1 Month MHCET Crash Course Plan

The countdown to MHCET 2010 has started. With approximately 1 month left for MHCET, you need to study smart and make optimum use of your time to ensure that you maximise your scores.

How does one actually maximise one's score? Is it by attempting as many questions as possible without too much attention to accuracy, or by attempting fewer questions with a much higher accuracy, or a combination of both? The answer to this question varies from student to student and depends on his/her preparedness and confidence level. This 1 month crash course attempts to increase both – your confidence as well as preparedness – such that your scores automatically increase. It simply helps you partition and prioritise areas of preparation to get the maximum benefit in the limited time available now.

Starting Strategy

Start by taking 1 full length mock test (iMHCET.01) in test conditions, (i.e. within the given time limit, without breaks and try to perform as well as you would want to in the actual MHCET). See the marks obtained in this test and do a brief analysis of the test based on the steps given below. The objective of this analysis is to identify your strong, average and weak areas.

1) Divide the 200 questions into "Attempted" and "Not attempted" questions. Since MH-CET does not have negative marking, the objective should be to attempt ALL 200 questions. Note that it may not be possible to attempt all 200 questions in 150 minutes. The break-up of these 150 minutes is discussed later. However, keep in mind that it always helps to keep your weakest areas for the very end in an MH-CET paper where speed is more important than accuracy.

2) Once this is done, break up the paper in terms of your accuracy. Though speed is vital, the importance of accuracy is often underestimated. Do this analysis on a Concept/Question Type level. This analysis will help you identify the areas to be attacked.

3) Once this analysis is done, conduct a small classification exercise. Identify your strong and weak areas. As discussed earlier, speed and accuracy are both important, with speed taking priority. Based on your performance in the test, classify the topics into the following 4 areas:

ACCURACY

	LOW	HIGH
	I	**III**
LOW	1. Topic	1. Topic
	2. Topic	2. Topic
	3. Topic	3. Topic
	II	**IV**
HIGH	1. Topic	1. Topic
	2. Topic	2. Topic
	3. Topic	3. Topic

SPEED

Before you start understanding the 4 quadrants, note that not all topics are equally important for the MH-CET examination. To help you prioritise, our team of experts has rated the lessons based on their importance in the exam. Lessons marked with 5 stars are the most important and should be looked at first, 3 stars are of medium importance and can be gone through next, while those with 1 star should be given the least importance. Mark the concepts/ question types in these four quadrants based on the description above before you start working ahead.

Quadrant IV is your strongest area, i.e. High Speed - High Accuracy. Thus, most or all of the 5-star concepts should fall within this quadrant. Hence, now your objective changes from a generic "Maximise score" to a more specific "Move as many concepts to the High Speed – High Accuracy quadrant". Keep practising and refining all the 5-star topics in these areas to maintain your strengths.

Quadrant III is your area of Low Speed - High Accuracy. This means that though you get the answers right, you are spending considerable time and energy on these questions. First identify the 5–star and 3–star rated concepts in this quadrant. These are the concepts that need to be quickly moved into quadrant IV. Since you have a high accuracy it means that you are generally familiar with these questions on a conceptual level. The slow speed may be because you either try to approach these questions very methodically or because you take these questions up as a challenge for your ego. Hence, try and practise such questions NOT using too many steps or in too much detail. It may help to revise basic calculation techniques, rules of grammar and basic formulae at this stage to implicitly increase your speed. Also, remember that intelligent elimination of answer options can increase your speed AND accuracy significantly.

Quadrant II is your area of High Speed – Low Accuracy. Although you solve these questions fast, you do not get them right. Try to identify the reason behind this. It may be because you are hurrying through the question without taking into account a simple but often overlooked idea or maybe you are not truly comfortable with the question types, but find them to be easy looking at the question structure only, which tempts you to attempt them. Eg. Visual Reasoning – where you look at the first 2 figures only and try to find the last missing figure in a series without checking for alternating patterns. Moving the 5-star rated questions types from this quadrant to quadrant IV may require a quick revision of the theory of the concepts or question types, followed by practice. Again, use of the answer option elimination method may help in improving accuracy.

Quadrant I is your weakest area. It includes those topics where you have Low Speed – Low Accuracy. The implication here is that you are wasting precious time on questions where you don't earn any marks. The objective is to have as few 5–star rated topics under this section as possible. The strategy here may involve study of concepts AND quick solution of the questions. Thus, this will take the maximum time and effort of all the four quadrants. After about 15 days, if you find that there are areas where there is hardly any improvement, it would be wise to leave them out completely and focus on the topics lying in quadrants II, III and IV.

The speed-accuracy model will help you specifically in the following ways:

1. It will give you a bird's eye view of your level of preparation and your improvement at any given time.
2. With careful analysis, Quadrant IV will become bigger, accommodating more topics from quadrant II and III after every successive mock MHCET.
3. It will help you decide a question attempt strategy for the entire paper customized to your strengths and weaknesses.

Study Plan

TestFunda provides you with 97 chapters/lessons, 80 Concept Practice tests, 23 Topic tests, 6 Module tests and 8 full length mock tests. Within the limited time, it may not be possible to go through all the lessons and tests. You can devote approximately 20 days for the lessons and Concept Practice tests, 3 – 4 days for the Topic Tests and Module Tests and 7 – 8 days for the mock MHCET papers. Had you tried to study all the chapters and Concept Practice Tests, you would have run out of time. However, using the chapter ratings and your own analysis from the 2×2 matrix, you can prioritise the chapters to be studied.

The full length mock tests (iMHCET.01 to 08) can be spaced out in the following manner. Start with one test a week. As more topics move into quadrant IV, you can slowly increase the frequency to 4 days and then 2 days. For example:

Day 1: iMHCET.01 followed by analysis

Day 8: iMHCET.02 followed by analysis

Day 15: iMHCET.03 followed by analysis

Day 20: iMHCET.04 followed by analysis

Day 24: iMHCET.05 followed by analysis

Day 27: iMHCET.06 followed by analysis

Day 29: iMHCET.07 followed by analysis

Day 30: iMHCET.08 followed by analysis

STEP 1

After the first test, you would have prepared the matrix to identify your strong and weak areas.

Use the six days between the first and second mock test in the following manner:

Day 2 – 3: 5-star concepts from Quadrant III (Practise as many questions as possible while focussing on speed)

Day 4 – 5: 5–star concepts from Quadrant II (Study the concepts in detail and practise the Concept Practice Tests)

Day 6: 5–star concepts from Quadrant IV (Study the concepts in brief and practise the Concept Practice Tests)

Day 7: 5–star concepts from Quadrant I (Solve the questions in the first mock test again WITHOUT ANY PRESSURE and see whether speed or accuracy are issues)

Based on the number of 5–star concepts falling in each quadrant, the number of days and the amount of time per day that you have allotted may change.

STEP 2

Give the second mock test on Day 8 and analyse it again.

You may find that some concepts have been interchanged between quadrants II and III i.e. an increase in speed had impacted accuracy and vice versa. Also, there may be some topics from quadrants I, II and III that have moved to quadrant IV (this number may be very less in the first week). This indicates some improvement. Finally, there will be

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some concepts that have stayed in quadrant I. This implies that these are areas with which you are either completely uncomfortable or in which you may require additional practice.

Use the same break up of days for days 9 – 14 (based on the number of 5–star rated concepts left in each quadrant).

STEP 3

Give the third mock test on Day 15 and analyse it again.

By this time you would have got a clear idea on the areas that are definitely in Quadrants I, II, III and IV in your matrix.

Note that those areas that are still in quadrant I will not yield any practical benefit now.

At this stage, it may be a good idea to focus predominantly on concepts in quadrants II and III, and try to get as many of the concepts as possible from here into quadrant IV. You can also use this time to attempt the Topic Tests and Module Tests of the respective topics.

Prepare this matrix after each full length mock test (though the amount of movement between quadrants may decrease after the first 4 - 5 papers).

At any stage in your preparation, you can make use of the ask-a-doubt facility and get your queries answered from content experts at TestFunda.

Schedule:

WEEK	DAY	ACTIVITY
Week 1	1	Attempt & analyse iMHCET.01
	2	5-star concepts from quadrant III (Lessons & CPs)
	3	
	4	5-star concepts from Quadrant II (Lessons & CPs)
	5	
	6	5-star concepts from Quadrant IV (Lessons & CPs)
	7	5-star concepts from Quadrant I (Lessons & CPs)
Week 2	8	Attempt & analyse iMHCET.02
	9	5-star concepts from quadrant III (Lessons & CPs)*
	10	
	11	5-star concepts from Quadrant II (Lessons & CPs)*
	12	
	13	5-star concepts from Quadrant IV (Lessons & CPs)*
	14	5-star concepts from Quadrant I (Lessons & CPs)*

	15	Attempt & analyse iMHCET.03
Week 3	16	Attempt TTs of topics in Quadrants II, III & IV
	17	
	18	
	19	
	20	Attempt & analyse iMHCET.04
	21	Attempt TTs of topics in Quadrants III, II & IV
Week 4	22	
	23	
	24	Attempt & analyse iMHCET.05
	25	Attempt MTs of topics in Quadrants II, III & IV
	26	
	27	Attempt & analyse iMHCET.06
	28	Revise the topics in Quadrants III & IV
Week 5	29	Attempt & analyse iMHCET.07
	30	Attempt & analyse iMHCET.08

* If you have completed 5-star rated topics, you should move on to the 3-star rated topics.

General tips

1. Since the MHCET does not have any negative marking, you should ideally attempt ALL questions.
2. Start the paper with a question from the topics in quadrant IV – something you find easy and that you can solve quickly (Eg. Cloze passage). This is a good warm up exercise and will help boost your confidence levels.
3. Once you complete questions from your strong areas, move to the questions where your performance is moderate.
4. Leave the weak areas for the end. You can distribute the 200 questions as per the break up given below:

Time	Ideal number of attempts	Ideal Accuracy Level	Possible Marks
120 minutes	150	80%	120
20 minutes	25 – 30	60%	15
10 minutes	20 – 25	33% - 50%	8 – 12
TOTAL: 150 minutes	200		143 – 147