Daily Practice Sheet — 3 November 2026

26 Qs · 40 Min
+1 / −0.25

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 · JUDICIAL REVIEW OF ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION: BIAS, HEARING, EXPECTATION AND REASONABLENESS (Q1–Q5)

Administrative action is reviewed on three broad grounds: illegality, irrationality and procedural impropriety. An authority acts illegally when it exceeds the power given by the statute or takes into account an irrelevant consideration. Its decision is irrational if it is so unreasonable that no reasonable authority could have reached it (the Wednesbury test). Procedural impropriety includes breach of natural justice. The rule against bias (nemo judex in causa sua) disqualifies a decision-maker automatically where he has a pecuniary interest in the outcome, while any other interest invalidates the decision only if there is a real likelihood of bias. The rule of fair hearing (audi alteram partem) ordinarily requires notice of the case to be met and a reasonable opportunity to respond before an adverse order is made. Natural justice may be excluded by statute, expressly or by necessary implication, and its content varies with the circumstances; where an order is made without a hearing in a genuine emergency, a prompt post-decisional hearing may cure the defect. A legitimate expectation, arising from a promise or a consistent past practice, is procedurally protected: the authority must give a hearing before departing from it, but the expectation does not bar a change of policy justified by an overriding public interest. Courts exercising writ jurisdiction under Articles 32 and 226 review the decision-making process and not the merits, and they do not substitute their own view for that of the authority unless one of the above grounds is shown.

1. Under a municipal Act, the Commissioner, Mr Rao, decides applications for the only vacant market stall in a ward. He holds 30 per cent of the shares of Bharat Foods Ltd, which has applied for the same stall. Without disclosing this, he rejects the application of Sunrise Foods and allots the stall to Bharat Foods. On the passage, his decision is

◯ **A.** valid unless Sunrise proves a real likelihood of bias, because a shareholding is only an indirect commercial interest
◯ **B.** valid, because the rule against bias applies only to judicial bodies and not to administrative authorities
◯ **C.** liable to be set aside, because a pecuniary interest in the outcome disqualifies the decision-maker automatically
◯ **D.** liable to be set aside only if Sunrise proves that Bharat Foods actually gained from the rejection of its rival

2. The Licensing Act lets the District Magistrate suspend the licence of an explosives godown. After an inspection found fireworks stored far above the permitted quantity in a crowded residential lane, the Magistrate suspended the godown owner's licence at once, without notice, and offered him a hearing within 48 hours. After that hearing he confirmed the suspension. On the passage, the suspension is

◯ **A.** valid, because the emergency justified acting first and the prompt post-decisional hearing cured the want of prior notice
◯ **B.** invalid, because the rule of fair hearing always demands notice and a hearing before any adverse order whatever the emergency
◯ **C.** invalid, because a hearing given after the order cannot validate a suspension that was passed without any notice at all
◯ **D.** valid, because a court under Article 226 cannot examine whether an emergency really existed on the facts of the case

3. For twelve years a State Board has let students who fail one subject sit a supplementary examination within the same year. In August it abolished the facility for all students already registered, announcing this only on its website and citing 'reduction of administrative workload'. Affected students challenge the change. On the passage, the correct position is that

◯ **A.** the Board is free to change the practice at will, because a change of policy is never open to any review once it is publicly announced
◯ **B.** the change is void, because a legitimate expectation is an absolute right that bars every change in a settled practice of long standing
◯ **C.** the change is valid once some hearing is given, because the reason behind the change is irrelevant if procedure is followed
◯ **D.** the Board must first hear the affected students, and mere administrative convenience is unlikely to be an overriding public interest

4. A bank clerk with nineteen years of unblemished service arrives ten minutes late once. After a full hearing he is dismissed from service for it. The clerk files a writ petition. On the passage, the High Court

◯ **A.** cannot interfere in any event, because the severity of a penalty is a question of merits that no writ court may examine
◯ **B.** may interfere if the dismissal is so unreasonable that no reasonable employer could have imposed it, since irrationality is a ground
◯ **C.** may substitute a lighter penalty of its own choice, because it disagrees with the severity imposed by the employer
◯ **D.** may interfere only if the clerk shows that he was denied a hearing, because that is the sole ground on which dismissals are reviewed

5. Section 9 of the Ports Act lets the Chairman 'forthwith detain any vessel found carrying prohibited cargo'. The Chairman detained the vessel Sagar without notice to its owner. His file note says: 'cargo is prohibited; owner has publicly opposed my appointment and deserves to be taught a lesson.' On the passage, the detention is

◯ **A.** fully valid, because the hearing was excluded by implication and courts never examine the considerations that influenced an authority
◯ **B.** invalid on both counts, because want of a hearing and the irrelevant consideration each vitiate the order on their own
◯ **C.** open to challenge only for an irrelevant consideration, because 'forthwith' excludes a prior hearing by implication
◯ **D.** open to challenge only for want of a hearing, because the owner's opposition to the Chairman is a matter of merits outside review

LEGAL PRINCIPLE — CONSTITUTIONAL LAW · EQUALITY, TRADE, DOUBLE JEOPARDY AND RETROSPECTIVE PENALTY: ARTICLES 14, 19, 20 AND 21 (Q6–Q10)

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Article 14 forbids class legislation but permits reasonable classification. The classification must rest on an intelligible differentia that separates those grouped together from those left out, and that differentia must have a rational nexus with the object the law seeks to achieve. A law may also be struck down if it is manifestly arbitrary. Article 19(1)(g) gives every citizen the right to practise any profession or to carry on any occupation, trade or business, and Article 19(6) permits the State to impose reasonable restrictions in the interests of the general public. A restriction that is excessive or disproportionate to the need it serves is not reasonable. Article 20(1) protects a person from conviction for an act which was not an offence when it was done, and from a penalty greater than the law in force at the time of the offence prescribed. Article 20(2) bars a person from being prosecuted and punished for the same offence more than once; it applies only where there was an earlier prosecution before a court or judicial tribunal, so that a departmental inquiry followed by a criminal trial is not barred. Article 21 permits deprivation of life or personal liberty only according to procedure established by law, and that procedure must be fair, just and reasonable and not arbitrary. The rights in Article 19 are available only to citizens, while those in Articles 14, 20 and 21 are available to every person, including a foreigner.

6. Mahesh, a revenue clerk, was dismissed after a departmental inquiry found that he had taken a bribe. The State then prosecuted him before a Special Court for the same bribe. He pleads Article 20(2). On the passage, the prosecution is

- ◯ **A.** barred, because he has already been punished once for the same act by the penalty of dismissal from service
- ◯ **B.** not barred, because the departmental inquiry was not a prosecution before a court or a judicial tribunal
- ◯ **C.** not barred, because Article 20(2) guards only against a second punishment and never against a second trial
- ◯ **D.** barred, because Article 20(2) covers every proceeding of any kind that ends in a penalty against the person concerned

7. In March 2021 Imran committed an offence for which the law then prescribed a maximum of two years' imprisonment. In 2023 Parliament amended the law to raise the maximum to five years. In 2024 Imran was convicted and sentenced to four years. On Article 20(1), the position is that

- ◯ **A.** both the conviction and the four-year sentence are valid, because the trial took place after the amendment came into force
- ◯ **B.** the conviction itself is void, because the offence was committed before the amendment was made
- ◯ **C.** both are valid, because the quantum of sentence is a procedural matter that may be applied retrospectively
- ◯ **D.** the conviction stands, but the sentence cannot exceed the two years prescribed when the offence was committed

8. A State scheme gives a fertiliser subsidy only to farmers who hold two hectares or more. The announced object is to help small and marginal farmers. A farmer with 0.8 hectare challenges the scheme under Article 14. On the passage, the scheme is

- ◯ **A.** invalid, because holding two hectares or more has no rational nexus with the object of helping small farmers
- ◯ **B.** valid, because land holding is an intelligible differentia and is easy to measure and verify for every farmer
- ◯ **C.** valid, because a subsidy is a matter of State policy to which Article 14 does not apply at all
- ◯ **D.** invalid, because Article 14 prohibits every classification of persons for the purpose of conferring State benefits

9. Karki, a Nepali national lawfully living in a city for fifteen years, runs a tea stall. A municipal order cancels his licence alone, though neighbouring stalls breaking the same rule are left untouched, and gives no reason. Karki invokes Articles 19(1)(g) and 14. On the passage, he

- ◯ **A.** has no remedy at all, because every fundamental right that a trader can invoke is confined to citizens of India
- ◯ **B.** can invoke both Article 19(1)(g) and Article 14, because both rights belong to every person within the territory of India
- ◯ **C.** cannot invoke Article 19(1)(g), but can invoke Article 14 against the arbitrary and selective cancellation of his licence
- ◯ **D.** can invoke Article 19(1)(g) but not Article 14, because the order concerns a trade and not any question of equality

10. To protect children's health, a State law bans the sale of every food item, including sealed packaged items bearing a food-safety certification, within 500 metres of any school. A shopkeeper, a citizen, challenges it under Article 19(1)(g). On the passage, the law is

- ◯ **A.** valid, because protecting children's health serves the general public and the means adopted then need not be examined
- ◯ **B.** invalid, because a total ban reaching even sealed, certified items is excessive and disproportionate to a legitimate aim
- ◯ **C.** invalid, because Article 19(6) permits no restriction whatever on the trade in food items near any place
- ◯ **D.** valid, because the ban covers only a small area around schools and a restriction of limited area cannot be excessive

SECTION — LOGICAL REASONING

LOGICAL REASONING — STRENGTHEN · A CITY PORTAL AND THE SPEED OF BUILDING APPROVALS (Q11–Q14)

The municipal corporation of a mid-sized city replaced its paper-based building-plan approval with a mandatory online portal in January. Over the next twelve months the average time taken to approve a plan fell from 74 days to 31 days. The corporation's commissioner argues that the portal is the reason approvals have become faster, and that other cities should therefore adopt it. Two other developments are on record: during the same year the corporation filled 40 vacant posts of junior engineers, and the number of plans submitted fell by about one-fifth after the scrutiny fee was raised in July. The commissioner dismisses both as irrelevant to the speed of approvals.

11. Which of the following, if true, most strengthens the commissioner's claim that the portal, and not the new recruitment, made approvals faster?

- ◯ **A.** Several residents' associations have publicly praised the portal's design and ease of use at ward-level meetings
- ◯ **B.** The portal costs the corporation less per application than the paper-based system it replaced did in the earlier year
- ◯ **C.** The commissioner has spent twenty years in urban administration and has led several earlier reforms successfully
- ◯ **D.** The 40 newly recruited junior engineers were posted to the sanitation wing and none was posted to the building-plan section

12. Which of the following, if true, most strengthens the commissioner's further conclusion that other cities should adopt the portal?

- ◯ **A.** Three similar cities adopted the same portal, changed neither staffing nor fees, and saw approval time fall sharply
- ◯ **B.** Building-plan approvals in most other cities currently take longer on average than the 74 days once taken in this city
- ◯ **C.** The firm that built the portal also holds contracts with several other city corporations for related software services
- ◯ **D.** The portal was introduced only after a public consultation that lasted three months and covered all the city's wards

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13. A critic says the fall in approval time was caused by the one-fifth drop in submitted plans, which shortened the queue, and not by the portal. Which of the following, if true, most strengthens the commissioner's reply?

◯ **A.** After the fee rise the corporation's revenue from scrutiny fees increased in spite of the fall in the number of plans
◯ **B.** Neighbouring corporations that raised their scrutiny fees in the same year also saw plan submissions fall by about a fifth
◯ **C.** Before the fee rise, with plan volumes still at the old level, approval time under the portal was already below 35 days
◯ **D.** The commissioner's own estimate before the launch had predicted that approval times would fall to about thirty days

14. Which of the following, if true, most strengthens the commissioner's claim by removing doubt about the comparison of the two years' averages?

◯ **A.** Plans approved through the portal remain valid for the same number of years as plans approved earlier on paper
◯ **B.** The proportion of large, multi-storey plans among those submitted was about the same in the portal year as in the paper year
◯ **C.** Residents who built under the new approvals report satisfaction with the quality of construction on completion
◯ **D.** The corporation's annual report praises the speed of building-plan approvals in the year of the portal launch

LOGICAL REASONING — WEAKEN · FREE BREAKFAST AND SCHOOL ATTENDANCE (Q15–Q18)

In 2022 a state government began serving free breakfast in the government primary schools of twelve districts. In 2023 average daily attendance in those schools rose from 78 per cent to 86 per cent. The state's education secretary concludes that free breakfast raises attendance and recommends extending the scheme to upper-primary classes. In support, she points out that attendance in the state's private primary schools, which serve no breakfast, stayed almost unchanged at 91 per cent over the same period, so something specific to the scheme must have drawn children to class.

15. Which of the following, if true, most seriously weakens the secretary's conclusion that free breakfast raised attendance?

◯ **A.** From 2023 the state also paid parents there a monthly cash incentive for children attending 85 per cent of days
◯ **B.** Many children in these schools had regularly gone without any breakfast at home before the scheme began in 2022
◯ **C.** Private primary schools in the state charge fees that are considerably higher than the costs of government schools
◯ **D.** The breakfast served in the scheme includes milk on alternate days and a seasonal fruit on the remaining days

16. Which of the following, if true, most seriously weakens the secretary's recommendation to extend the scheme to upper-primary classes?

◯ **A.** Upper-primary classes in these districts have a larger number of pupils per school than primary classes have
◯ **B.** Serving breakfast to upper-primary pupils would cost more per child because older pupils eat larger portions
◯ **C.** Attendance in upper-primary classes is recorded in a separate register kept by the head teacher of each school
◯ **D.** Surveys show that most absences in upper-primary classes are caused by children taking up seasonal wage work and not by hunger

17. Which of the following, if true, most seriously weakens the secretary's use of the private-school figures as support?

◯ **A.** The private primary schools in the state recorded attendance by exactly the same method in both of the years, 2022 and 2023
◯ **B.** From 2023 government schools recorded attendance on a mobile app that let teachers mark pupils present for a whole week at once
◯ **C.** The number of pupils enrolled in the government primary schools of the twelve districts rose by 4 per cent
◯ **D.** A study in another country found that school meals were associated with better attendance among young children in many schools

18. Which of the following, if true, most seriously weakens the secretary's conclusion by suggesting that the rise would have happened without the scheme?

◯ **A.** Private school fees in the state rose by about 6 per cent on average between the years 2022 and 2023 in general
◯ **B.** The state spends more per pupil on government primary schools than it does on any other class of school
◯ **C.** The twelve districts were picked because floods in 2022 had depressed their attendance, which usually recovers within a year of floods
◯ **D.** Attendance in the private primary schools of the same twelve districts was also nearly unchanged over the period

SECTION — QUANTITATIVE TECHNIQUES

QUANT — ELECTIONS & DEMOGRAPHICS · MENSURATION IN CONTEXT · POLLING HALLS, BALLOT PAPERS AND A RALLY GROUND (Q19–Q22)

A returning officer is planning five rectangular polling halls, P1 to P5. The table gives the length and breadth of each hall and the number of registered voters allotted to it. Use these further facts. Every ballot paper is a rectangle measuring 20 cm by 12 cm, and the order placed with the press equals the number of registered voters plus 10 per cent spare papers. A circular rally ground has a radius of 35 m, and a rectangular stage of 10 m by 7 m stands wholly inside it; take pi as 22/7 and allow each person 0.6 square metre of free ground. In hall P4, a clear passage of uniform width is left along all four inner walls, and the remaining central rectangle is divided entirely into booths, each booth with its queue space taking 10 square metres.

Hall	Length (m)	Breadth (m)	Registered voters
P1	24	15	1440
P2	30	18	1620
P3	20	20	1200
P4	36	14	1536
P5	28	16	1344

19. The hall with the greatest floor area has how many registered voters per square metre of floor?

◯ **A.** 4 voters per square metre of the floor area
◯ **B.** 2.5 voters per square metre of the floor area
◯ **C.** 3.6 voters per square metre of the floor area
◯ **D.** 3 voters per square metre of the floor area

20. The press order for hall P1's ballot papers covers all its registered voters plus the spare papers. Wh

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total area of paper needed?

◯ **A.** 38.016 square metres of ballot paper in all
◯ **B.** 34.56 square metres of ballot paper in all
◯ **C.** 3,801.6 square metres of ballot paper in all
◯ **D.** 38.4 square metres of ballot paper in all

21. The organisers want the maximum crowd the rally ground can hold, excluding the area under the stage. That number is

◯ **A.** 6,416.67 persons in the open space of the ground
◯ **B.** 6,300 persons in the open space of the ground
◯ **C.** 3,150 persons in the open space of the ground
◯ **D.** 5,600 persons in the open space of the ground

22. In hall P4 the clear passage is first 2 m wide and is then widened to 3 m. By how many does the number of voters per booth increase?

◯ **A.** 64 voters per booth more, rising from 48 to 112
◯ **B.** 8 voters per booth more, rising from 48 to 56
◯ **C.** 16 voters per booth more, rising from 48 to 64
◯ **D.** 24 voters per booth more, rising from 48 to 72

QUANT — TRADE & INDUSTRY · TIME-SPEED-DISTANCE · FREIGHT TRUCKS, COURIER VANS AND FOUR TRADE ROUTES (Q23–Q26)

A logistics firm runs freight on four routes, R1 to R4, between a loading hub and a market hub. On each route a loaded truck goes from the loading hub to the market hub at the loaded speed, and an empty truck returns at the empty speed. The table gives the one-way distance and the two speeds for every route. Unless a question states otherwise, ignore stops, loading time and acceleration, and assume that every vehicle keeps its stated speed throughout. Where a question gives clock times, treat all speeds as constant between those times, and use the table values for the route named in the question.

Route	Distance (km)	Loaded speed (km/h)	Empty speed (km/h)
R1	240	40	60
R2	330	55	66
R3	420	60	70
R4	300	50	75

23. The average speed of a truck over a complete round trip on route R1, loaded outward and empty on return, is

◯ **A.** 48 km/h
◯ **B.** 50 km/h
◯ **C.** 52.5 km/h
◯ **D.** 46 km/h

24. A loaded truck leaves the loading hub of R4 and, at the same moment, an empty truck leaves the market hub, each heading to the other end. How far from the loading hub do they meet?

◯ **A.** 150 km
◯ **B.** 180 km
◯ **C.** 112.5 km
◯ **D.** 120 km

25. A loaded truck leaves at 5:00 on R3 and must reach by 12:00. After 2 hours it halts for 1 hour. By what percentage must it raise its speed for the rest of the journey to arrive on time?

◯ **A.** 20 per cent
◯ **B.** 30 per cent
◯ **C.** 25 per cent
◯ **D.** 12.5 per cent

26. A loaded truck leaves the loading hub of R3 at 6:00. A courier van leaves the same hub at 7:30 on the same road at 80 km/h. How far from the hub does the van overtake the truck?

◯ **A.** 337.5 km
◯ **B.** 360 km
◯ **C.** 400 km
◯ **D.** 420 km

RAPID FIRE — ONE-LINE RECALL

12 quick questions · not negatively marked

1. Name the maxim for the rule against bias. _____
2. Which test checks whether a decision is so unreasonable that no reasonable authority could reach it? _____
3. Which maxim gives the right of fair hearing? _____
4. Which interest disqualifies a decision-maker automatically? _____
5. Articles under which High Courts and the Supreme Court issue writs? _____
6. Two parts of the Article 14 classification test? _____
7. Which Article 19 clause allows reasonable restrictions on trade and business? _____
8. Which Article bars conviction under an ex post facto law? _____
9. Which rights are available to foreigners too: Article 19 or Article 21? _____
10. Area of a circle of radius 14 m (pi = 22/7)? _____
11. Average speed over equal distances at x and y km/h? _____
12. A strengthen question on a causal argument is best answered by which kind of option? _____

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