

PRACTICE TEST — CLASS 03

Validity, Scope & the Author's Mind · 30 Questions across 4 Passages

OBJECTIVES: Distinguish validity from truth. Grade arguments as strong or weak. Identify scope-shifts. Tell inferences from assumptions. Track quantity & probability indicators across stem and options.

INSTRUCTIONS: 30 questions across 4 passages. **Section A** (Passages 1-2, Qs 1-15) in class — 25 min. **Section B** (Passages 3-4, Qs 16-30) as homework — 35 min. Circle ONE option per question. Mark skipped questions with "***".

MARKING: +1 / 0 / -0.25. Target attempt: 26/30. Benchmark for CLAT 2027 readiness: ≥ 22/30.

SECTION A | IN-CLASS | Qs 1 – 15 | 25 min

PASSAGE 1 (Questions 1 – 8)

The Election Commission of India should pause the **Special Intensive Revision (SIR)** of electoral rolls and release a fuller methodology before resuming. The SIR has, in three pilot states, struck off 4.6 lakh names — many of them genuine voters whose homes were locked during the field visit. Three retired Chief Election Commissioners have, in the last fortnight, said the methodology lacks transparency. **However**, the Commission insists that the safeguards built into Form-7 challenges are enough — that voters can object, attend a hearing, and have their names restored. **Yet** a 2024 Lokniti survey found that 71% of rural respondents could not name a single official to whom they would address an objection. **Therefore, since** a process that depends on voter knowledge of officials cannot be called transparent when most voters lack that knowledge, the Commission's "safeguards" argument fails on its own terms.

Q1. Which of the following is the **main conclusion**?

- (A) 4.6 lakh names were struck off in three pilot states.
- (B) 71% of rural respondents could not name an objection officer.
- (C) The ECI should pause the SIR and release a fuller methodology before resuming.
- (D) Three retired CECs have publicly criticised the methodology.

Q2. The Commission's argument that "Form-7 challenges are enough" is in the passage:

- (A) The author's own main conclusion.
- (B) A counter-premise the author rebuts.
- (C) An additional premise reinforcing the main conclusion.
- (D) A sub-conclusion the author endorses.

Q3. "Therefore, since" in the final sentence represents:

- (A) Two premise indicators.
- (B) A counter-premise followed by a conclusion.
- (C) Two conclusion indicators.
- (D) A conclusion indicator interrupted by a premise clause.

Q4. The argument is best graded as:

- (A) Invalid — the conclusion does not follow from the premises at all.
- (B) Weak — pilot data from three states cannot bind a national programme.
- (C) Strong — three CECs have publicly criticised the SIR.
- (D) Strong — the data and the conclusion line up tightly.

Q5. Which of the following is an **assumption** the argument requires?

- (A) Form-7 has never been used successfully by any voter.
- (B) All ECI Commissioners have publicly opposed the SIR.
- (C) Voter knowledge of officials is necessary for an objection process to count as transparent.
- (D) The Lokniti survey covered urban as well as rural respondents.

Q6. Which of the following can be properly **inferred** from the passage?

- (A) At least some voters whose homes were locked were genuine voters.
- (B) Every name struck off was a genuine voter.
- (C) All retired Chief Election Commissioners disagree with the SIR.
- (D) 71% of all Indian voters cannot name an objection officer.

Q7. Which, if true, would **most STRENGTHEN** the author's argument?

- (A) Total electoral-roll churn in past national revisions has averaged below 0.5%.
- (B) In two recent state revisions, fewer than 12% of struck-off voters successfully filed Form-7 objections.
- (C) The ECI's 2026 budget for the SIR is the highest on record.
- (D) A majority of urban voters can name an objection officer.

Q8. Which, if true, would **most WEAKEN** the author's conclusion?

- (A) The ECI has just released a 60-page methodology document with state-wise field-visit logs.
- (B) The SIR has been welcomed by some opposition parties.
- (C) The Lokniti survey was conducted in only six states.
- (D) Past CECs have generally been cautious in public statements.

PASSAGE 2 (Questions 9 – 15)

India added a record 24 GW of grid-scale solar capacity in FY26, the IEA reports. **Most** of this capacity, however, sits in three states — Rajasthan, Gujarat and Karnataka — where land was already cheap and irradiance high. As Northern India endured a 14-day heatwave in May 2026, peak grid demand crossed 250 GW for the first time, with cooling alone

accounting for an estimated 38%. The Ministry of Power has therefore proposed a 24x7 Renewable Round-the-Clock (RTC) tender that would force a portion of solar generation to be paired with storage and time-shifted to evening peaks. **Critics argue** that small-scale rooftop systems must be incentivised first; **but** rooftop addition has, since 2022, never exceeded 4 GW per year, and a national grid stressed by heat cannot wait for a slow rooftop scale-up. **Consequently**, the RTC tender is the only realistic short-term policy for matching solar output to evening demand.

Q9. The **main conclusion** of the passage is closest to:

- (A) India added 24 GW of solar capacity in FY26. (B) Cooling accounts for 38% of peak demand during heatwaves.
(C) The RTC tender is the only realistic short-term policy for matching solar output to evening demand. (D) Rooftop solar should be deprioritised entirely.

Q10. "*Most of this capacity, however, sits in three states...*" is best classified as:

- (A) An assumption. (B) A counter-premise the author dismisses.
(C) The main conclusion. (D) A premise about geographical concentration of capacity.

Q11. "*Critics argue rooftop systems must be incentivised first...*" is in the passage:

- (A) The author's own conclusion. (B) A sub-conclusion that supports the RTC tender.
(C) A neutral fact the author neither uses nor disputes. (D) A counter-premise the author then rebuts.

Q12. The author's argument is most accurately graded as:

- (A) Strong — past rooftop addition rates cap how fast that pathway can scale. (B) Weak — three states' data cannot represent national demand.
(C) Invalid — the conclusion is unrelated to the premises. (D) Indeterminate — the passage offers no evidence either way.

Q13. Which of the following is an **assumption** the argument requires?

- (A) 24 GW is more than India added in any prior year. (B) Storage-paired solar can be procured fast enough to cover near-term evening peaks.
(C) Rooftop addition will permanently stagnate at 4 GW per year. (D) Cooling is the largest evening-peak load.

Q14. Which can be **inferred** from the passage?

- (A) Karnataka has lower irradiance than Rajasthan. (B) All states should pause large solar projects.
(C) Rooftop solar additions have been below 4 GW every year since 2022. (D) Cooling demand will fall as RTC capacity expands.

Q15. Which, if true, would **most WEAKEN** the author's argument?

- (A) India's evening peak in 2025 was lower than in 2024. (B) Rajasthan completed three new solar parks in FY26.
(C) Storage-paired solar tenders have, in two prior auctions, found no qualified bidders. (D) Cooling has historically dominated peak load during heatwaves.

SECTION B | HOMEWORK | Qs 16 – 30 | 35 min

PASSAGE 3 (Questions 16 – 23)

The Department of Higher Education has drafted Model Coaching Centre Guidelines, 2026, requiring every centre with more than 50 students to register, publish faculty credentials, and bar enrolment of children below 16. The intent is to cool the pressure-cooker culture of NEET, JEE and CLAT preparation. Supporters point to the Kota suicide cluster as proof that the under-16 bar is necessary. **However**, the Guidelines stop at registration; they do not cap class size, prescribe pedagogy, or audit fee structures. A 2025 NCERT survey found that **most** students who reported chronic stress were enrolled in centres with class sizes above 200 — not in centres that admitted under-16 students. The under-16 bar might be a **necessary** first step, but it cannot, by itself, address the root cause. **Consequently**, the Guidelines are **likely** to lower entry-age admissions without measurably reducing student stress. A serious regulatory framework would have to cap class size and audit fees as well.

Q16. The **main conclusion** of the passage is:

- (A) The under-16 bar is unconstitutional. (B) The 2026 Guidelines, by themselves, will not measurably reduce student stress.
(C) All coaching centres should be shut down. (D) NCERT's 2025 survey was methodologically flawed.

Q17. "*The under-16 bar might be a necessary first step...*" — the word "**might**" here is best classified as:

- (A) A quantity indicator ("all/most"). (B) A probability indicator on the lower end of the slider.
(C) A counter-premise indicator. (D) An additional premise indicator.

Q18. Suppose option (A) reads: "*The under-16 bar will eliminate student stress.*" This option, against the passage, is wrong because:

- (A) The passage's "might" was upgraded silently to "will" — a probability shift. (B) The under-16 bar is illegal.
(C) NCERT did not survey the relevant population. (D) The conclusion is the wrong scope.

Q19. "Most students who reported chronic stress were enrolled in centres with class sizes above 200..." — "most" here is closest to:

- (A) All — every chronically stressed student. (B) A majority — more than half, but possibly not all.
(C) A few — a small minority. (D) None — used in a negative construction.

Q20. Which of the following is an **assumption** the argument depends on?

- (A) Class size is a stronger driver of student stress than entry age. (B) All NEET aspirants are enrolled in centres with more than 50 students.
(C) The Department of Higher Education has not consulted any state government. (D) NCERT's survey covered only Kota.

Q21. Which can be properly **inferred** from the passage?

- (A) The Department's Guidelines apply nationwide. (B) Every coaching centre admits under-16 students.
(C) All Kota suicides involved under-16 students. (D) NCERT's 2025 survey identified class size as a stress driver.

Q22. Which, if true, would **most STRENGTHEN** the author's argument?

- (A) Several state governments have welcomed the Guidelines. (B) NEET applications fell after the Guidelines were drafted.
(C) A 2026 IIT-Delhi study finds class-size reduction cuts reported stress by 28% within a year. (D) Most under-16 students at coaching centres scored above the median.

Q23. Which, if true, would **most WEAKEN** the author's conclusion?

- (A) A randomised pilot of the under-16 bar in two coaching hubs cut chronic-stress reports by 41% within six months. (B) Some coaching centres voluntarily cap class sizes at 100.
(C) The Department's Guidelines were drafted in consultation with NCERT. (D) Kota's coaching market has shrunk by 4% since 2024.

PASSAGE 4 (Questions 24 – 30)

The Ministry of Health is considering reclassifying the emergency-contraception pill from Schedule H1 (prescription-only) to over-the-counter (OTC). Public-health researchers at AIIMS argue that OTC access has, in Brazil and South Africa, reduced unwanted pregnancies among 18-25-year-olds by **roughly 30%**. India's pilot in Tamil Nadu's pharmacies found that **most** first-time users were women aged 19-24 who specifically asked the pharmacist for guidance. Some practitioners caution that without a doctor's consultation, the pill **might** be misused as a routine contraceptive — but the AIIMS team notes that this concern is not supported by any of the post-OTC studies in comparator countries. **Consequently**, the Ministry should reclassify the pill to OTC, while concurrently funding pharmacist-training so that the Tamil Nadu pattern of pharmacist-mediated guidance scales nationwide.

Q24. The **main conclusion** of the passage is:

- (A) India's pilot in Tamil Nadu was successful. (B) AIIMS researchers should run a full national trial first.
(C) All emergency contraception is currently misused as routine contraception. (D) The pill should be reclassified to OTC, with concurrent pharmacist-training.

Q25. The author's argument relies on the comparison with Brazil and South Africa. The **strength** of this comparison is best graded as:

- (A) Very strong — outcomes in foreign countries always transfer to India. (B) Moderate — comparator-country evidence informs but does not prove the Indian case.
(C) Invalid — comparison evidence has no logical relevance. (D) Very weak — Brazil and South Africa have no relevance to India.

Q26. Which of the following **quantity / probability** shifts would make a wrong-answer trap?

- (A) Replacing "might be misused" with "could be misused". (B) Replacing "roughly 30%" with "approximately a third".
(C) Replacing "most" with "a majority". (D) Replacing "most first-time users" with "all first-time users".

Q27. Which is an **inference** properly drawn from the passage?

- (A) At least some Tamil Nadu first-time users were women aged 19-24. (B) Brazil and South Africa have identical health systems to India's.
(C) All women aged 18-25 in Brazil now use emergency contraception. (D) AIIMS funds the Ministry of Health.

Q28. Which is an **assumption** the argument requires?

- (A) Pharmacist-training can be scaled to a level that materially reduces misuse risk. (B) Indian pharmacists are unwilling to provide guidance.
(C) All women are aware of emergency contraception. (D) The Ministry has unlimited fiscal headroom.

Q29. Which, if true, would **most WEAKEN** the author's argument?

(A) The AIIMS team is partially funded by a pharmaceutical industry body.

(C) A four-year follow-up of OTC reclassification in two comparator countries shows that misuse-as-routine-contraception rose 22% — and was concentrated in regions without pharmacist-training programmes.

(B) India's Schedule H1 reclassification process is bureaucratically slow.

(D) Tamil Nadu has higher pharmacist density than the national average.

Q30. Which best describes the **structure** of the argument?

(A) A simple fact-set with no real conclusion.

(B) Premises (comparator data + pilot data) + counter-premise (misuse worry, dismissed) → main conclusion (reclassify with concurrent training).

(C) A two-speaker stimulus where the AIIMS team and the practitioners disagree on every point.

(D) A circular argument that assumes its own conclusion.

YOUR ANSWER GRID — circle ONE option per question.

Q	A	B	C	D	Q	A	B	C	D	Q	A	B	C	D
1	■	■	■	■	11	■	■	■	■	21	■	■	■	■
2	■	■	■	■	12	■	■	■	■	22	■	■	■	■
3	■	■	■	■	13	■	■	■	■	23	■	■	■	■
4	■	■	■	■	14	■	■	■	■	24	■	■	■	■
5	■	■	■	■	15	■	■	■	■	25	■	■	■	■
6	■	■	■	■	16	■	■	■	■	26	■	■	■	■
7	■	■	■	■	17	■	■	■	■	27	■	■	■	■
8	■	■	■	■	18	■	■	■	■	28	■	■	■	■
9	■	■	■	■	19	■	■	■	■	29	■	■	■	■
10	■	■	■	■	20	■	■	■	■	30	■	■	■	■

Submit Section A before the 25-minute bell. Section B is due at the next class. Answer key & explanations after discussion. | *End of Practice Test*