CLAT Gurukul — By Ready For Exam

Daily RC & CR Sheet — Answers, Skills & Examiner Notes — 29 October 2026

20 Qs · 0 Min
Answer key + skill tags + examiner notes

ANSWER KEY — 29 OCTOBER 2026

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10
B	D	A	C	A	C	B	D	A	D
Q11	**Q12**	**Q13**	**Q14**	**Q15**	**Q16**	**Q17**	**Q18**	**Q19**	**Q20**
D	A	C	B	B	A	C	B	D	C

READING COMPREHENSION

Q1 B Main idea MED

The passage first explains why the law needs the reasonable person: she is 'the yardstick by which negligence is measured' and gives objectivity and predictability. It then reports the charge that she is 'less neutral than advertised' because her content was 'quietly fixed by the experience of one group'. The final paragraph describes uneven judicial responses and concludes that she is 'a continuing negotiation, her features redrawn whenever a society learns whose experience it had left out'. Option B combines the standard's necessity with its contested content and the need for revision. Option A pushes the criticism further than the author, who never proposes abandoning the standard. Option C is contradicted by the statement that courts have answered 'unevenly' and that some resist individualising. Option D ignores the whole third paragraph, which treats the criticism as serious.

> **Examiner's note — the trap:** Option A is the trap: the critics' complaints are vivid, so a hasty reader treats them as the author's verdict, overlooking that the author calls the standard necessary and ends with reform, not abolition.

Q2 D Inference HARD

The passage says a professional is measured 'against the skill of her calling, since reasonableness cannot sensibly ignore competence that has been voluntarily claimed'. It also says that a defendant who 'simply did not think' is not excused, because a duty that shrank to each person's limitations would stop being a duty. Joining these two statements, someone who has voluntarily claimed professional skill cannot plead her own lack of it. Option A reverses the text, which says a child is measured against children of like age. Option B turns an illustration, insurers, employers and drivers, into an exclusive list, and the reference to courts avoiding biographies shows that the courts benefit too. Option C goes beyond the text, which says provocation doctrine 'struggled for years', not that it was abandoned.

> **Examiner's note — the trap:** Option A attracts students who remember that the objective standard is strict and extend that strictness to children, missing the sentence which expressly adjusts the standard for age.

Q3 A Tone / author attitude HARD

The author credits the standard with real virtues, 'its objectivity' and its predictability, and says the law 'needs' the reasonable person. The same author accepts the critics' suspicion that the figure is 'less neutral than advertised' and that 'its content had been quietly fixed by the experience of one group'. The closing sentence, calling her 'a continuing negotiation', is hopeful about revision. That mixture is appreciative, critical and constructive, which is exactly option A. Option B is too hostile: nowhere does the author doubt that an objective standard is needed. Option C fails because the author clearly forms a judgement, in the last two sentences. Option D mistakes the author's even-handed note about the risk of 'a standard tailored to each defendant' for alarm; the author reports that fear as one side of a real tension, not as a personal anxiety.

> **Examiner's note — the trap:** Option C is attractive because the passage reports both sides at length, but reporting is not the same as neutrality; the final sentences plainly take a view.

Q4 C Vocabulary in context EASY

The sentence says critics suspect that the reasonable person is 'less neutral than advertised'. The comparison is between what is claimed or publicly said about her, namely that she is a neutral yardstick, and what she actually is. The word 'advertised' therefore means represented or claimed, in the ordinary sense of 'as she has been presented to the public'. Option A takes the commercial sense of advertising literally, but no sale is involved in the passage. Option B confuses 'advertised' with 'measured', yet the sentence is about reputation and not about measurement. Option D introduces a mocking tone, whereas the critics in the passage argue with evidence, namely the statistics of assault and the struggles of provocation doctrine. In vocabulary questions, substitute each option into the sentence and keep the one that preserves the author's logic of claim versus reality.

> **Examiner's note — the trap:** Option A is the trap because it supplies the dictionary meaning of 'advertise' that students know best, though the passage uses the word figuratively.

Q5 A Structure / purpose ELITE

In the third paragraph the author builds a case that the reasonable person's content reflected 'one group'. Two examples follow: the fear of a woman on an empty road, and provocation doctrine, 'built around the sudden rage of a man who has been insulted', which 'struggled for years to accommodate a sustained abuse that ended in a slow-burning response'. The paragraph then summarises: 'the objection was not that a standard exists but that its content had been quietly fixed'. The provocation example is therefore an

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illustration of that partiality. Option B claims the passage proves something about criminal law generally, which it nowhere discusses. Option C attributes to the author a moral view on rage that the text never states. Option D reverses the point: the doctrine failed to fit abuse victims, rather than being designed for them.

> **Examiner's note — the trap:** Option C tempts students who fix on the word 'rage' and assume the author is condemning it, instead of asking what role the example plays in the paragraph's argument.

Q6 C Main idea MED

The first paragraph says the census assumed that a caste name is 'fixed' and can be ranked. The second describes the fluid reality of identity. The third and fourth paragraphs report the strong thesis of Cohn and Dirks, then qualify it: caste 'plainly existed long before 1881', but print, rights and recruitment 'hardened what had been fluid'. The final paragraph calls the census 'neither a mirror nor a mould but something like a lens' and describes how it 'reshaped' society. Option C fits this balanced position. Option A is the naive colonial self-image rejected in the first paragraph. Option B is the overstated thesis that the fourth paragraph begins by calling an exaggeration: 'The thesis can be overstated.' Option D is contradicted by the sentence that informants' prejudices 'entered the tables' but that the state still fixed the categories.

> **Examiner's note — the trap:** Option B is the trap: the third paragraph's strong claim about giving caste 'a new bureaucratic rigidity' sounds like the author's thesis until the next paragraph qualifies it.

Q7 B Inference HARD

The passage says that after Risley's attempt to rank castes 'thousands of petitions followed', that groups placed low 'pleaded for elevation, citing scripture, ancestry and custom', and that some 'organised themselves into associations to press their case'. People do not petition and organise over something they regard as trivial, so the reasonable inference is that official placement mattered to them. Option A contradicts the very mention of petitions. Option C is unsupported: the passage says status claims were 'negotiable' before the census through marriage, patronage or military service, which does not mean scripture was never used, and nothing says status rested on force alone. Option D invents a consequence for the census; the passage nowhere says it was abandoned and in fact refers to later generations inheriting its categories.

> **Examiner's note — the trap:** Option C appeals to students who misread the contrast between negotiable pre-colonial status and fixed census status as proof that no textual argument was ever used.

Q8 D Inference / author's view ELITE

The fourth paragraph concedes that 'Caste hierarchy plainly existed long before 1881' and that Indian elites 'had classified people for centuries', yet it adopts Bayly's 'quieter claim' that administration 'by fixing the categories in print and attaching rights and recruitment to them, hardened what had been fluid'. That is exactly the claim in the correct option: earlier classification, but changed effect once printed and linked to entitlements. Option A overstates the concession and denies any effect, contradicting the lens metaphor in the last paragraph. Option B draws the extreme conclusion that the author rejects when saying that the thesis 'can be overstated'. Option C takes the point about informants too far; the author still describes the census as 'one of the forces that reshaped' society, and the colonial state kept responsibility for fixing and using the tables.

> **Examiner's note — the trap:** Option A is the trap: students who remember the concession that caste pre-existed jump to the view that the census therefore changed nothing, which the author expressly does not hold.

Q9 A Vocabulary in context MED

The sentence says that colonial administration made caste 'a currency in a new political marketplace' after it attached 'rights and recruitment' to categories. Here 'currency' is figurative: caste became something with recognised value which groups could use, and trade for rights, jobs or recognition, in political competition. The correct option captures that sense of a medium that carries value and can be exchanged for advantage. Option B takes the literal monetary meaning, but caste is not issued by a treasury. Option C uses another sense of the word, as in a belief being 'in currency', meaning currently accepted, but the surrounding phrase 'political marketplace' and the mention of rights and recruitment point to exchange of advantage rather than popularity. Option D is plainly unrelated to the argument, which does not concern economic output at all.

> **Examiner's note — the trap:** Option C is the attractive wrong answer because 'currency' can mean general acceptance, but that reading ignores the marketplace imagery and the attached rights.

Q10 D Structure / function of a paragraph HARD

The third paragraph presents a bold claim, that the state 'gave [caste] a new bureaucratic rigidity'. The fourth begins 'The thesis can be overstated' and gives two reasons: hierarchy existed 'long before 1881', and officials 'relied heavily on Indian informants'. It then offers Bayly's 'quieter claim'. The paragraph's job is to temper the earlier thesis, as option D states. Option A is too strong: the author does not reject the argument 'entirely', and Bayly's claim keeps the core idea that categories were hardened. Option B has no basis in the text, which describes the petitions that followed the 1901 census. Option C mistakes qualification for summary; a summary would repeat earlier points, whereas the paragraph introduces new considerations and a modified position.

> **Examiner's note — the trap:** Option A tempts students who notice the pivot 'The thesis can be overstated' and conclude that the paragraph turns to the opposite view, rather than a moderated version of the same view.

CRITICAL REASONING

Q11 D Main conclusion MED

The final paragraph begins 'The lesson for other states is plain' and states what other states should do: establish a buffer stock 'with a clear floor price and a transparent rule for release'. Everything before it supports this recommendation: Marwara's fall in volatility, the rise in area sown, the steadier household spending and the answer to the cost objection. Option D restates the recommendation. Option

A is a premise about the earlier period, and the passage says only that prices swung by up to forty per cent in Marwara, with no comparison to other states. Option B is an intermediate point used to rebut one objection, not the point the whole argument is aimed at. Option C is a supporting claim about the effect on farmers, offered as evidence that the scheme works.

> **Examiner's note — the trap:** Option B is the trap: the flood-barrier analogy is the most striking sentence in the passage, so students mistake a rebuttal of one objection for the overall conclusion.

Q12 A Assumption (necessary) HARD

The argument reasons from 'In the five years since, the seasonal variation in pulse prices has fallen to under twelve per cent' to the claim that 'Such a mechanism steadies prices' and so other states should adopt it. This reasoning needs the fall to be due to the scheme. If good harvests, imports or central policy produced it, the evidence says nothing about what the scheme does. Negating option A shows this: if the fall would have happened anyway, the conclusion collapses. Option B is far too strong, since the argument says only 'the most volatile among them' of staples need stocks, and other states may differ. Option C is not required; traders' hoarding is mentioned only as one channel. Option D is contradicted by the recommendation that stocks be created for 'the most volatile among them' staples, which allows other staples.

> **Examiner's note — the trap:** Option B tempts students because it sounds like a safe generalisation, but the argument never needs states to be identical, only that the scheme caused Marwara's improvement.

Q13 C Weaken (alternative cause) HARD

The argument attributes Marwara's calmer pulse prices to its buffer stock. Option C offers a rival explanation: a national release of imported pulses, and the fact that states without a buffer stock saw similar falls. If similar falls occurred elsewhere without a stock, the stock cannot be shown to have produced the fall in Marwara, and the recommendation to other states loses its evidence. Option A concerns the cost, which the argument already concedes in the third paragraph and sets against the losses from instability, so it leaves the causal claim untouched. Option B reports criticism, but the argument already refers to commentators who dismiss the scheme, and mere opinion supplies no fact about prices. Option D, if anything, is consistent with the argument's concern for the poorest households.

> **Examiner's note — the trap:** Option A attracts students because rising costs sound damaging, yet the argument has already accepted that the scheme is expensive; only an attack on the causal link weakens its core.

Q14 B Strengthen (control comparison) ELITE

The weakness in the argument is that a before-and-after comparison cannot show causation. The best strengthener closes this gap by supplying a comparison: a similar state, with the same rainfall, trade policy and crop mix but no stock, kept its forty per cent swings. That makes it unlikely that weather or policy explained Marwara's improvement, so the scheme becomes the best explanation. Option A is consistent with the argument but is also consistent with many other causes of stable consumption, so it adds little. Option C reports what traders said they would do, not what they did, and the prediction was conditional. Option D describes the quality of administration, which supports the scheme's integrity, but it does nothing to show that the observed fall in volatility was caused by the scheme.

> **Examiner's note — the trap:** Option C appeals because it matches the argument's claim about hoarding, but a stated intention before the scheme is far weaker evidence than a controlled comparison after it.

Q15 B Flaw in reasoning HARD

The argument's evidence is that volatility fell after 2017, and its conclusion is that the scheme 'steadies prices' and should be copied. This is the post hoc pattern: a later event is treated as caused by an earlier one without excluding other explanations, and the finding from Marwara alone is generalised to 'other states' whose conditions may differ. Option B names both defects. Option A is inaccurate, because the argument does answer the cost objection by comparing cost with the losses from instability and by the flood-barrier analogy; it does not attack anyone's motives. Option C is also inaccurate, since the argument does not rely on any authority and refers to commentators only as targets. Option D describes the critics' presumed error, not the argument's, because the argument itself argues that cost should be set against benefit.

> **Examiner's note — the trap:** Option D is the trap: it describes a flaw that the argument attributes to its opponents and avoids, which makes it look like a mirror image of the real flaw.

Q16 A Main conclusion MED

The last paragraph states the test of a science policy, 'whether more useful things are being made, sold and built upon', and then concludes: 'By that test the Veldran fee cut has not worked, and the celebrated tripling should be set aside as a measure of success.' The earlier paragraphs supply the support: licensing, citations and revenue stayed flat, and the incentive explains the rise. Option A restates the final sentence. Option B accuses ministers of an intention that the passage never alleges; it says they were 'anxious to be seen' as innovative, which is not an intent to mislead. Option C overstates the argument, which asks only that governments fund 'the work that makes patents valuable', not that they abandon patents. Option D blames the attorneys, whereas the passage reports their observation and attributes the pattern to the incentive.

> **Examiner's note — the trap:** Option C appeals to students who read the plea to fund laboratories as a rejection of patents, though the author's concern is with what is measured, not with the patent system.

Q17 C Assumption (necessary) HARD

The conclusion is that the tripling should be 'set aside as a measure of success' because the 'proper test' is whether useful things are made and built upon. The evidence cited, flat licensing, slipping citations and ordinary revenue growth, matters only if those measures capture useful invention better than the count of filings. If filings were the better measure, the flat figures would be irrelevant and the argument would fail. Option A is stronger than needed: the argument requires only that many new filings were driven by the incentive,

not that none would exist without it. Option B concerns attorneys' motives, but their report is used only as supporting colour. Option D asserts a comparative claim about secrecy that the passage never needs.

> **Examiner's note — the trap:** Option A attracts students because it sounds like the heart of the incentive argument, but the author needs only that the incentive inflated filings, not that it created every one.

Q18 B Weaken (undermines the evidence) HARD

The argument uses flat licensing, slipping citations and flat revenue over four years as evidence that the filings are hollow. Option B says these indicators normally respond only after about ten years, so their stillness in four years is exactly what we would expect even if the new filings are valuable. That removes the force of the evidence and weakens the conclusion. Option A, if anything, supports the view that fee cuts raise filings everywhere, but it does not address whether those filings reflect inventing, so it leaves the argument roughly where it was. Option C concerns attorneys' pricing; higher charges for variations might even discourage them, and it says nothing about the value of the patents. Option D merely repeats what the passage already reports about the ministers.

> **Examiner's note — the trap:** Option A is the trap: the comparison with neighbours looks like a rival cause, but a similar rise elsewhere says nothing about whether the Veldran rise reflects inventing.

Q19 D Strengthen (supporting evidence) ELITE

The author claims that the rise in filings reflects the incentive and not invention, because ideas 'too slight to justify the old fee' are now filed and many filings are 'variations of earlier ones'. If the new filings are disproportionately abandoned, or never examined or cited, that is direct evidence that they are marginal ideas filed to collect the credit, which supports the claim. Option A concerns research training and is compatible with either view. Option B reports a political intention to review the credit; it says nothing about the quality of the filings. Option C would weaken the argument, because licensing of post-2019 patents for large fees suggests that some of the new filings have real value, contrary to the claim that licensing remained unchanged.

> **Examiner's note — the trap:** Option C is attractive to students who read quickly because it mentions licensing, a key term in the passage, without noticing that the fact it offers cuts against the argument.

Q20 C Parallel reasoning ELITE

The Veldra argument has four steps: a policy rewards a countable thing, the count rises sharply, the outcomes that matter do not change, and so the count reflects the reward and not real progress, and cannot be taken as a measure of success. The bounty example reproduces this structure exactly: a reward for kills, a rise in kills, unchanged crop damage, and the conclusion that the count tracks the reward. Options A, B and D each argue positively from a rise after an intervention to a causal benefit, which is the pattern the Veldra author criticises, not the one the author follows. They are therefore the opposite in direction. The distractors tempt by sharing surface features with the passage, such as policy and rising numbers, while differing in the logic that matters.

> **Examiner's note — the trap:** Option D is the trap because its closing words about other things changing echo a doubt about causation, but its conclusion still credits the intervention, unlike the argument.

RAPID FIRE — ANSWERS

1. Which Article of the Constitution guarantees equality before the law and equal protection of the laws? — **Article 14**

2. Which Article inserted by the 86th Amendment makes education a fundamental right for children aged 6 to 14? — **Article 21A**

3. Which Article empowers Parliament to amend the Constitution? — **Article 368**

4. Which case established that Parliament cannot alter the 'basic structure' of the Constitution? — **Kesavananda Bharati v. State of Kerala (1973)**

5. Which Article did Dr Ambedkar call the 'heart and soul' of the Constitution? — **Article 32 (right to constitutional remedies)**

6. Which Article abolishes untouchability? — **Article 17**

7. Which Schedule of the Constitution contains the anti-defection law? — **The Tenth Schedule**

8. Which Part of the Constitution contains the Fundamental Duties, under Article 51A? — **Part IVA**

9. Who is the ex officio Chairman of the Rajya Sabha? — **The Vice-President of India**

10. What is the minimum age for membership of the Lok Sabha? — **25 years**

11. Which writ literally means 'you may have the body'? — **Habeas corpus**

12. Which tort case laid down the 'neighbour principle' of negligence? — **Donoghue v. Stevenson (1932)**

13. Which English case laid down the rule of strict liability for escape of dangerous things from land? — **Rylands v. Fletcher (1868)**

14. What does the maxim 'res ipsa loquitur' mean? — **The thing speaks for itself**

15. What does the Latin term 'ultra vires' mean? — **Beyond one's legal powers**

16. What does 'sub judice' mean? — **Under judicial consideration, not yet decided**

17. What does 'actus reus' denote in criminal law? — **The guilty act or physical element of an offence**

18. Which section of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 defines murder? — **Section 101**

19. Who was the Governor-General responsible for the Permanent Settlement of Bengal in 1793? — **Lord Cornwallis**

20. Which Governor-General is associated with the Doctrine of Lapse? — **Lord Dalhousie**

21. In which year was the Battle of Plassey fought? — **1757**

22. Which session of the Indian National Congress declared Purna Swaraj as its goal, in 1929? — **The Lahore session, presided over by Jawaharlal Nehru**

23. In which year did Gandhi lead the Dandi March? — **1930**

24. Which ancient text on statecraft is attributed to Kautilya? — **The Arthashastra**

25. Who founded the Mauryan Empire? — **Chandragupta Maurya**

26. Which Census year saw the first synchronous all-India census, from which the decennial series continues? — **1881**

27. Choose the correct word: the head of a school is the principal or the principle? — **Principal (a 'principle' is a rule or belief)**

28. What is the one word for 'a person who knows everything'? — **Omniscient**

29. What does the idiom 'a Pyrrhic victory' mean? — **A victory won at such great cost that it is almost a defeat**

30. What is the antonym of 'benevolent'? — **Malevolent**

31. What does the idiom 'to burn the midnight oil' mean? — **To work or study late into the night**

32. Which Article allows the President to impose President's Rule on failure of constitutional machinery in a State? — **Article 356**