proper revision, scoring **350+ marks in GAT** is absolutely achievable.

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