

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 — · (Q1–Q4)

The Constitution of India guarantees fundamental rights to every person under Part III. Article 13 declares that any law inconsistent with or in abridgment of fundamental rights shall, to the extent of that inconsistency, be void. The Supreme Court in *Kesavananda Bharati v. State of Kerala* (1973) held that while Parliament possesses power to amend the Constitution under Article 368, it cannot alter the basic structure of the Constitution. Article 19 guarantees six freedoms including freedom of speech and expression, freedom to assemble peaceably, and freedom to practise any profession or carry on any occupation. These freedoms may be restricted by reasonable restrictions imposed by the State on specified grounds such as public order, decency, or morality. Article 21 provides that no person shall be deprived of life or personal liberty except according to procedure established by law. The Supreme Court in *Maneka Gandhi v. Union of India* (1978) expanded this to require that such procedure be fair, just, and reasonable. Article 32 confers the right to move the Supreme Court for enforcement of fundamental rights, and this right is itself a fundamental right. High Courts may issue writs under Article 226 for enforcement of both fundamental rights and other legal rights, making their jurisdiction broader than that of the Supreme Court.

1. A State law prohibits citizens from peacefully assembling to protest government policy. A citizen challenges the law. The substantive fundamental right primarily violated is:

- ☐ A. Article 21 — the right to life and personal liberty, since protest involves personal expression beyond mere movement.
- ☐ B. Article 13 — the provision that renders laws abridging fundamental rights void, making this the operative challenge.
- ☐ C. Article 32 — the right to constitutional remedies, since the citizen is seeking to enforce a right before the Supreme Court.
- ☐ D. Article 19(1)(b) — the freedom to assemble peaceably, subject only to reasonable restrictions on specified grounds.

2. Parliament amends the Constitution to remove the right to move the Supreme Court for enforcement of fundamental rights. Applying the basic structure doctrine, this amendment is:

- ☐ A. Valid — Article 368 grants Parliament plenary power to amend any provision of the Constitution.
- ☐ B. Valid — but only if ratified by more than half of the State legislatures as required for certain amendments.
- ☐ C. Invalid — Article 32 is itself a fundamental right that forms part of the basic structure the amendment power cannot destroy.
- ☐ D. Invalid — but only if the amendment simultaneously curtails the power of judicial review of ordinary legislation.

3. A person is detained by the State without following the procedure provided in the detention statute. Applying *Maneka Gandhi v. Union of India*, the detention is:

- ☐ A. Invalid — Article 21 requires procedure established by law to be fair, just, and reasonable; disregarding even the enacted procedure fails this standard.
- ☐ B. Valid — the State's police power permits preventive detention for maintenance of public order without the procedural constraints that Article 21 imposes on non-security detention.
- ☐ C. Valid only if Parliament has expressly enacted a law authorising such detention during a declared national emergency, which alone creates the requisite 'procedure established by law'.
- ☐ D. Invalid only if the detainee can affirmatively prove that personal liberty — rather than mere property interests — was the specific right affected by the State's impugned action.

4. A High Court issues a writ directing the State to fulfil a statutory entitlement that is not a fundamental right. The State argues the High Court lacked jurisdiction. The argument should:

- ☐ A. Succeed — writs under Article 226 can enforce only fundamental rights; enforcement of other legal rights requires a suit.
- ☐ B. Fail — Article 226 grants High Courts broader writ jurisdiction extending to enforcement of any other legal rights beyond fundamental rights.
- ☐ C. Succeed — only the Supreme Court under Article 32 can issue writs directing State authorities.
- ☐ D. Fail — but only if the statutory entitlement is ancillary to a fundamental right guaranteed under Part III.

LEGAL PRINCIPLE — · (Q5–Q8)

The Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 governs solemnisation and dissolution of Hindu marriages. Section 5 lays down conditions for a valid Hindu marriage, including that neither party has a living spouse at the time of marriage, that both parties are of sound mind, and that the bride is at least eighteen years and the bridegroom at least twenty-one years of age. A marriage in violation of the age condition is voidable under Section 12, not void, meaning it subsists until set aside by a court decree. Section 11 renders a bigamous marriage void ab initio without any need for a court decree. Section 13B permits divorce by mutual consent after a separation of at least one year, provided both parties jointly petition. Under Section 14, no petition for divorce may be presented within one year of marriage except with leave of the court in cases of exceptional hardship or depravity. Section 25 enables the court to award permanent alimony to either party at the time of passing a decree.

5. A man marries a second woman while his first wife is living, without dissolving the first marriage. Under the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, the second marriage is:

- ☐ A. Void ab initio under Section 11 — no court decree is required to treat it as non-existent from the beginning.
- ☐ B. Voidable at the instance of the second wife by petition within three years of the marriage.
- ☐ C. Valid until a court decree sets it aside on the petition of the first wife under Section 13 on grounds of bigamy.
- ☐ D. Voidable under Section 12 and subsisting unless either party applies to annul it within two years of discovery.

6. A bride aged seventeen and a bridegroom aged twenty-three solemnise a Hindu marriage. Under the



Marriage Act, 1955, the marriage is:

- ☐ A. Void under Section 11 — one party lacks the statutory minimum age, rendering the marriage invalid from inception.
- ☐ B. Valid and irrevocable — only the parties themselves can challenge a marriage under the Act.
- ☐ C. Voidable only if the bride's guardian files a petition within one year of the date of the marriage ceremony.
- ☐ D. Voidable under Section 12 — the marriage subsists until set aside by a court on petition of the aggrieved party.

7. A couple seeks divorce by mutual consent. Their marriage lasted only eight months before they jointly petitioned. The court should:

- ☐ A. Grant the divorce — mutual consent removes all statutory requirements including any minimum-duration bar.
- ☐ B. Refuse the petition outright — the Act permits only contested divorce before one year of marriage elapses.
- ☐ C. Refuse the petition unless the court grants leave under Section 14 on grounds of exceptional hardship or depravity.
- ☐ D. Transfer the petition to mediation — courts lack jurisdiction over consensual family disputes of this nature.

8. After granting a decree of divorce, a court awards permanent alimony to the petitioner. The respondent argues the court lacked this power. The argument should:

- ☐ A. Succeed — permanent alimony can only be awarded in proceedings for judicial separation, not divorce.
- ☐ B. Fail — Section 25 expressly empowers the court to award permanent alimony to either party at the time of passing any decree under the Act.
- ☐ C. Succeed — the Act restricts alimony awards to cases where divorce is granted on fault-based grounds only.
- ☐ D. Fail — but only if the petitioner contributed financially to the matrimonial home and thus holds a statutory property right.

SECTION — LOGICAL REASONING

LOGICAL REASONING — (Q9–Q12)

Increased screen time among students leads to disrupted sleep cycles. Disrupted sleep cycles reduce the capacity for sustained attention during learning. Reduced capacity for sustained attention results in lower academic performance overall. Therefore, increased screen time leads to lower academic performance. The school administration concludes that banning mobile phones in classrooms will improve academic results. However, students may compensate by increasing their screen time at home. If such compensatory behaviour occurs, the causal chain is disrupted at its very first link and the administration's conclusion does not follow from its premises.

9. Which argument has the same logical structure as the passage's causal chain (A causes B, B causes C, C causes D, therefore A causes D)?

- ☐ A. It identifies the precise analytical error in the critics' position and prepares the reader for the author's refutation through the externality example that follows.
- ☐ B. It is the main conclusion of the entire passage, which the author then supports through the externality example and the subsequent market-failure diagnosis in the later sentences.
- ☐ C. It is an intermediate conclusion that the author derives from the externality example appearing immediately before it — the example establishes the distinction that this statement draws.
- ☐ D. It is a concession to the critics acknowledging that their confusion between private cost and social cost is understandable before the author draws the distinction to refute them.

10. The administration's reasoning contains a gap: banning phones reduces screen time. Which argument commits the same structural gap?

- ☐ A. Installing speed cameras reduces accident rates — assuming drivers comply in camera zones but speed elsewhere on the network.
- ☐ B. Carbon taxes discourage fossil fuel use only if renewables are competitively priced at the point of substitution.
- ☐ C. Mandatory exercise reduces obesity provided students do not reduce voluntary activity outside the mandated sessions.
- ☐ D. Cutting sugar in school canteens reduces sugar intake — assuming students cannot buy sweets at nearby shops.

11. The passage argues that compensatory behaviour breaks the causal chain. Which argument uses the same logical move?

- ☐ A. Higher fines for speeding will not reduce fatalities if drivers simply accept the fine and continue driving fast.
- ☐ B. Literacy programmes improve employment only unless automation eliminates the jobs the programmes equip workers for.
- ☐ C. Carbon taxes discourage fossil fuel use only if renewable alternatives are competitively priced when consumers switch.
- ☐ D. Reduced salt in processed food benefits health even if some consumers add salt at the table after purchase.

12. The passage's administration commits an overreach: it concludes 'WILL improve results' from a breakable chain. Which argument commits the same structural overreach?

- ☐ A. Closing libraries reduces literacy among low-income children because libraries are their primary source of reading material.
- ☐ B. Removing fast-food outlets near schools will reduce childhood obesity — without verifying whether students travel elsewhere for the same food.
- ☐ C. Restricting alcohol advertising reduces consumption among adults who are directly influenced by advertising campaigns.
- ☐ D. Planting trees in cities will reduce urban temperatures provided the species selected absorb sufficient solar radiation.

LOGICAL REASONING — (Q13–Q16)

Critics argue that mandatory corporate social responsibility (CSR) spending distorts market efficiency because it diverts capital from productive investment to philanthropy. "This objection confuses private cost with social cost." When a corporation pollutes a river, the cost of illness and clean-up is borne by the public, not by the firm. CSR spending on environmental remediation corrects this externality by internalising what would otherwise be a social cost. The mandatory nature is irrelevant: "the market had already failed to price the externality." A regulation compelling firms to bear their full social costs does not distort markets; it corrects the distortion that unregulated markets created. The claim that CSR mandates reduce efficiency therefore inverts the actual causal order.

13. What role does the first quoted statement ('This objection confuses private cost with social cost') play in the argument?

- ☐ A. It identifies the precise analytical error in the critics' position and prepares the reader for the author's refutation through externality example that follows.



- ☐ B. It is the main conclusion of the entire argument — the claim that CSR does not distort markets — supported by both the externality example and the market-failure diagnosis following it.
- ☐ C. It is an intermediate conclusion that the author draws from the externality example which appears immediately before it, establishing the private-cost versus social-cost distinction.
- ☐ D. It is a concession to the critics that acknowledges their confusion about private cost and social cost is understandable before the author proceeds to distinguish the two concepts.

14. What role does the second quoted statement ('the market had already failed to price the externality') play in the argument?

- ☐ A. It is a counter-premise representing what critics of CSR mandates would add to strengthen their own objection.
- ☐ B. It is the main conclusion of the passage, from which the author draws the regulatory implication.
- ☐ C. It is a premise supporting the first quoted statement by establishing that private and social costs diverged before the mandate.
- ☐ D. It is an intermediate conclusion that the author derives from the externality example and uses to justify the regulatory correction.

15. Which best describes the overall structure of the author's argument?

- ☐ A. State a premise → concede an objection → qualify the premise → reach a compromise with critics.
- ☐ B. Cite empirical evidence → generalise the evidence → challenge the objection → withdraw the main claim conditionally.
- ☐ C. Acknowledge critics' objection → reframe it using an example → draw an intermediate conclusion → derive the main conclusion.
- ☐ D. Define key terms → apply definitions to facts → reject critics' definitions → assert the preferred definition.

16. The final sentence says the efficiency objection 'inverts the actual causal order'. What does the author mean?

- ☐ A. CSR mandates cause the market failure that critics mistakenly attribute to unregulated corporate behaviour.
- ☐ B. Critics misidentify regulation as creating market distortion when the pre-existing unpriced externality was the distortion.
- ☐ C. Unregulated firms invest more efficiently than regulated ones once transaction costs of compliance are excluded.
- ☐ D. Market efficiency historically preceded social-cost concerns, so regulations reversing this order are categorically illegitimate.

SECTION — QUANTITATIVE TECHNIQUES

QUANT — . . (Q17-Q21)

A cooperative farm in Rajasthan divides its land into four cultivation plots. The table below shows each plot's shape, dimensions in metres, and the crop planted. Plot P: Rectangle, 200 m length × 150 m breadth, crop Wheat. Plot Q: Square, 100 m × 100 m, crop Rice. Plot R: Triangle with base 240 m and height 180 m, crop Vegetables. Plot S: Rectangle, 300 m length × 120 m breadth, crop Wheat. Season yields per hectare: Wheat = 4 tonnes, Rice = 6 tonnes, Vegetables = 8 tonnes. (Note: 1 hectare = 10,000 square metres.)

17. What is the total area (in square metres) of the two wheat plots combined?

- ☐ A. 66,000 sq m — Plot P: $200 \times 150 = 30,000$ + Plot S: $300 \times 120 = 36,000$ = 66,000 sq m.
- ☐ B. 54,000 sq m — Plot P: $200 \times 150 = 30,000$ + Plot Q: $100 \times 100 = 24,000$ = 54,000 sq m.
- ☐ C. 60,000 sq m — Plot P: $200 \times 150 = 30,000$ + Plot S minus buffer: $36,000 - 26,000 = 10,000$ each.
- ☐ D. 36,000 sq m — only Plot S is counted; Plot P grows rice in this reading of the table.

18. What is the area of Plot R, which has a triangular shape with base 240 m and height 180 m?

- ☐ A. 43,200 sq m — base × height = 240×180 (the factor of one-half is omitted).
- ☐ B. 48,000 sq m — the plot is treated as a parallelogram with both sides counted twice.
- ☐ C. 27,000 sq m — area = (base + height) × (1/2) × (1/2) = $420 \times 0.25 = 105$, scaled by 240.
- ☐ D. 21,600 sq m — $(1/2) \times \text{base} \times \text{height} = (1/2) \times 240 \times 180 = 21,600$ sq m.

19. How many tonnes of rice does Plot Q yield in one season?

- ☐ A. 10 tonnes — area 10,000 sq m ÷ 1,000 sq m per tonne = 10 tonnes.
- ☐ B. 6 tonnes — Plot Q: $100 \times 100 = 10,000$ sq m = 1 ha; rice yield = 6 t/ha; total = 6 tonnes.
- ☐ C. 60 tonnes — yield is applied per sq m (6 per sq m) without conversion to hectares.
- ☐ D. 12 tonnes — Plot Q is counted twice because it shares a boundary with Plot P.

20. Which plot produces the highest total yield, and what is that yield?

- ☐ A. Plot S (wheat): 36,000 sq m = 3.6 ha; $3.6 \times 4 = 14.4$ tonnes — highest.
- ☐ B. Plot P (wheat): 30,000 sq m = 3 ha; $3 \times 4 = 12$ tonnes — highest.
- ☐ C. Plot R (vegetables): 21,600 sq m = 2.16 ha; $2.16 \times 8 = 17.28$ tonnes — highest.
- ☐ D. Plot Q (rice): 10,000 sq m = 1 ha; $1 \times 6 = 6$ tonnes — highest because rice is most valuable.

21. The cooperative converts Plot S entirely from wheat to vegetables. By how much does the total output of Plot S change?

- ☐ A. Increases by 28.8 tonnes — new yield = $3.6 \times 8 = 28.8$ t (old yield subtracted incorrectly).
- ☐ B. Decreases by 14.4 tonnes — converting to vegetables always reduces total farm output per hectare.
- ☐ C. Increases by 43.2 tonnes — the change equals new yield × 2 = 2×28.8 (double-counting the gain).
- ☐ D. Increases by 14.4 tonnes — Plot S: 3.6 ha; gain = $3.6 \times (8 - 4) = 3.6 \times 4 = 14.4$ tonnes.

QUANT — . . (Q22-Q25)

A pollutant is accidentally discharged into River Kaveri at Point A. Point B is located 90 km downstream from A; Point C is located 150 km downstream from A. The river flows at a constant speed of 30 km/h throughout. A clean-up boat departs from Point B and travels upstream toward A at 18 km/h relative to the bank. A second clean-up boat departs simultaneously from Point C and travels upstream at 24 km/h relative to the bank. The pollutant slick travels with the river current. All three — the slick and both boats — depart simultaneously.

22. How long does it take for the pollutant slick to travel from Point A to Point B?

- ☐ A. 3 hours — distance AB = 90 km; slick travels at river speed = 30 km/h; time = $90 \div 30 = 3$ hours.
- ☐ B. 5 hours — the slick decelerates as it disperses, so effective speed is 18 km/h.
- ☐ C. 4.5 hours — the slick's speed is two-thirds of the river current due to viscosity losses.



- ☐ D. 6 hours — the slick must accelerate from rest over the first 30 km before reaching full speed.
- 23. The clean-up boat from Point B travels upstream toward A at 18 km/h. The pollutant slick moves downstream toward B at 30 km/h. At what speed are they approaching each other?**
- ☐ A. 12 km/h — they move in the same general direction; approach speed = difference = $30 - 18$.
- ☐ B. 18 km/h — the boat's own speed is the closing speed; the current's contribution cancels.
- ☐ C. 48 km/h — they move toward each other; closing speed = sum = $18 + 30 = 48$ km/h.
- ☐ D. 30 km/h — only the river current determines the rate at which the slick approaches the boat.
- 24. The second boat departs from Point C (150 km from A) upstream at 24 km/h. The slick departs A simultaneously at 30 km/h. When does the boat first intercept the slick?**
- ☐ A. After 2.5 hours — closing speed = $24 + 30 = 54$ km/h; $150 \div 54$ rounds to 2.5 hours.
- ☐ B. After 5 hours — the boat must wait for the slick to pass Point B before navigating to intercept.
- ☐ C. After 6.25 hours — the boat moves toward A at net speed $24 - 30 = -6$ km/h (never intercepts).
- ☐ D. After approximately 2.78 hours — closing speed = $24 + 30 = 54$ km/h; $150 \div 54 \approx 2.78$ hours.
- 25. If flooding doubles the river's speed to 60 km/h, how does the slick's travel time from A to B change?**
- ☐ A. Time doubles to 6 hours — faster current creates more turbulence, slowing the slick's net advance.
- ☐ B. Time halves to 1.5 hours — the slick now moves at 60 km/h; time = $90 \div 60 = 1.5$ hours.
- ☐ C. Time remains 3 hours — the slick's speed is determined by wind, not the river current.
- ☐ D. Time increases to 4.5 hours — the slick only partially follows the current at high flow rates.

RAPID FIRE — ONE-LINE RECALL

56 quick questions · not negatively marked

1. Article that declares FR-violating laws void _____
2. Case that introduced the basic structure doctrine _____
3. Article guaranteeing freedom of assembly peaceably _____
4. Case that read fair procedure into Article 21 _____
5. High Courts issue writs under Article _____
6. Article 226 writ jurisdiction is _____ than Article 32 _____
7. Section of HMA under which a bigamous marriage is void ab initio _____
8. Minimum age of groom under HMA 1955 _____
9. Minimum age of bride under HMA 1955 _____
10. A marriage void ab initio requires a court decree — true or false? _____
11. Section of HMA governing voidable marriages _____
12. Section of HMA requiring leave to petition for divorce within one year _____
13. Section of HMA that allows divorce by mutual consent _____
14. Minimum separation required before a Section 13B petition _____
15. Section of HMA that provides for permanent alimony _____
16. Article 32 is itself a fundamental right — true or false? _____
17. An argument with the same logical form as another is a _____ argument _____
18. When two objects move toward each other, closing speed = _____
19. When two objects move in the same direction, relative speed = _____
20. Formula for area of a triangle _____
21. Number of square metres in one hectare _____
22. Wheat yield given in the farm problem (tonnes per hectare) _____
23. Rice yield given in the farm problem _____
24. Vegetable yield given in the farm problem _____
25. Area of Plot Q (100 m × 100 m) _____
26. Area of Plot S (300 m × 120 m) _____
27. Speed = Distance ÷ _____
28. River speed in the pollution problem _____
29. Distance from Point A to Point B in the river problem _____
30. A cost shifted to society rather than borne by the polluter is a negative _____
31. CSR stands for _____
32. Bold-face function questions ask about the role of _____ in an argument _____
33. An intermediate conclusion is drawn from evidence and _____ a further conclusion _____
34. The basic structure doctrine limits Parliament's power under Article _____
35. Kesavananda Bharati was decided in the year _____
36. Freedom to practise any profession is guaranteed under Article 19(1) (_____) _____
37. Slick travel time from A to B at 30 km/h over 90 km _____
38. Closing speed between the slick (30 km/h) and boat from B (18 km/h upstream) _____
39. Second boat intercept time: 150 km at combined closing speed 54 km/h _____
40. If river speed doubles to 60 km/h, slick time from A to B becomes _____
41. Plot R crop (triangle, base 240 m, height 180 m) _____
42. Plot R yield: $2.16 \text{ ha} \times 8 \text{ t/ha} =$ _____
43. Doctrine of colourable legislation — a law coloured as regulatory but truly penal is judged on its _____
44. Article 226 writs can be issued against — only State OR State + private bodies? _____
45. Section 5(i) HMA prohibits marriage while a _____ from a previous marriage is living _____
46. The Parallel Reasoning question type asks you to find an argument with the same _____
47. Bold-face questions in CLAT appear only in which section? _____
48. Compensation paid for converting a triangular plot from wheat to vegetables is based on _____ difference _____
49. TSD formula: closing speed when objects move toward each other = _____
50. Closing speed when objects move in the same direction = _____
51. $1 \text{ km} \times 1 \text{ km} =$ how many hectares? _____
52. Section 11 HMA makes a marriage void for violating Section 5(____), 5(iv) or 5(v) _____
53. The basic structure doctrine first applied to invalidate which type of amendment? _____
54. Article 13(2) prohibits the _____ from making any law abridging fundamental rights _____
55. In a causal chain argument, an intermediate conclusion is both a conclusion AND a _____
56. In the externality argument, the company shifting pollution public is an example of a _____ externality _____

