

Daily Practice — Legal Reasoning · Logical Reasoning · Quantitative Techniques

Every question is passage-based, CLAT-2026 grade. Darken one bubble. Negative marking applies. Full solutions with examiner notes are in the companion answer sheet.

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SECTION — LEGAL REASONING

LEGAL PRINCIPLE — INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW · WHAT IS NOT AN INVENTION: SECTIONS 3(D), 3(E) AND 3(I) OF THE PATENTS ACT (Q1–Q4)

Section 2(1)(j) of the Patents Act, 1970 defines an 'invention' as a new product or process involving an inventive step and capable of industrial application. Section 3 lists what is not an invention at all, however new it may be. Under Section 3(d), the mere discovery of a new form of a known substance which does not result in the enhancement of its known efficacy is not an invention; nor is the mere discovery of a new property or new use for a known substance, or the mere use of a known process unless it results in a new product or employs at least one new reactant. The Explanation to Section 3(d) deems salts, esters, ethers, polymorphs, metabolites, pure form, particle size, isomers, mixtures of isomers, complexes, combinations and other derivatives of a known substance to be the same substance, unless they differ significantly in properties with regard to efficacy. In *Novartis AG v Union of India* (2013), on the beta crystalline form of imatinib mesylate, the Supreme Court held that for a medicine 'efficacy' means therapeutic efficacy, applied strictly. Better flow, greater thermodynamic stability and lower hygroscopicity may ease manufacture and storage, but do not show enhanced therapeutic efficacy. Even increased bioavailability is not enough by itself: the applicant must claim and establish, by research data, that it results in enhanced therapeutic efficacy. Section 3(e) excludes a substance obtained by a mere admixture resulting only in the aggregation of the properties of its components; a combination whose components interact to produce a synergistic effect, greater than the sum of their separate effects, is not a mere admixture. Section 3(i) excludes any process for the medicinal, surgical, curative, prophylactic, diagnostic, therapeutic or other treatment of human beings or animals. Escaping Section 3 does not by itself make a claim patentable: it must still be new, inventive and capable of industrial application.

1. Pharmaxa Ltd once held a patent, now expired, on the compound velortan, which controls blood pressure. It applies for a patent on velortan citrate, a new salt of velortan that it has shown dissolves faster in manufacturing vats and stays stable for three years, instead of one, without refrigeration. The application contains no data on how patients respond to the citrate salt. Applying the principles in the passage, which one of the following is correct?

- ☐ A. The application should succeed, because a salt that is chemically distinct from its base compound is a new product and not a new form of it.
- ☐ B. The application should succeed, because a longer shelf life without refrigeration is itself an enhancement of the efficacy of a medicine.
- ☐ C. The application should fail, because the salt is deemed the same substance and nothing on record shows enhanced therapeutic efficacy.
- ☐ D. The application should fail, because Section 3(e) bars every product that is made by combining a known compound with another substance.

2. Kedar Pharma combines two known drugs, an analgesic and a muscle relaxant, in a single tablet. Its controlled trials show that the tablet relieves back pain to a degree markedly greater than the sum of the relief each drug gives alone at the same doses. The examiner objects under both Section 3(d) and Section 3(e). Which one of the following is the most accurate assessment?

- ☐ A. The objection under Section 3(e) fails, and that alone entitles Kedar to a patent, since a combination escaping Section 3 is patentable.
- ☐ B. The objection under Section 3(d) succeeds, since 'combinations' of known substances are deemed the same substance without exception.
- ☐ C. Both objections succeed, because each of the two drugs was already known and a tablet of known drugs cannot be a new product in law.
- ☐ D. Both objections can be met on this data, but the tablet must still be shown to be new, inventive and industrially applicable as well.

3. A chemical firm runs a well-known fermentation process, unchanged in every step, but feeds it a newly synthesised sugar that no one has used in that process before. The process yields a known vitamin in larger quantities than before. The firm claims the process. Which one of the following is correct under the principles in the passage?

- ☐ A. Section 3(d) excludes the claim, because the process yields a vitamin that is already known and so does not result in a new product.
- ☐ B. Section 3(d) does not exclude it, as the process employs a new reactant; novelty, inventive step and utility must still be proved.
- ☐ C. Section 3(d) excludes the claim, because a known process remains a known process whatever material is fed into it for the purpose.
- ☐ D. Section 3(i) excludes the claim, because a vitamin is a substance used for the prophylactic treatment of human beings and animals.

4. Orbis Labs applies for a patent on a new polymorph of a known anti-cancer compound. Its data show that the polymorph is absorbed into the bloodstream 30 per cent more than the known form, but it offers no evidence on patient outcomes. Its counsel argues that greater absorption must mean that the drug works better. On the principles in the passage, the patent office should:

- ☐ A. grant the patent, since a 30 per cent rise in absorption is a significant difference in properties with regard to the efficacy of the drug
- ☐ B. grant the patent, since a polymorph is a distinct crystal structure and the Explanation to Section 3(d) does not extend to polymorphs
- ☐ C. refuse the patent unless Orbis establishes by research data that the higher absorption results in enhanced therapeutic effect
- ☐ D. refuse the patent outright, since a new form of a known substance can never qualify as an invention under the Patents Act



LEGAL PRINCIPLE — CONSUMER PROTECTION LAW · CONSUMERS, PRODUCT LIABILITY AND FORUM UNDER THE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT, 2019 (Q5-Q9)

The Consumer Protection Act, 2019 protects a 'consumer', defined in Section 2(7) as a person who buys goods, or hires or avails of services, for a consideration paid or promised, or under any system of deferred payment, whether offline or online, including teleshopping, direct selling and multi-level marketing, and it includes a user of the goods or a beneficiary of the services with the buyer's approval. It excludes a person who obtains goods for resale or for any commercial purpose, and a person who avails of services for any commercial purpose. By the Explanation, 'commercial purpose' does not include use of goods bought and used by a person exclusively for earning his livelihood by means of self-employment. In *Lilavati Kirtilal Mehta Medical Trust v Unique Shanti Developers* (2019) the Supreme Court asked whether the dominant purpose of the transaction was to facilitate profit generation: a purchase with a close and direct nexus to a profit-generating activity is commercial. Chapter VI creates product liability. A product manufacturer is liable if the product has a manufacturing defect, is defective in design, deviates from manufacturing specifications, does not conform to an express warranty, or lacks adequate instructions or warnings; under Section 84(2) he is liable even if he proves that he was not negligent or fraudulent in making the express warranty. A product seller who is not the manufacturer is liable in specified cases, including where the manufacturer's identity is not known, or where he failed to exercise reasonable care in assembling, inspecting or maintaining the product. No action lies against a product seller if, at the time of harm, the product was misused, altered or modified. In a failure-to-warn action, the manufacturer is not liable where the product was legally meant to be used or dispensed only by or under the supervision of an expert and he employed reasonable means to give the warnings to such experts. 'Harm' includes personal injury, illness or death, damage to property other than the product itself, and attendant mental agony, but excludes harm to the product itself and any commercial or economic loss. Under rules notified in 2021, a District Commission hears complaints where the value of the goods or services paid as consideration does not exceed Rs 50 lakh, a State Commission where it exceeds Rs 50 lakh but not Rs 2 crore, and the National Commission above Rs 2 crore; the compensation claimed does not decide the forum.

5. Harpreet buys an autorickshaw on monthly instalments. She drives it herself, carrying fare-paying passengers, and it is her family's only source of income; she employs no one. The engine fails repeatedly within weeks. When she complains, the dealer says she is not a consumer because the vehicle is used to earn money. Which one of the following is correct?

- ☐ A. She is not a consumer, since the vehicle carries fare-paying passengers and so has a close and direct nexus with earning a profit.
- ☐ B. She is a consumer, since the vehicle was bought and used by her exclusively to earn her livelihood by means of self-employment.
- ☐ C. She is not a consumer, since goods bought on instalments are not bought for a consideration that was fully paid at the time of sale.
- ☐ D. She is a consumer only if she shows that she earns no more from the vehicle than the minimum wage fixed for drivers of such vehicles.

6. Manish pays Rs 45 lakh for a luxury car for his family's personal use. It has a serious manufacturing defect, and he files a complaint claiming a refund of Rs 45 lakh together with Rs 1.8 crore as compensation for mental agony and harassment. The manufacturer objects that he has approached the wrong forum. Which forum has pecuniary jurisdiction over the complaint?

- ☐ A. The National Commission, because the total amount claimed, Rs 2.25 crore, is more than the Rs 2 crore ceiling for a State Commission.
- ☐ B. The State Commission, because the compensation of Rs 1.8 crore claimed by him lies between the limits of Rs 50 lakh and Rs 2 crore.
- ☐ C. The District Commission for the refund of the price alone, with the claim for compensation to be filed separately before a higher forum.
- ☐ D. The District Commission, because the value of the goods paid as consideration, Rs 45 lakh, does not exceed the limit of Rs 50 lakh.

7. A company sells a glass kettle labelled 'Guaranteed shatterproof up to 150 degrees C'. At 100 degrees C the glass shatters and scalds Tanvi. In her product liability action, the company proves that it tested every batch with great care and that the flaw arose from a microscopic impurity that no known test could have detected. Which one of the following is correct?

- ☐ A. The company is liable, because the kettle did not conform to its express warranty, and care in making that warranty is no defence.
- ☐ B. The company is not liable, because it has proved that it was not negligent, and liability under the Act rests on proof of negligence.
- ☐ C. The company is not liable, because an undetectable impurity is a risk that every buyer of a glass kettle ought to know about in advance.
- ☐ D. The company is liable only if Tanvi proves that the testing it carried out on each batch fell short of the prevailing industry standard.

8. Sunil buys an unbranded room heater from Deepa's shop; neither Deepa nor anyone else can trace who made it. Because of faulty internal wiring, the heater's own coil burns out, the fire spreads to Sunil's curtains, and Sunil suffers burns to his hand. Sunil brings a product liability action against Deepa. Which one of the following is correct?

- ☐ A. Deepa is not liable at all, because a product seller is liable only where she has herself altered or modified the product that she sold.
- ☐ B. Deepa is liable for the heater, the curtains and Sunil's burns, because each of these losses flowed directly from the defective wiring.
- ☐ C. Deepa is liable for the curtains and Sunil's burns but not for the heater itself, because harm to the product itself is not 'harm'.
- ☐ D. Deepa is liable for Sunil's burns alone, because damage to property of any kind falls outside the meaning of 'harm' in such actions.

9. Relifen is a drug that may lawfully be dispensed only on a doctor's prescription. It can cause sudden drowsiness, and its manufacturer printed a clear warning against driving in the prescribing information sent to every doctor and pharmacist. Dr Kulkarni prescribed Relifen to Anil without mentioning the warning; Anil drove soon after a dose, dozed off and was injured. Anil sues the manufacturer solely for failure to warn him. Which one of the following is correct?

- ☐ A. The manufacturer is not liable, since the drug was meant to be dispensed under expert supervision and the experts were duly warned.
- ☐ B. The manufacturer is liable, since a warning is adequate only if it actually reaches the very person who finally consumes product.
- ☐ C. The manufacturer is liable, since the Act holds a manufacturer liable even when he proves that he was not negligent in



- ☐ D. The manufacturer is not liable, since a prescription drug is a product excluded altogether from product liability under the Act.

SECTION — LOGICAL REASONING

LOGICAL REASONING — PARALLEL REASONING · FOUR ARGUMENTS FROM THE DEBATING SOCIETY'S MANUAL (Q10–Q13)

The coaching manual of a school debating society reproduces four arguments that members submitted during a practice round, so that juniors can study how each one is built. Argument I: Any bill that clears the select committee is debated on the floor of the House. The water-sharing bill was not debated on the floor of the House. So the water-sharing bill did not clear the select committee. Argument II: Every candidate who campaigns door to door wins her ward. Meera did not campaign door to door. So Meera will not win her ward. Argument III: Most members who attend the weekend workshops improve their scores, and most members who improve their scores win a trophy. So most members who attend the weekend workshops win a trophy. Argument IV: Only students who have paid the annual fee may vote in the society's election. Arjun has paid the annual fee. So Arjun may vote in the society's election. The manual notes that exactly one of the four arguments is logically valid, and it asks juniors to match each argument with another argument that has the same pattern of reasoning, whatever its subject matter.

10. Which one of the following is most similar in its pattern of reasoning to Argument I?

- ☐ A. Any bill that clears the select committee is debated on the floor. The seed bill was debated on the floor. So the seed bill cleared the committee.
- ☐ B. Every pharmacy that stocks the vaccine is inspected each month. The Mall Road pharmacy does not stock it. So it is not inspected each month.
- ☐ C. Some pharmacies that stock the vaccine hold a cold-chain licence. The Mall Road pharmacy holds no such licence. So it does not stock the vaccine.
- ☐ D. A pharmacy may stock the vaccine only if it holds a cold-chain licence. The Mall Road pharmacy holds no such licence. So it does not stock it.

11. Which one of the following exhibits the same flawed pattern of reasoning as Argument II?

- ☐ A. Every tenant who pays the rent late is fined by the society. Ravi was not fined by the society. So Ravi did not pay his rent late this month.
- ☐ B. Only tenants who have signed the new lease may keep a pet. Ravi keeps a pet in his flat. So Ravi must have signed the new lease this year.
- ☐ C. Every tenant who installs solar panels receives a rebate. Ravi did not install solar panels. So Ravi will not receive a rebate this year.
- ☐ D. Every tenant who receives a rebate has installed solar panels. Ravi has installed solar panels. So Ravi will receive a rebate this year.

12. Which one of the following is most closely parallel in its reasoning to Argument III?

- ☐ A. Most of the firm's lawyers are graduates of national law schools, and all of its partners are lawyers. So most of its partners are such graduates.
- ☐ B. Most of the town's cyclists wear helmets, and most of those who wear helmets avoid serious injury. So most of the town's cyclists avoid serious injury.
- ☐ C. Most of the town's cyclists wear helmets, and all of those who wear helmets avoid serious injury. So most of the town's cyclists avoid serious injury.
- ☐ D. Some of the town's cyclists wear helmets, and some of those who wear helmets avoid serious injury. So some of the town's cyclists do avoid serious injury.

13. Which one of the following is most similar in its flawed reasoning to Argument IV?

- ☐ A. A tenant may renew the lease only if she has cleared all her dues. Kavya has cleared all her dues. So Kavya may renew the lease.
- ☐ B. A tenant may renew the lease only if she has cleared all her dues. Kavya has not cleared all her dues. So Kavya may not renew it.
- ☐ C. Any tenant who clears all her dues may renew the lease. Kavya has not cleared all her dues. So Kavya may not renew the lease.
- ☐ D. Any tenant who clears all her dues may renew the lease. Kavya may not renew the lease. So Kavya has not cleared all her dues.

LOGICAL REASONING — METHOD / BOLD-FACE FUNCTION · THE CONGESTION CHARGE AND THE RING ROAD (Q14–Q17)

(S1) The municipal corporation of Tarangpur claims that the congestion charge it imposed last year on private cars entering the old market district has cut car traffic in the district by about a quarter. (S2) As evidence, it cites camera counts showing 26 per cent fewer cars crossing into the district in the six months after the charge began than in the same six months a year earlier. (S3) Critics reply that the same six months saw a new metro line open to the district and a steep nationwide rise in fuel prices, either of which could have kept cars away. (S4) If those two changes, rather than the charge, were responsible for the fall, then traffic on the uncharged ring road that skirts the district, which is used by the same commuters and is equally exposed to the rise in fuel prices, should have fallen by a similar proportion. (S5) Instead, ring-road counts rose by 9 per cent over the same period. (S6) The corporation's figures alone could not have settled the matter, but it is now reasonable to conclude that the charge, and not the metro or the price of fuel, accounts for most of the fall.

14. Which one of the following most accurately describes the role played in the argument by S3?

- ☐ A. It states the main conclusion of the argument, which the remaining sentences are all offered in order to support.
- ☐ B. It presents rival explanations for the evidence in S2, which the argument then goes on to test and largely reject.
- ☐ C. It supplies further evidence that the author uses to reinforce the corporation's own reading of the figures in S2.
- ☐ D. It reports considerations that the author concedes fully undermine the conclusion that the corporation draws in S1.

15. S2 and S6 are related in which one of the following ways?

- ☐ A. S6 acknowledges that the evidence in S2 was insufficient on its own, while endorsing the claim that it was cited to support.
- ☐ B. S6 rejects the evidence in S2 as unreliable, and reaches its conclusion entirely on independent grounds that are supplied elsewhere.
- ☐ C. S6 restates the evidence in S2 in general terms, and adds nothing to it beyond a brief summary of the camera counts made.
- ☐ D. S6 treats the evidence in S2 as decisive by itself, and on that basis dismisses the critics' objections as quite irrelevant.



16. Which one of the following most accurately describes the relationship between S4 and S5?

- ☐ A. S4 states the author's main conclusion, and S5 presents the single most important piece of evidence that is offered in support of it.
- ☐ B. S4 states a prediction of the corporation's own hypothesis, and S5 reports an observation that confirms that very prediction.
- ☐ C. S4 concedes a weakness in the corporation's case, and S5 reports a finding that the author admits makes the weakness worse.
- ☐ D. S4 derives a prediction from the critics' hypothesis, and S5 reports an observation that is inconsistent with that prediction.

17. The method of the argument as a whole is best described as:

- ☐ A. establishing a causal claim by showing that the proposed cause preceded the effect in every one of the cases examined
- ☐ B. undermining a causal claim by showing that the evidence offered for it was gathered during an unrepresentative period
- ☐ C. supporting a causal claim by using a comparison case to test, and discount, competing explanations of the same data
- ☐ D. rejecting a causal claim by pointing out that the same data are equally consistent with two different alternative causes

SECTION — QUANTITATIVE TECHNIQUES

QUANT — AGRICULTURE & FOOD · MENSURATION IN CONTEXT · STORAGE AND WATER ON THE SUNDARVAN FARM (Q18–Q21)

The Sundarvan farm cooperative is planning storage and irrigation for the coming season. Take $\pi = 22/7$ throughout. Its grain silo has an internal radius of 3.5 m and a cylindrical wall 10 m high, capped by a conical roof of vertical height 1.2 m; at harvest, wheat fills both the cylinder and the roof cone. Wheat weighs 0.75 tonne per cubic metre and is dispatched in 50 kg bags. A canal passes the farm with a trapezoidal cross-section: the water surface is 2.4 m wide, the bed is 1.6 m wide and the water is 1.5 m deep. Water flows at 3 km/h, and the cooperative may divert one-quarter of the flow to its 45-hectare wheat block, which needs standing water 8 cm deep (1 hectare = 10,000 square metres). In one corner of a separate 100 m by 80 m vegetable plot, a tank 20 m long, 16 m wide and 4 m deep is to be dug. Dug earth bulks up by 20 per cent in volume, and all of it is to be spread evenly over the rest of the plot. Finally, a 210 m by 140 m paddy field is to be watered by a centre-pivot sprinkler whose arm, 70 m long, is fixed at the centre of the field and sweeps a full circle.

18. How many 50 kg bags are needed to dispatch one full silo of wheat?

- ☐ A. 6,006
- ☐ B. 5,775
- ☐ C. 6,468
- ☐ D. 6,237

19. How long will the diverted flow take to cover the 45-hectare wheat block with water 8 cm deep?

- ☐ A. 13 hours 20 minutes
- ☐ B. 20 hours
- ☐ C. 16 hours
- ☐ D. 4 hours

20. By how much will the level of the rest of the vegetable plot rise after the earth from the tank is spread over it?

- ☐ A. 16.67 cm
- ☐ B. 20 cm
- ☐ C. 19.2 cm
- ☐ D. 16 cm

21. What area of the paddy field lies outside the reach of the centre-pivot sprinkler?

- ☐ A. 1.54 hectares
- ☐ B. 0.42 hectares
- ☐ C. 2.94 hectares
- ☐ D. 1.40 hectares

QUANT — TECHNOLOGY & STARTUPS · TIME-SPEED-DISTANCE · SKYPARCEL'S DRONES AND DATA LINKS (Q22–Q25)

Skyparcel, a drone-delivery start-up, is testing its operations. (i) A delivery drone flies at an airspeed of 60 km/h. A customer lies 12 km due east of the hub, and a steady wind blows from the east at 12 km/h throughout, so the drone flies into the wind going out and with it coming back. It hovers for 3 minutes to lower the parcel. (ii) On a still day, drone A leaves the hub at 10:00 and flies at 54 km/h along a straight corridor towards the warehouse, 45 km away; drone B leaves the warehouse at 10:10 and flies along the same corridor towards the hub at 36 km/h. (iii) Each evening the start-up uploads a 3.6 GB flight-log file (1 GB = 1,000 MB and 1 byte = 8 bits) by splitting it across two links rated at 100 Mbps and 60 Mbps; each link delivers only 90 per cent of its rated speed as useful data, and the split is chosen so that both parts finish at the same moment. (iv) A survey drone has 30 minutes of usable battery and an airspeed of 40 km/h. It must fly straight out from the hub into a 10 km/h headwind and return along the same line, the wind being steady.

22. In situation (i), what is the drone's average ground speed over the time it spends flying on the round trip, excluding the hover?

- ☐ A. 60 km/h
- ☐ B. 51.4 km/h
- ☐ C. 57.6 km/h
- ☐ D. 48 km/h

23. In situation (ii), when and where do the two drones meet?

- ☐ A. At 10:30, 27.0 km from the hub
- ☐ B. At 10:34, 30.6 km from the hub
- ☐ C. At 10:36, 32.4 km from the hub
- ☐ D. At 10:34, 21.6 km from the hub

24. In situation (iii), how long does the upload take?

- ☐ A. 3 minutes 20 seconds
- ☐ B. 3 minutes 00 seconds
- ☐ C. 5 minutes 20 seconds
- ☐ D. 4 minutes 27 seconds

25. In situation (iv), what is the greatest distance from the hub that the survey drone can reach and still return on its usable battery?

- ☐ A. 10 km
- ☐ B. 7.5 km
- ☐ C. 12.5 km
- ☐ D. 9.375 km

