

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 — ADMINISTRATIVE LAW · NATURAL JUSTICE, LEGITIMATE EXPECTATION AND THE STANDARD OF REVIEW (Q1-Q4)

Administrative action affecting a person's rights or legitimate interests must satisfy the rules of natural justice. The first rule, audi alteram partem, requires that he be told the case against him and heard before an adverse order. In *Ridge v Baldwin* (1964) a chief constable dismissed without notice or hearing obtained relief, the older view that the duty arose only in judicial functions being rejected; in *Maneka Gandhi v Union of India* (1978) the Supreme Court read the same requirement into Article 21. The second rule, nemo iudex in causa sua, forbids bias. A pecuniary interest, however small, disqualifies automatically. For every other interest the test is whether a reasonable person would apprehend a real likelihood of bias; proof of actual prejudice is not required. In *A.K. Kraipak v Union of India* (1969) a selection fell because a candidate sat on the board selecting him, though he withdrew when his own name came up; the Court held that the distinction between administrative and quasi-judicial functions had worn thin, and that the duty to act fairly attaches to both. Where every available authority is disqualified, the doctrine of necessity allows it to act rather than leave the matter undecided. A settled practice or clear representation may create a legitimate expectation; it entitles the holder to a hearing before the authority departs from it, but yields to an overriding public interest and does not freeze policy. On merits, ordinary decisions are tested for *Wednesbury* unreasonableness, whether the decision is so outrageous that no sensible authority could have reached it; a restriction on a fundamental right instead attracts proportionality, under which the measure must pursue a legitimate aim, be suitable, be the least restrictive alternative, and strike a fair balance.

1. Rehan chairs a tender committee that awards a contract to Vayu Ltd, in which he holds twelve shares worth about Rs 900. He voted against Vayu, and the file shows its bid was objectively the best. Applying the passage, the award is:

- ☐ A. Sound, because no actual prejudice appears and Rehan voted against the successful bidder.
- ☐ B. Sound, because an interest so small raises no real likelihood of bias in anyone.
- ☐ C. Vitiating, because a pecuniary interest disqualifies automatically, without proof of prejudice.
- ☐ D. Vitiating, because necessity applies only where no other authority is available to decide the matter.

2. For eleven years the Board renewed handloom stalls yearly at the same fee. After hearing the stallholders it now withdraws the scheme entirely, to convert the site into a flood-relief depot following a hazard report recorded by a court. Applying the passage, the withdrawal:

- ☐ A. It fails, because eleven years of renewal ripen into a vested right in renewal.
- ☐ B. It fails, because legitimate expectation entitles the stallholders to renewal and not merely to a hearing.
- ☐ C. It succeeds, because a legitimate expectation arises only from an express written promise.
- ☐ D. It succeeds, because the hearing was given and the expectation yields to overriding public interest.

3. A rule bars anyone convicted of any offence, however trivial, from holding a permit to sell books outside the High Court. Ilyas, once fined for a traffic lapse, says it unreasonably restricts his Article 19(1)(g) right. On the passage, the court should:

- ☐ A. Uphold it unless it is so outrageous that no sensible authority could have made it.
- ☐ B. Ask whether the blanket bar is the least restrictive means and strikes a fair balance.
- ☐ C. Strike it down, because proportionality demands that a restriction be the only conceivable measure.
- ☐ D. Decline to review the merits, asking only whether the maker had power to act.

4. A statute gives one three-member tribunal, and only that tribunal, the power to hear appeals against pension orders. All three members are alumni of the appellant college, which is urged as a ground of apprehended bias. On the passage, the tribunal:

- ☐ A. It must hear the appeal, since necessity permits a disqualified but sole authority to act.
- ☐ B. It must refuse the appeal, since a real likelihood of bias disqualifies the tribunal absolutely.
- ☐ C. It must hear the appeal, since bias matters only where actual pecuniary gain is proved.
- ☐ D. It must send the appeal to a civil court, since natural justice overrides the statute.

LEGAL PRINCIPLE — INTERNATIONAL LAW · SOURCES, RECEPTION AND RESPONSIBILITY IN INTERNATIONAL LAW (Q5-Q8)

Article 38(1) of the Statute of the International Court of Justice lists what the Court applies: international conventions; international custom, as evidence of a general practice accepted as law; the general principles of law recognised by nations; and, subsidiarily, judicial decisions and the teachings of publicists. Custom has two elements: a general and consistent practice of States, and *opinio juris*, the belief that it is legally obligatory. A State objecting clearly and consistently from the outset is a persistent objector, not bound once the rule crystallises. That escape is unavailable against a peremptory norm: Article 53 of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties, 1969 voids a treaty conflicting with a norm from which no derogation is permitted. Treaties bind only their parties; custom binds every State except a persistent objector. Whether a treaty operates inside a State depends on its constitution; India is dualist. Article 51(c) merely directs the State to foster respect for international law and treaty obligations, and as a Directive Principle is not enforceable; Article 253 empowers Parliament to legislate to implement a treaty. An unimplemented treaty confers no right enforceable against clear statutory language, though courts use it to read ambiguous statutes and to give content to Article 21. Under State responsibility a wrongful act needs conduct attributable to the State and a breach of its obligation. An organ's conduct is attributable even if it exceeds authority or disobeys instructions; private conduct is attributable only where the State directs or controls it. Under



1982, measured from the baselines, the territorial sea extends twelve nautical miles, the contiguous zone twenty-four, and the exclusive economic zone two hundred.

5. From the first proposals onward, Calvaria openly and consistently rejected an emerging rule restricting deep-seabed mining. The rule has now hardened into custom, but it is not a peremptory norm. Applying the passage, Calvaria is:

- ☐ A. Bound, because custom binds every State once a general practice accepted as law exists.
- ☐ B. Bound, because an objection not recorded in a treaty cannot defeat a customary rule.
- ☐ C. Not bound, because it persistently objected to a rule that is not peremptory.
- ☐ D. Not bound, because seabed mining falls outside the sources listed in Article 38(1).

6. India ratifies a convention requiring compensation for oil-spill victims, and Parliament has not legislated on it. A statute already in force clearly caps such compensation. Fisherfolk sue relying on the convention alone.

Applying the passage, a court will:

- ☐ A. The convention prevails, because Article 51(c) makes ratified treaty obligations directly enforceable.
- ☐ B. The statute prevails, because an unimplemented treaty cannot override clear statutory language.
- ☐ C. The convention prevails, because Article 253 itself converts every ratified treaty into law.
- ☐ D. The convention is irrelevant even to interpretation, India being a dualist State throughout.

7. Coastguard officers of Naurava, expressly ordered never to enter foreign waters, cross into Sedris's territorial sea and sink a trawler. Separately, a mob of Naurava's citizens, acting on its own, burns Sedris's consulate.

Applying the passage:

- ☐ A. Both are attributable, a State answering for its organs and its nationals alike.
- ☐ B. Neither is attributable, the officers having disobeyed orders and the mob being private.
- ☐ C. Only the mob's act is attributable, the officers having ceased to be organs.
- ☐ D. Only the officers' act is attributable, private conduct needing State direction or control.

8. A vessel is intercepted 150 nautical miles from Sedris's baselines. Sedris justifies the seizure under a bilateral treaty it has with Naurava alone. The vessel flies the flag of Calvaria, which is not a party to that treaty. Applying the passage:

- ☐ A. The point lies in the exclusive economic zone, and treaties bind only their parties.
- ☐ B. The point lies in the contiguous zone, and UNCLOS zones are opposable to all States.
- ☐ C. The point lies beyond every UNCLOS zone, so Sedris may not interfere at all.
- ☐ D. The point lies in the territorial sea, where sovereignty covers all foreign vessels.

SECTION — LOGICAL REASONING

LOGICAL REASONING — PRINCIPLE APPLICATION · THE ARAVIND TRUST AND ITS FOUR PRINCIPLES (Q9-Q12)

The Aravind Trust finances the restoration of old buildings. Its charter binds it to four principles from which it may not depart.

Principle I: A grant may be made only to a building at least one hundred years old on the date of application and still in use by the public.

Principle II: No grant may be made where the applicant has, within the five years preceding the application, demolished any part of a protected building, unless the demolition was ordered by a court or was necessary to save life.

Principle III: Where two eligible applications compete for a fund that can finance only one, the Trust must prefer the building serving the larger number of daily users, unless the other faces an imminent risk of collapse, in which case it must prefer that other building.

Principle IV: A grant must be revoked if the recipient changes the use of the building within three years of sanction, except where the change is temporary and made at the written request of the district administration.

9. The Sarvodaya Reading Room is ninety-eight years old on the date of its application and is open to the public every day of the week. Its trustees have never demolished any part of any protected building. On the principles, the Trust:

- ☐ A. It may be funded, since near-century public use serves the purpose of Principle I.
- ☐ B. It must be refused, since Principle I requires one hundred years on the application date.
- ☐ C. It must be refused, since a daily-access reading room is not in public use.
- ☐ D. It may be funded, since Principle II is met and its record of preservation is unblemished.

10. Four years ago Mira pulled down a wall of a protected haveli after the fire service warned that it was about to fall on a queue of schoolchildren. No court had ordered the demolition. She now applies for a grant for a different protected building. On the principles:

- ☐ A. She is barred, since Principle II excuses only a demolition ordered by a court.
- ☐ B. She is barred, since the demolition concerned a building other than this applicant's.
- ☐ C. She is not barred, since the demolition was necessary to save life.
- ☐ D. She is not barred, since Principle II looks only at the preceding three years.

11. Two eligible applications compete for the last of a fund that can finance only one. The Tanvi Baths serve 900 users daily and engineers certify that its dome may fall at any time. The Ghosh Library serves 1,400 users daily and is sound. The Trust must fund:

- ☐ A. The Ghosh Library, the daily-user test being the primary and controlling rule here.
- ☐ B. The Tanvi Baths, an imminent risk of collapse displacing the larger-user preference.
- ☐ C. Either of them, Principle III leaving the final choice to the Trust's discretion.
- ☐ D. Neither of them, Principle III requiring both buildings to face comparable collapse risk.



12. A year after its grant was sanctioned, the Anandpur Pavilion was used for four weeks as a cyclone shelter at the written request of the district administration, and was then returned to its ordinary use. On the principles, the grant:

- ☐ A. It must be revoked, since Principle IV commands revocation on any change within three years.
- ☐ B. It must be revoked, since the district administration cannot authorise a change of use.
- ☐ C. It stands, since the change was temporary and made at the administration's written request.
- ☐ D. It stands, since Principle IV applies only where the changed use yields commercial profit.

LOGICAL REASONING — ANALYTICAL (IN-PASSAGE) · FIVE SPEAKERS AT THE MOOT SOCIETY ORIENTATION (Q13–Q16)

Five students of the Aravali Moot Society are to address the orientation. They are Bina, Farid, Gauri, Karan and Neel. Exactly one of them speaks in each of five consecutive slots, numbered one to five, and no student speaks twice. The convenor has drawn up the order so that all four of the following conditions are satisfied at once.

Condition 1: Gauri speaks in the slot immediately before Neel's slot.

Condition 2: Bina speaks neither in the first slot nor in the fifth slot.

Condition 3: Farid speaks in a slot numbered lower than Karan's slot.

Condition 4: Karan does not speak in the slot immediately after Bina's slot.

Answer each of the questions below using only the four conditions set out above. Where a question supplies an additional fact, or asks you to replace one of the conditions, treat that instruction as operating in addition to, or in place of, the stated conditions for that question alone, and not for any of the other questions on this passage.

13. Which one of the following must be true of the convenor's order?

- ☐ A. Bina speaks either in the second slot or in the third slot.
- ☐ B. Farid speaks in the first slot of the orientation programme.
- ☐ C. Karan speaks in the fifth and last slot of the programme.
- ☐ D. Gauri speaks in a slot numbered lower than Bina's slot.

14. If Karan speaks in the second slot, which one of the following must be true?

- ☐ A. Bina speaks in the second slot of the programme.
- ☐ B. Gauri speaks in the third slot of the programme.
- ☐ C. Farid speaks in the fourth slot of the programme.
- ☐ D. Neel speaks in the fifth slot of the programme.

15. Which one of the following could be true of the convenor's order?

- ☐ A. Gauri speaks in the second slot of the programme.
- ☐ B. Neel speaks in the third slot of the programme.
- ☐ C. Farid speaks in the slot immediately before Karan's slot.
- ☐ D. Karan speaks in the third slot of the programme.

16. Suppose Condition 3 is replaced by the condition that Karan speaks in a slot numbered lower than Farid's slot, the other three conditions remaining as they are. How many orders are then possible?

- ☐ A. Exactly three orders satisfy all four conditions.
- ☐ B. Exactly four orders satisfy all four conditions.
- ☐ C. Exactly six orders satisfy all four conditions.
- ☐ D. Exactly five orders satisfy all four conditions.

SECTION — QUANTITATIVE TECHNIQUES

QUANT — ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE · PROFIT-LOSS-INTEREST · NIRMAL URJA: COSTS, LABELS AND BORROWINGS (Q17–Q21)

Nirmal Urja is a small company in the town of Sarayganj that makes four products for households trying to cut their fuel, power and water bills. The table shows, for the financial year just closed, the company's cost per unit, the marked price it prints on the label, and the number of units it sold. The company ordinarily sells at the marked price, but during festival weeks it offers a discount calculated on the marked price. To buy a moulding machine, Nirmal Urja borrowed Rs 8,00,000 from a co-operative bank at 12% per annum for two years, and the bank offers the loan either on simple interest or on interest compounded annually. Separately, the company placed Rs 2,50,000 out of a clean-energy grant in a deposit that pays 8% per annum as simple interest. All money figures are in rupees, and profit is always reckoned on cost price.

Product	Cost per unit (Rs)	Marked price (Rs)	Units sold
Solar lantern	480	720	1,250
Biogas burner	1,500	2,100	400
Compost bin	250	400	2,000
Rain barrel	900	1,260	600

17. During a festival week the solar lantern is sold at a discount of 10% on its marked price. What is Nirmal Urja's profit per cent on each lantern so sold?

- ☐ A. 35%
- ☐ B. 32%
- ☐ C. 28%
- ☐ D. 40%

18. Nirmal Urja wants the compost bin to yield a profit of exactly 20% on cost. What discount per cent c



marked price of the compost bin will produce that result?

- ☐ A. 20% ☐ B. 30%
☐ C. 37.5% ☐ D. 25%

19. For the loan of Rs 8,00,000 at 12% per annum for two years, by how much does the interest payable on annual compounding exceed the interest payable on simple interest?

- ☐ A. Rs 9,600 ☐ B. Rs 11,520
☐ C. Rs 12,800 ☐ D. Rs 10,240

20. The marked price of the biogas burner is raised by 10% and the burner is then sold at a discount of 20% on that raised marked price. What is the profit or loss per cent on each such sale?

- ☐ A. A loss of 12% on the cost
☐ B. A profit of 26.4% on the cost
☐ C. A profit of 23.2% on the cost
☐ D. A profit of 20.8% on the cost

21. After how many years will the deposit of Rs 2,50,000 that pays 8% per annum as simple interest amount to Rs 3,30,000?

- ☐ A. Four years
☐ B. Three years
☐ C. Five years
☐ D. Four and a half years

QUANT — SPORTS & TOURNAMENTS · PERCENTAGE CHANGE · TWO SEASONS OF THE ANANTARA FOOTBALL LEAGUE (Q22-Q25)

The Anantara Football League has four clubs. The table shows the goals each club scored and the total home attendance it drew in the 2024 and the 2025 seasons. Every club played the same number of matches in both seasons, so the two seasons' goal tallies may be compared directly without any adjustment. The attendance figures are season totals across that club's home matches. The league separately publishes a win rate for each club, meaning the percentage of its matches that the club won: Meridian FC won 40% of its matches in 2024 and 55% of its matches in 2025. The league handbook warns commentators that a movement measured in percentage points is not the same as a percentage change, and that a fall of a given percentage is not undone by a rise of the same percentage.

Club	Goals 2024	Goals 2025	Attendance 2024	Attendance 2025
Meridian FC	48	60	12,500	14,000
Harbour United	75	60	18,000	16,200
Crestline Rovers	40	46	9,600	11,520
Ironvale SC	55	44	22,000	24,200

22. By what per cent did Meridian FC's goal tally change from the 2024 season to the 2025 season?

- ☐ A. It fell by 20% ☐ B. It rose by 20%
☐ C. It rose by 12.5% ☐ D. It rose by 25%

23. Taking the size of the change without regard to its direction, which club's home attendance changed by the largest percentage between the two seasons?

- ☐ A. Crestline Rovers ☐ B. Harbour United
☐ C. Meridian FC ☐ D. Ironvale SC

24. Ironvale SC's goal tally fell from 2024 to 2025. If its 2026 tally were 25% above its 2025 tally, how would the 2026 tally compare with the 2024 tally?

- ☐ A. It would be 5% above it
☐ B. It would be 5% below it
☐ C. It would be exactly equal to it
☐ D. It would be 1.25% above it

25. Which one of the following states Meridian FC's win rate movement from 2024 to 2025 correctly?

- ☐ A. It rose by 15%, which is also a rise of 15 percentage points on the 2024 rate.
☐ B. It rose by 15 percentage points, which is a rise of 37.5% on the 2024 rate.
☐ C. It rose by 37.5 percentage points, which is a rise of 15% on the 2024 rate.
☐ D. It rose by 15 percentage points, which is a rise of 27.3% on the 2024 rate.

RAPID FIRE — ONE-LINE RECALL

14 quick questions · not negatively marked

- Which 1964 House of Lords decision buried the view that natural justice applied only to 'judicial' functions? _____
- In A.K. Kraipak (1969), what vitiated the selection? _____
- State the Wednesbury test in one line. _____
- Name the four prongs of the proportionality test. _____
- Which Article of the ICJ Statute lists the sources of international law? _____
- What are the two elements of customary international law? _____
- Which Article of the Vienna Convention, 1969 voids a treaty conflicting with a peremptory norm? _____
- Which Article empowers Parliament to legislate to implement a treaty? _____
- Under UNCLOS, 1982, how far do the territorial sea, contiguous zone and EEZ extend from the baselines? _____
- Is the conduct of a State organ that exceeds its authority attributable to the State? _____
- Which 1978 Supreme Court decision accepted a post-decisional hearing after a passport was impounded? _____
- Name the maxim that forbids a person from being a judge in his own cause. _____
- What does 'audi alteram partem' require? _____
- Two limbs of natural justice? _____

