Daily Reading Comprehension & Critical Reasoning

Rotated-genre RC passages and real-argument Critical Reasoning — CLAT-2026 grade. Read each passage and answer from the passage only.
Free daily practice — clatgurukul.com/daily · Pass this sheet to a friend.

SECTION — READING COMPREHENSION

READING COMPREHENSION — PHILOSOPHY & IDEAS · WHAT THE FORGIVER KEEPS (Q1–Q5)

We are often told that to forgive is to forget, and the advice is offered as though it were a kindness. It is in fact a confusion. A person who has genuinely forgotten an injury has nothing left to forgive; she has simply lost the memory, as one loses an umbrella on a crowded train. Forgiveness, if it is anything at all, is something done with the memory intact. Nor is it the same as excusing. To excuse is to discover that the act was not really a wrong, or not really the agent's fault: he was pushed, misinformed or ill. Once an excuse succeeds, resentment is not overcome but shown to have been misplaced from the start.

This produces an old puzzle. If the wrong was excusable, there is nothing to forgive; if it was inexcusable, forgiving it looks like condoning it, as though the victim had decided that it did not matter after all. The puzzle dissolves once we see what forgiveness actually changes. It does not alter the verdict on the act. The forgiver continues to hold that what was done was wrong, and wrong of the person who did it. What she gives up is resentment, the standing grievance that keeps the wrongdoer fixed, in her eyes, as nothing more than the author of that one act.

On this view forgiveness need not wait for an apology. An apology may make it easier, and its absence may make it unwise, but a victim may lay down her resentment for reasons of her own: because she will not let the injury occupy the rest of her life, or because she has come to see the offender as more than his worst deed. Reconciliation is a different matter. To forgive is to change one's attitude; to reconcile is to restore a relationship, and that requires trust, which the wrongdoer must earn and the victim is entitled to withhold for as long as she judges wise.

It follows that forgiveness is a gift and not a debt. No one can be owed it, and this is why the familiar public demand that victims forgive, so often made by people who suffered nothing, is not a counsel of virtue but a second injury. It asks the wronged to perform the moral work that properly belongs to the one who did the wrong.

1. Which of the following best captures the author's account of what forgiveness is?

- ◯ **A.** Giving up resentment of a wrongdoer while still judging that a real wrong was done
- ◯ **B.** Accepting a sincere apology and then restoring the trust that the wrong destroyed
- ◯ **C.** Discovering that the wrongdoer was pushed, misinformed or otherwise not at fault
- ◯ **D.** Letting the memory of an injury fade until it no longer troubles the victim's mind

2. The comparison with losing an umbrella on a crowded train is used to suggest that forgetting an injury is

- ◯ **A.** a generous act that a victim freely chooses to perform for the person who wronged her
- ◯ **B.** a sign that the injury was too trivial ever to have needed any forgiveness
- ◯ **C.** a surer route to peace of mind than the harder work that forgiving demands
- ◯ **D.** an involuntary loss rather than something a victim does in response to a wrong

3. According to the passage, the 'old puzzle' rests on the mistaken assumption that forgiving a wrong must

- ◯ **A.** wait until the wrongdoer has shown remorse and offered a sincere apology
- ◯ **B.** lead in time to the full restoration of the relationship that was damaged
- ◯ **C.** be granted only by the person who was personally injured by the wrongdoing
- ◯ **D.** involve the victim's revising her judgment that the act was wrong at all

4. Which of the following would the author most clearly regard as forgiveness without reconciliation?

- ◯ **A.** A tenant stops resenting her landlord on learning that a plumber misled him about the leak
- ◯ **B.** A woman drops her grievance against a cousin who cheated her, but will not lend him money again
- ◯ **C.** A clerk, over many years, simply forgets a sharp insult a colleague once made at a staff meeting
- ◯ **D.** A shopkeeper accepts a supplier's sincere apology and resumes doing business with him as before

5. The author's attitude towards public demands that victims forgive their wrongdoers is best described as

- ◯ **A.** cautious approval, since such demands may help a bitterly divided community to heal
- ◯ **B.** studied neutrality, setting out both sides without reaching any firm view
- ◯ **C.** mild amusement at the naivety of those who keep making such public appeals
- ◯ **D.** firm disapproval, since such demands shift a moral burden onto the injured

READING COMPREHENSION — ECONOMICS · WHEN THE MEASURE BECOMES THE TARGET (Q6–Q10)

In the 1970s the economist Charles Goodhart, then an adviser at the Bank of England, noticed something awkward about the money-supply figures that policy had begun to target. Measures of money that had once moved closely with spending stopped doing so once the authorities tried to steer them; banks and borrowers rearranged their affairs, and the old relationship dissolved. His observation, that a statistical regularity tends to collapse once pressure is placed on it for purposes of control, has since escaped economics entirely. In its popular form it says that when a measure becomes a target, it ceases to be a good measure.

The reason is not mysterious. An indicator is useful because it moves with something we care about but cannot easily observe: a waiting time with the quality of care, a test score with learning, a clearance rate with the work of detectives. Before anyone is rewarded for the number, the two travel together because nobody has a reason to separate them. Once pay, promotion or funding depends on the number, people look for the cheapest way to move it, and the cheapest way is rarely the one that moves the thing behind it. A police station rewarded for a falling count of recorded crime can hit its target cheaply by discouraging complainants from filing reports, so the register grows calmer while the streets do not. A hospital judged on how quickly patients are seen after arrival may find that the quickest improvement lies in delaying the moment of arrival, keeping patients in ambulances outside until a bed is free. The figure imp
wait does not.



SCAN AT DESK TO COLLECT
CG-RC-20261126

NAME: _____ **ROLL NO:** _____ **BATCH:** _____

It is tempting to conclude that numbers should be abandoned, but that would mistake the lesson. Without indicators, managers fall back on impressions, and impressions are gamed too: by confidence, by flattery, by whoever speaks loudest in the meeting. Goodhart's law is not really about numbers. It is a law about incentives, and it applies to any signal on which rewards come to depend.

The practical question is how costly gaming is next to genuine improvement. A number stays honest only so long as moving it falsely costs more than moving it truly. Institutions can raise that cost by relying on several indicators rather than one, by checking some measures without announcing them in advance, and by pairing every figure with an inspector who visits. None of these makes a target incorruptible; each makes honest improvement relatively cheaper.

6. Which of the following best states the central claim of the passage?

- ◯ **A.** Rewards tied to an indicator invite cheap ways of moving it apart from the goal it tracks
- ◯ **B.** Numerical targets do more harm than good and should be replaced by experienced managerial judgment
- ◯ **C.** Goodhart's observation applies chiefly to money-supply figures and only loosely elsewhere
- ◯ **D.** Indicators fail mainly because the quantities they are meant to track cannot be measured

7. The hospital example illustrates that the improved figure resulted mainly from

- ◯ **A.** faster treatment of patients once they had been admitted to the wards
- ◯ **B.** a fall in the number of patients brought to the hospital by ambulance
- ◯ **C.** moving the point at which the clock started, not shortening the actual wait
- ◯ **D.** a decision by managers to stop recording waiting times for the worst cases

8. Which of the following findings would most support the remedies the author proposes in the final paragraph?

- ◯ **A.** Schools judged on a single published test score improved that score fastest of all
- ◯ **B.** Hospitals using several indicators spent more of their budgets on collecting the data
- ◯ **C.** Scores of schools also checked by unannounced visits tracked actual learning more closely
- ◯ **D.** Managers who relied only on their own impressions reported much more satisfaction with staff

9. In the final paragraph, a number that 'stays honest' is one that

- ◯ **A.** is calculated without arithmetical error by those who compile the figures
- ◯ **B.** continues to move with the underlying quality it was chosen to indicate
- ◯ **C.** is published openly so that every interested party can inspect it freely
- ◯ **D.** is reported by an independent inspector rather than by the institution itself

10. The author refers to confidence, flattery and the loudest speaker in a meeting in order to

- ◯ **A.** show that managers are poor judges of the indicators they themselves design
- ◯ **B.** argue that judgment without numbers is open to gaming of its own kind
- ◯ **C.** suggest that meetings are a less reliable source of data than written reports
- ◯ **D.** concede that indicators are often manipulated by persuasive members of staff

SECTION — CRITICAL REASONING

CRITICAL REASONING — POLITICAL ECONOMY · THE PRICE WRITTEN INTO LAW (Q11–Q15)

Farmers' unions have long demanded that the minimum support price, which the Union government announces each season for more than twenty crops, be made a legal right, so that no buyer may purchase those crops below it. The demand is understandable. In most of the country the announced price is a promise only on paper: effective procurement is concentrated in rice and wheat, and in a handful of states, while a farmer selling pulses or oilseeds elsewhere often takes whatever the trader offers.

Yet a legal guarantee would not deliver what its supporters expect. A law can forbid a trader to pay less than a stated price; it cannot oblige him to buy. When the market price of a crop falls below its support price, as it does precisely in the seasons when farmers most need protection, a private buyer faced with that law will simply stop buying. The state would then become the only lawful purchaser of the whole marketable surplus. It already struggles to store and dispose of the grain it procures; it has neither the warehouses nor the outlets for the entire crop of many more commodities. The farmer who could not obtain the support price before would now be unable to sell lawfully at all, and much of his produce would move through informal channels, below the very price the law was meant to secure.

What farmers need is protection against the gap between the market price and the support price, and that gap can be paid directly. Under a price-deficiency scheme, the farmer sells in the open market at whatever price it offers, and the state pays him the difference up to the support price. The crop still goes to private buyers, and the state need not hold a single extra sack.

Such schemes are not free of difficulty. When Madhya Pradesh tried one in 2017, traders were accused of depressing prices in the knowledge that the state would make up the gap. That is an argument for calculating the payment from an average of market prices rather than from the price each farmer actually receives; it is not an argument for a law that would empty the market. The guarantee farmers deserve is a guarantee of income, delivered as a payment, not a price written into law.

11. Which of the following best expresses the main conclusion of the argument?

- ◯ **A.** Procurement of crops at support prices should be extended to pulses and oilseeds
- ◯ **B.** Farmers' unions have exaggerated the hardship that low crop prices cause them
- ◯ **C.** The minimum support price should be abolished altogether and crop prices left entirely to the market
- ◯ **D.** Support for farmers should be paid as a price-gap transfer, not enforced as a legal price

12. The claim that private buyers 'will simply stop buying' depends on the assumption that

- ◯ **A.** state officials would enforce the legal guarantee only weakly in most markets
- ◯ **B.** traders could not recover a price above the market rate when they resell the crop
- ◯ **C.** the Union government would raise support prices once they had legal force
- ◯ **D.** the legal guarantee would cover only rice and wheat, not pulses or oilseeds

13. Which of the following, if true, would most seriously weaken the reasoning in the second paragraph?

- ◯ **A.** Where traders were barred from buying below a floor price, private purchases barely fell
- ◯ **B.** Most of the state's grain warehouses are located in the states that procure the most rice
- ◯ **C.** Farmers selling pulses already receive less than the support price in most seasons
- ◯ **D.** Informal crop markets operate in many districts even in years when market prices are unusually high

SCAN AT DESK TO COLLECT
CG-RC-20261126

14. Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the author's case against a legal price?

- ◯ **A.** Farmers in states with strong procurement earn more per hectare than farmers elsewhere
- ◯ **B.** Price-deficiency payments can be sent quickly and cheaply as direct transfers into farmers' bank accounts
- ◯ **C.** Support prices are announced before sowing so that farmers can plan which crops to grow
- ◯ **D.** When one district enforced a cotton floor price, traders moved their buying to nearby districts

15. The reference to traders' conduct under the Madhya Pradesh scheme serves mainly to

- ◯ **A.** admit a weakness in the author's own remedy and show how it can be designed around
- ◯ **B.** prove that price-deficiency schemes have failed in every state that has tried them
- ◯ **C.** show that private traders would equally find ways to evade a legal support price for crops
- ◯ **D.** suggest that state governments are less able than the Union to run price schemes

CRITICAL REASONING — SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY POLICY · CAUTION IN THE WRONG PLACE (Q16–Q20)

When India decided in 2022 that certain genome-edited plants, those carrying no DNA introduced from another organism, need not pass through the rules that govern genetically modified crops, critics called the decision a back door. A plant whose genes have been altered in a laboratory, they argue, should face the same years of case-by-case biosafety trials as any transgenic crop, whatever tool was used to alter it.

The argument has the appeal of caution, but it fixes on the wrong thing. The simplest edits change a few letters of a plant's own genetic code, for instance by switching off a gene that makes rice vulnerable to a disease. A change of that kind can arise on its own, through the spontaneous mutations that occur in every field in every season, and plant breeders have produced such changes deliberately for decades by exposing seeds to radiation or chemicals and selecting the useful results. Many varieties bred in this way are grown and eaten today, and they have never been required to clear the regime applied to transgenic crops. To demand years of trials for an edited rice while waving through a radiation-bred rice carrying the identical change is to regulate the laboratory's method rather than the plant in the field.

Risk, after all, lies in what a plant is and does: what it contains, how it behaves, and what it does to the soil, the insects and the weeds around it. Two plants that are alike in all these respects pose the same risk, however differently they were made.

None of this means that edited crops should escape scrutiny. A trait such as tolerance to a herbicide raises real ecological questions, since heavy spraying of a tolerant crop may breed resistant weeds; but those questions arise equally whether the tolerance was introduced by editing, by mutation breeding or by a transgene. The sensible rule is therefore to let the trait, not the technique, decide how much review a new variety must undergo. A rice that has merely lost its weakness to a disease deserves a light touch, while a crop built to survive repeated spraying deserves a hard look, however it came to be. Regulators who ask how a plant was made, rather than what it will do, will spend their caution in the wrong place.

16. Which of the following best expresses the main conclusion of the argument?

- ◯ **A.** Genome-edited crops are safe and should be released without any further review
- ◯ **B.** Mutation-bred varieties should now be brought under the rules for transgenic crops
- ◯ **C.** How much review a new variety needs should depend on its traits, not its technique
- ◯ **D.** India's 2022 exemption for genome-edited plants opened a back door for transgenic crops

17. The author's argument that an edited rice and a radiation-bred rice with the identical change should be treated alike assumes that

- ◯ **A.** radiation breeding has so far produced more useful varieties than gene editing
- ◯ **B.** regulators lack the expertise to tell an edited plant from a mutation-bred one
- ◯ **C.** the editing process itself adds no risk absent from a plant with the same change
- ◯ **D.** transgenic crops are more dangerous than any variety produced by older methods

18. Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the author's argument?

- ◯ **A.** Some consumers say that they would avoid buying any rice edited in a laboratory
- ◯ **B.** Editing tools leave hidden changes elsewhere in the genome unlike any mutation breeding produces
- ◯ **C.** Mutation breeding has been used for decades to develop varieties of rice, wheat and barley
- ◯ **D.** Herbicide-tolerant crops have bred resistant weeds in several of the farming regions that grow them widely

19. Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the argument?

- ◯ **A.** Edited and radiation-bred rice with the same change proved identical in content and field behaviour
- ◯ **B.** Transgenic crops in India have taken far longer than other new crops to win final regulatory approval
- ◯ **C.** Many farmers in India still prefer older varieties of rice that are tolerant of drought
- ◯ **D.** Critics of gene editing have also opposed the commercial release of transgenic mustard

20. Which of the following policies would the author most likely endorse?

- ◯ **A.** Exempting all edited crops from review, since their edits copy changes that occur naturally
- ◯ **B.** Requiring biosafety trials for every variety developed in a laboratory, by any method used
- ◯ **C.** Reviewing any herbicide-tolerant variety closely, whether it is edited, mutation-bred or transgenic
- ◯ **D.** Applying the full transgenic rules to edited crops, but only when they carry a herbicide-tolerance trait

RAPID FIRE — ONE-LINE RECALL

100 quick questions · not negatively marked

1. What, per the author, is the advice 'to forgive is to forget' in fact?
2. What does a person who has forgotten an injury have left to forgive?
3. To what does the author compare forgetting an injury?
4. Where, in the analogy, is the umbrella lost?
5. With what intact, per the author, is forgiveness done?
6. What is it to 'excuse', according to the passage?
7. Name one excusing condition listed in the passage.
8. When an excuse succeeds, what is shown about resentment?
9. If a wrong was excusable, what is there to forgive?
10. If a wrong was inexcusable, what does forgiving it look like?
11. What does forgiveness NOT alter, per the author?
12. What does the forgiver continue to hold about the act?

SCAN AT DESK TO COLLECT
CG-RC-20261126

13. What does the forgiver give up?
14. How does the author describe resentment?
15. Resentment keeps the wrongdoer fixed as what, in the victim's eyes?
16. Must forgiveness wait for an apology, per the author?
17. What may the absence of an apology make forgiveness?
18. What may an apology make forgiveness?
19. Name one reason a victim may lay down resentment.
20. As more than what may the victim come to see the offender?
21. To forgive is to change what, per the passage?
22. To reconcile is to restore what?
23. What does reconciliation require?
24. Who must earn the trust that reconciliation requires?
25. Who is entitled to withhold trust?
26. Forgiveness is a gift and not a what?
27. Can anyone be owed forgiveness, per the author?
28. What does the author call the public demand that victims forgive?
29. Who, the author says, often makes the public demand to forgive?
30. The demand to forgive is not a counsel of what?
31. Whose moral work does the public demand shift onto the victim?
32. What is the title of the passage on forgiveness?
33. Forgiveness without reconciliation: what does the victim drop?
34. Forgiveness without reconciliation: what may the victim still withhold?
35. What is the 'old puzzle' about forgiveness?
36. Does forgiving require deciding the wrong did not matter?
37. In which decade did Goodhart make his observation?
38. Which economist gave his name to the law in the passage?
39. At which institution was Goodhart an adviser?
40. Which figures had policy begun to target in Goodhart's case?
41. Measures of money had once moved closely with what?
42. Who rearranged their affairs once money figures were targeted?
43. What tends to collapse once pressure is placed on it for control?
44. Popular form: when a measure becomes a target, it ceases to be what?
45. A waiting time is meant to move with what?
46. A test score is meant to move with what?
47. A clearance rate is meant to move with what?
48. Before rewards attach, why do number and goal travel together?
49. Name one reward that can depend on a number, per the passage.
50. Once rewarded, what do people look for, per the author?
51. Is the cheapest way usually the one that moves the real goal?
52. On what is the hospital in the example judged?
53. Where were patients kept to delay their 'arrival'?
54. Until when were patients kept outside?
55. Complete: 'The figure improves; the wait ...'
56. What conclusion does the author call tempting but mistaken?
57. Without indicators, managers fall back on what?
58. Name one way impressions are gamed, per the passage.
59. Goodhart's law is not at bottom a law about what?
60. Goodhart's law is, per the author, a law about what?
61. To which signals does the law apply?
62. What is the practical question, per the author?
63. A number stays honest only so long as moving it falsely costs what?
64. Name one remedy proposed in the final paragraph.
65. Should some measures be checked with or without notice?
66. With whom should every figure be paired?
67. Do the remedies make a target incorruptible?
68. What do the remedies make relatively cheaper?
69. In the passage, a number that 'stays honest' keeps doing what?
70. What is the title of the Economics passage?
71. What do farmers' unions want the minimum support price to become?
72. Who announces the minimum support price?
73. For roughly how many crops is the support price announced?
74. How often is the support price announced?
75. In most of the country, the announced price is a promise only where?
76. In which two crops is effective procurement concentrated?
77. Procurement is concentrated in how many states?
78. Name a crop group whose farmers often take whatever traders offer.
79. Can a law forbid a trader to pay less than a stated price?
80. Can a law, per the author, oblige a trader to buy?
81. When does the market price fall below the support price?
82. What does a private buyer do when faced with the legal floor?
83. Who would become the only lawful purchaser?
84. Of what would the state become the only lawful purchaser?
85. What does the state already struggle to do with procured grain?
86. What two things does the state lack for many more commodities?
87. Through what channels would produce move under a legal floor?
88. At what price would informal sales occur?
89. Against what gap do farmers need protection, per the author?
90. What is the author's proposed scheme called?
91. Under the scheme, where does the farmer sell?
92. Under the scheme, what does the state pay?
93. Under the scheme, who still buys the crop?
94. How many extra sacks must the state hold under the scheme?
95. Which state tried a price-deficiency scheme?
96. In which year did Madhya Pradesh try the scheme?
97. Of what were traders accused under that scheme?
98. Why might traders depress prices under such a scheme?
99. From what should the payment be calculated, per the author?
100. What does the author say a legal price would do to the mark

SCAN AT DESK TO COLLECT
CG-RC-20261126