

LSAT Logical Reasoning

160+ High-Yield Concepts for the Modern LSAT

Logical Reasoning only - the 2/3 of your score you can master

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- Modern format explained - 2 scored LR sections (25 questions, 35 minutes each), logic games removed
 - Argument anatomy: premise, conclusion, assumption, indicator words, validity & soundness
 - Formal logic: conditionals, sufficient vs necessary, contrapositives, some/most/all quantifiers
 - The full question-type taxonomy: main point, strengthen, weaken, assumption, flaw, parallel, principle, paradox, role, and more
 - A catalog of common flaws: correlation-causation, ad hominem, false dichotomy, circular reasoning, straw man
 - Tested strategy: pre-phrasing, the 1:24 timing discipline, elimination, and the test-day blueprint

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How to Use This Guide

The modern LSAT (August 2024 and later) is built around Logical Reasoning: two scored LR sections of 25 questions and 35 minutes each, one scored Reading Comprehension section, and one unscored section of either type. That means LR is 50 of your 75 scored questions - fully two-thirds of your score. This guide teaches the reasoning patterns LR rewards: how arguments are built, the formal logic that underlies them, the recurring question types, the flaws the test loves to bait, and the strategy that turns knowledge into points.

How to use it: read Parts 1-3 to learn the vocabulary and the logic. Then drill Part 4's question-type taxonomy - each of the 15 types has its own job and its own traps. When a question misses you, check Part 5 to name the flaw you overlooked. Part 6 turns the knowledge into a timing and elimination system, and Part 7 is your test-day blueprint.

Honest positioning: the real LSAT questions live in LSAC's official PrepTests, and this guide is an independent concept workbook, NOT an official publication. It explains the concepts and patterns with original micro-examples - it does not reprint PrepTest questions. Pair it with official free prep (LSAC's official practice materials and Khan Academy are free) for the strongest preparation.

PART 1: THE MODERN LSAT - EXAM OVERVIEW

The August 2024 format, section timing, the 120-180 scale, and why LR is two-thirds of your score.

Since the August 2024 LSAT, the multiple-choice portion has been: two scored Logical Reasoning sections (25 questions, 35 minutes each), one scored Reading Comprehension section, and one unscored section of either LR or RC - a total of four 35-minute sections taking about three hours, with a 10-minute intermission between sections 2 and 3. Analytical Reasoning (logic games) was removed. Your score is reported on the 120-180 scale, and LSAT Argumentative Writing (an unscored writing sample) is taken separately.

Because two of the three scored sections are Logical Reasoning, LR is 50 of the 75 scored questions. Improving your LR accuracy is the single fastest lever on the whole test: every LR question type uses a small set of repeatable argument patterns, and this guide teaches you to see them instantly.

1 The Modern LSAT Structure

- Key facts:** Since August 2024: 2 scored Logical Reasoning sections + 1 scored Reading Comprehension section + 1 unscored section (LR or RC). Four 35-minute sections, about 3 hours total, with a 10-minute intermission after section 2.
- LR tip:** Memorize '2 LR + 1 RC + 1 extra' - the extra section is unscored and you can never tell which one it is.
- Example:** A test taker sees four sections: LR, RC, LR, LR. Two of the three LR sections count; the test taker does all four at full effort.

2 LR Is Two-Thirds of Your Score

- Key facts:** LR = 50 of the 75 scored questions across two sections. Masters of argument structure score higher on LR than on any other section type.
- LR tip:** Two-thirds of the score is one repeatable skill: argument analysis.
- Example:** If you lift your LR accuracy from 70% to 90%, your scaled score rises far more than the same lift in RC.

3 The 120-180 Score Scale

- Key facts:** LSAT scores are reported on a 120-180 scale, with 151-152 near the median and elite schools expecting the 160s-170s. Percentile matters as much as the raw number.
- LR tip:** Think of 120-180 as a 60-point ruler; each law school publishes its median.
- Example:** A 165 places you above roughly 90% of test takers, even though it is not a perfect score.

4 The Unscored Section

- Key facts:** One of the four sections is experimental: LSAC uses it to validate questions for future tests. You cannot identify it, so every section counts in your effort.
- LR tip:** Never relax on a section 'because it might not count' - you cannot know.
- Example:** A test taker finishes a suspiciously hard LR section but keeps pace, because skipping effort there on a guess would risk a scored section.

5 Digital Tablet Delivery

- Key facts:** The LSAT is administered on a tablet provided at the test center, with a stylus and scratch paper. The interface has a timer, highlighting, and question-flagging.
- LR tip:** Practice on a screen with a highlighter before test day; tablet habits matter.
- Example:** You highlight the conclusion clause on the tablet the same way you would on paper.

6 LSAT Argumentative Writing

- Key facts:** A separate, unscored 35-minute writing sample taken on your own computer through LSAC's platform. Law schools receive it with your score report.
- LR tip:** It is unscored but visible - write a clear, balanced argument.
- Example:** You take the writing sample at home after the multiple-choice test and submit it for review.

7 Retake Policy

- Key facts:** You may retake the LSAT (multiple administrations per testing cycle). Most test takers retake at least once, and score improvement with structured prep is common.
- LR tip:** Plan for improvement, not for one-shot perfection - but prep before every administration.
- Example:** A test taker takes the April LSAT, reviews their PrepTest misses, and retakes in June.

8 The 1:24 Pace

Key facts: 25 questions in 35 minutes is about 1 minute 24 seconds per question. Easy questions must be faster to fund the hard ones.

LR tip: *Bank time early; hard questions get 2 minutes, never 3.*

Example: After 10 questions in 12 minutes you are on pace, with a cushion for the hard middle questions.

9 PrepTests Are the Real Deal

Key facts: LSAC's official questions appear in PrepTests (released past exams). Real LSAT questions are precise, and only official material replicates their logic.

LR tip: *This guide teaches patterns; PrepTests give you the official voice - use both.*

Example: You drill a concept here, then verify your understanding on an official PrepTest section.

10 Why LR Is Teachable

Key facts: LR questions repeat a small set of argument patterns: assumptions, flaws, conditional logic, and quantifier strength. Pattern recognition is the #1 score lever.

LR tip: *Name the pattern before you look at the answers; the answers lose their power.*

Example: Every strengthen question is 'attack the assumption gap' in some disguise - once you see it, the type becomes familiar.

PART 2: ARGUMENT ANATOMY

Premises, conclusions, assumptions, indicator words, and the validity/soundness framework every LR question leans on.

11 Argument

- Key facts:** An argument is a claim (the conclusion) supported by reasons (premises). LR passages are arguments; your job is to map them.
- LR tip:** *Every LR passage = conclusion + support. Find both; nothing else matters at first.*
- Example:** Editorial: 'The city should build more bike lanes because commutes are short and air quality is poor.' - conclusion: build lanes; premises: short commutes, poor air.

12 Premise

- Key facts:** A premise is a reason or piece of evidence offered to support the conclusion. It can be a fact, a statistic, a definition, or an expert's claim.
- LR tip:** *Premises answer 'why?'; they are what the conclusion leans on.*
- Example:** In 'We should cancel the picnic because rain is forecast', the forecast is the premise.

13 Conclusion

- Key facts:** The conclusion is the point the argument is driving at - the claim the author wants you to accept. It can come first, last, or anywhere.
- LR tip:** *Ask 'what is the author trying to prove?' - that is the conclusion.*
- Example:** In 'So the merger will fail', the conclusion is that the merger will fail.

14 Intermediate Conclusion

- Key facts:** A claim that is supported by some premises AND used as a premise for a further conclusion. It is a stepping stone, not the final point.
- LR tip:** *The final destination is the main conclusion; intermediate conclusions are stops along the way.*
- Example:** Because sales fell (premise), revenue is down (intermediate conclusion), so the company should cut costs (main conclusion).

15 Assumption

- Key facts:** An unstated premise the argument needs - a gap between what is said and what is concluded. Finding it is the key to strengthen/weaken/assumption questions.
- LR tip:** *Assumptions are never written in the passage; you supply them.*
- Example:** Argument: 'She is a lawyer, so she is honest.' Unstated assumption: lawyers are honest.

16 Premise Indicator Words

- Key facts:** Words that flag support: since, because, for, as, given that, in light of, owing to, seeing that.
- LR tip:** *Because = premise. Whenever you see 'because', the clause that follows is a premise.*
- Example:** 'The plan will fail because costs are underestimated.' - 'costs are underestimated' is the premise.

17 Conclusion Indicator Words

- Key facts:** Words that flag the point: therefore, thus, so, hence, consequently, accordingly, clearly, it follows that, this shows that.
- LR tip:** *Therefore = conclusion. The 'therefore' clause is nearly always the main point.*
- Example:** 'Traffic is heavy; therefore we will be late.' - conclusion: we will be late.

18 Main Conclusion vs Subsidiary

- Key facts:** The main conclusion is supported by everything else; a subsidiary conclusion is supported by some premises but itself supports the main conclusion.
- LR tip:** *Test: 'would this claim, if removed, still leave the argument's point standing?' If no, it is a subsidiary step.*
- Example:** Main: cut spending. Subsidiary: revenue fell. Premise: sales dropped.

19 Validity

- Key facts:** An argument is valid if the conclusion must follow from the premises - it is impossible for the premises to be true and the conclusion false. Validity is about structure, not factual truth.
- LR tip:** *'All lawyers read; Pat is a lawyer, so Pat reads' - structurally valid.*

Example: Validity can hold with silly claims: 'All cats are pink; Fluffy is a cat; so Fluffy is pink' is valid in form.

20 Soundness

Key facts: An argument is sound when it is valid AND its premises are actually true. LR rarely cares about soundness - it cares about support and structure.

LR tip: *Valid = good shape; sound = good shape + true facts.*

Example: The pink-cat argument is valid but unsound because the premise is false.

21 Conditionals as Premises

Key facts: Many arguments use an if-then statement as a premise: 'If the bill passes, taxes rise.' The argument then reasons from the conditional.

LR tip: *Spot 'if...then...' and apply the conditional rules from Part 3 immediately.*

Example: 'If the bridge is closed, we must detour. The bridge is closed; we must detour.'

22 Quantifier Strength

Key facts: Some, most, all, none - quantifiers control how much a premise supports a conclusion. Overstating a quantifier is a classic LR flaw.

LR tip: *All > most > some for guaranteed strength; the test punishes conflation.*

Example: Premise says 'most members voted'; conclusion 'all members voted' overreaches.

23 Degrees of Support

Key facts: Support can be strong or weak. LR frequently asks how much support a piece of evidence gives, or which answer strengthens most.

LR tip: *Grade support: does evidence make the conclusion more likely, or guarantee it?*

Example: A single survey of 50 people gives weak support for a claim about the whole country.

24 Rhetorical Loaded Words

Key facts: Words like clearly, obviously, of course, plainly smuggle a conclusion into the phrasing. They can hide an unsupported leap.

LR tip: *When you see 'clearly', check what is being asserted without evidence.*

Example: 'Clearly the defendant is guilty' - the word 'clearly' is doing the arguing.

25 Causal Conclusions

Key facts: A common conclusion type: 'X causes Y.' The premises often show correlation or sequence only - which is where the flaw creeps in.

LR tip: *Causal conclusions demand evidence of mechanism, not just 'X happened before Y'.*

Example: 'Ice cream sales rise and drownings rise together, so ice cream causes drownings' - correlation mistaken for causation.

26 Comparative Conclusions

Key facts: Conclusions about more/less, better/worse, most/least require the premises to compare the same things on the same scale.

LR tip: *Check: does the evidence actually compare what the conclusion compares?*

Example: Evidence compares two cities' crime rates; conclusion ranks their safety - that matches if scale matches.

27 The 'Why' Test

Key facts: To find the conclusion, ask 'what is the author trying to establish?' and 'why does the author say that?' - premises answer the 'why'.

LR tip: *The sentence no other sentence supports IS the main conclusion.*

Example: In a paragraph of five sentences, four defend the fifth; the fifth is the conclusion.

28 Expert Claims as Premises

Key facts: An expert's opinion can be a premise, but the argument still must connect it to the conclusion. Experts do not make conclusions true by themselves.

LR tip: *Respect the claim, then check the link; don't let a name do the arguing.*

Example: 'Dr. Lee says the drug is safe' - the argument's conclusion is 'the drug is safe', and the premise is Dr. Lee's claim.

29 Evidence-Conclusion Drift

Key facts:	Restating the evidence as the conclusion (or vice versa) is a circular move: the argument assumes what it should prove.
LR tip:	<i>If the 'conclusion' only rewraps a premise, the argument is circular.</i>
Example:	'The policy is unfair because it is unjust' - 'unfair' and 'unjust' say the same thing.

30 The Missing Link

Key facts:	The gap between premises and conclusion - what must be true for the premises to get you to the conclusion - is the assumption you must name.
LR tip:	<i>Strengthen = fill the gap; weaken = widen it; assumption questions = find it.</i>
Example:	Premise: 'The team has won five straight.' Conclusion: 'The team will win tonight.' Missing link: past form predicts tonight.

31 Conclusion Position

Key facts:	The conclusion can open, close, or sit in the middle; some arguments state it twice. Map it by function, not position.
LR tip:	<i>Function beats location - a closing sentence may be a summary, not a new conclusion.</i>
Example:	An editorial states the recommendation first, argues, then restates it at the end.

32 Contrast Markers

Key facts:	However, but, yet, although signal a turn: the conclusion usually sits after the contrast, not before.
LR tip:	<i>Read 'however' as 'now the real point comes'.</i>
Example:	'The product is popular; however, it is unprofitable' - conclusion: unprofitable.

PART 3: FORMAL LOGIC - CONDITIONALS & QUANTIFIERS

If then statements, sufficient vs necessary, the contrapositive, and the some/most/all language that controls inference strength.

33 Conditional Statements

- Key facts:** An if-then statement, 'If A then B', links two conditions. A is sufficient for B; B is necessary for A.
- LR tip:** *If [sufficient] then [necessary]. The 'if' side triggers; the 'then' side is triggered.*
- Example:** 'If it rains, the game is cancelled' - rain guarantees cancellation.

34 Sufficient Condition

- Key facts:** The sufficient condition guarantees the result: A's happening is enough for B to happen. It is the trigger, not the requirement.
- LR tip:** *Sufficient = enough on its own (the 'if' clause).*
- Example:** Being a square is sufficient for being a rectangle.

35 Necessary Condition

- Key facts:** The necessary condition is required for the result: without B, A cannot happen. B is a floor, not a guarantee.
- LR tip:** *Necessary = required (the 'then' clause); it does not by itself cause A.*
- Example:** Being a rectangle is necessary for being a square.

36 The Contrapositive

- Key facts:** The only guaranteed inference from 'If A then B' is 'If not B then not A'. Contrapositives are always valid.
- LR tip:** *Flip and negate: $A \rightarrow B$ becomes $\text{Not } B \rightarrow \text{Not } A$.*
- Example:** 'If it rains, game cancelled' $\rightarrow$ 'Game not cancelled implies it did not rain.'

37 Denying the Antecedent

- Key facts:** From 'If A then B' and 'not A' you CANNOT conclude 'not B'. This is a classic flaw (also called 'denying the antecedent').
- LR tip:** *$\text{Not } A \rightarrow \text{Not } B$ is invalid; the result can still happen for other reasons.*
- Example:** It did not rain, yet the game was still cancelled (field damage) - so 'no rain' does not guarantee the game.

38 Affirming the Consequent

- Key facts:** From 'If A then B' and 'B' you CANNOT conclude 'A'. B can occur without A. Another classic flaw.
- LR tip:** *$B \rightarrow A$ is invalid; the necessary condition does not prove the sufficient one.*
- Example:** The game was cancelled, but not because of rain - so 'cancelled' does not prove 'rained'.

39 Negating a Conditional

- Key facts:** The negation of 'If A then B' is 'A and not B' - the only case that falsifies the conditional.
- LR tip:** *To attack an if-then, show the trigger happening without the result.*
- Example:** 'If I study, I pass' is false only when you study AND fail.

40 Some

- Key facts:** 'Some A are B' means at least one A is B (possibly all). It implies 'some B are A' - the relationship is symmetric.
- LR tip:** *Some = one or more; it never means 'only some' or 'not all'.*
- Example:** 'Some students are athletes' means at least one student is an athlete, possibly every one.

41 Most

- Key facts:** 'Most A are B' means more than half of A are B. It does not imply all, and it does not exclude all being B.
- LR tip:** *Most = over 50%; it says nothing about the rest.*
- Example:** 'Most members voted' - 11 of 20 voted, or even 20 of 20; both satisfy 'most'.

42 All

- Key facts:** 'All A are B' is the strongest universal: every A is in the B group. It gives the cleanest inferences and the strictest scope.

LR tip: *All = every single one; the reversal 'all B are A' is NOT implied.*

Example: 'All dogs are mammals' - Fido (a dog) is a mammal, but not every mammal is a dog.

43 None / No

Key facts: 'No A are B' means zero overlap; the two groups are entirely separate. It is the strongest negative.

LR tip: *No = zero; 'no A are B' equals 'all A are not B'.*

Example: 'No cats are fish' - the cat group and fish group never overlap.

44 Quantifier Chains

Key facts: With chains, be careful: 'All A are B; Most B are C' does NOT guarantee 'Most A are C' - the B's that are C could be the non-A B's.

LR tip: *Only ALL-to-ALL chains guarantee; most/some chains leave gaps.*

Example: All students are people; most people live in cities - not guaranteed most students live in cities.

45 Biconditionals

Key facts: 'A if and only if B' means both directions hold: $A \rightarrow B$ and $B \rightarrow A$. They are interchangeable.

LR tip: *IFF = two arrows; treat A and B as equivalent.*

Example: 'You pass if and only if you score 145' - passing guarantees 145 and 145 guarantees passing.

46 Translating 'Only'

Key facts: 'Only B are A' translates to $A \rightarrow B$: the word after 'only' is the necessary condition.

LR tip: *Only [necessary]. 'Only citizens vote' = if you vote, you are a citizen.*

Example: 'Only members enter' - entering implies membership (Enter $\rightarrow$ Member).

47 Translating 'Unless'

Key facts: 'A unless B' = 'If not B, then A' (A if not B). The clause after 'unless' gets negated and becomes the sufficient condition.

LR tip: *Unless = 'if not'. Negate the unless-clause to make the trigger.*

Example: 'You fail unless you study' = if you do not study, you fail.

48 Translating 'Without'

Key facts: 'Without B, no A' = $A \rightarrow B$: B is required for A (the same mechanic as 'only').

LR tip: *Without [necessary]. 'Without a ticket, no entry' = entry requires a ticket.*

Example: 'Without registration, you cannot vote' - voting implies you registered.

49 The Double Negative

Key facts: Not-not-A equals A. Two negations cancel.

LR tip: *Cancel pairs of negations before translating anything else.*

Example: 'It is not the case that she is not ready' = she is ready.

50 Strength Hierarchy

Key facts: For guaranteed inferences, All is strongest, then Most, then Some. When a conclusion needs a strong quantifier and the premise has a weak one, that is a flaw.

LR tip: *Match the conclusion's quantifier to the premises; never upgrade it.*

Example: Premise 'some members support the bill'; conclusion 'most members support it' - overreach.

51 Scope-Swap Traps

Key facts: LR answers often swap quantifier scope: 'most A are B' becomes 'most B are A' (invalid), or 'all A are B' becomes 'all B are A' (invalid).

LR tip: *Whenever an answer reverses your premise direction, it is almost always wrong.*

Example: 'Most doctors are women' does not mean most women are doctors.

52 Transitivity

- Key facts:** When conditionals line up - $A \rightarrow B$ and $B \rightarrow C$ - you may chain them: $A \rightarrow C$. This is valid and heavily tested.
- LR tip:** *Line up the middle term and drop it: $A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C$ gives $A \rightarrow C$.*
- Example:** If it rains, the ground is wet; if the ground is wet, the game stops $\rightarrow$ if it rains, the game stops.
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53 Contrapositive Chains

- Key facts:** Chain contrapositives too: $A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C$ also gives $\text{Not } C \rightarrow \text{Not } B \rightarrow \text{Not } A$.
- LR tip:** *Reverse-and-negate the whole chain: $\text{Not } C$ implies $\text{Not } A$.*
- Example:** From 'rain $\rightarrow$ wet $\rightarrow$ game stops', 'game did not stop' proves 'no rain'.
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54 The No-Reversal Rule

- Key facts:** Never infer the converse from a conditional: $A \rightarrow B$ does NOT give $B \rightarrow A$, and 'some B are A' is the most you can weakly suggest.
- LR tip:** *Reversal is the most common formal-logic trap on the test; catch it instantly.*
- Example:** 'If published, the book earns royalties' does not mean 'if it earns royalties, it was published'.
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55 The If-Only-Unless Trio

- Key facts:** The three translation words - 'if' (sufficient trigger), 'only' (necessary marker), 'unless' (negate-then-trigger) - appear together on nearly every test.
- LR tip:** *Drill: 'only' and 'without' point to necessary; 'unless' means 'if not'; 'if' triggers.*
- Example:** Practice: 'You may enter only if you knock, unless the door is open' - knock is necessary; if the door is not open, you must knock.
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56 Translation Practice Set

- Key facts:** Build fluency by translating everyday sentences: 'Coffee unless decaf' $\rightarrow$ if not decaf, coffee; 'Only rainy days close the park' $\rightarrow$ park closed implies rainy.
- LR tip:** *Ten translations a day for a week makes the mechanic automatic.*
- Example:** 'No pain, no gain' $\rightarrow$ gaining implies pain (gain $\rightarrow$ pain).
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PART 4A: THE QUESTION-TYPE TAXONOMY - POINT, INFERENCE, STRENGTHEN, WEAKEN

Main point, must be true, most strongly supported, strengthen, and weaken – the core of the scored section.

57 Main Point

- Key facts:** Asks for the conclusion of the argument. The correct answer restates the main conclusion, not a premise or subsidiary step.
- LR tip:** Find the conclusion first; pre-phrase it; then match.
- Example:** Passage argues for a tuition freeze; correct answer: 'The tuition should be frozen.'

58 Main Point Strategy

- Key facts:** Map premises and conclusion, apply the 'why' test, and ignore answers that restate only support.
- LR tip:** If an answer is fully supported by the text but is not the point, it is wrong.
- Example:** 'The tuition should be frozen because enrollment is climbing' - answer 'enrollment is climbing' restates a premise, not the point.

59 Main Point Trap

- Key facts:** The trap answer restates a premise or an intermediate conclusion, or adds a relatable-but-absent claim.
- LR tip:** Ask 'is this the author's point or just evidence?'
- Example:** Correct: freeze tuition. Trap: 'Enrollment has climbed for three years' (a premise, not the point).

60 Must Be True

- Key facts:** The conclusion must follow necessarily from the passage - no outside knowledge allowed. The passage supports the answer fully.
- LR tip:** Conservatively combine what the passage says; never import facts.
- Example:** Passage: 'All interns are students; some students work nights.' Must be true: at least one intern is a student.

61 Must Be True Strategy

- Key facts:** Read everything given, then pick the answer the passage absolutely forces. Weaker answers (most/could) are often not 'must'.
- LR tip:** Test each answer by negation: if it can be false while the passage stands, it is not must-be-true.
- Example:** Passage gives two facts; the correct answer simply connects them without adding information.

62 Must Be True Trap

- Key facts:** The trap overreaches: an answer that could be true (or is likely) but is not guaranteed. Watch for 'some' answers when the passage says 'most', and vice versa.
- LR tip:** Anything that requires an extra assumption is not must-be-true.
- Example:** Passage: 'Most residents commute.' Trap: 'Some residents do not commute.' (Most allows all.)

63 Most Strongly Supported

- Key facts:** A softer version of must-be-true: the answer most supported by the passage, though not strictly guaranteed. It is the best-supported inference available.
- LR tip:** Weigh each answer: which one does the passage lean on most?
- Example:** Passage strongly favors one inference; the correct answer is that inference, even if a hair of uncertainty remains.

64 Strengthen

- Key facts:** Asks you to add a premise or condition that makes the conclusion more likely. The best answer usually fills the assumption gap.
- LR tip:** Find the assumption, then pick the answer that supports it (or introduces supportive evidence).
- Example:** Conclusion 'the drug works'; correct strengthen: 'the trial was randomized and controlled.'

65 Strengthen Strategy

- Key facts:** Identify the missing link between evidence and conclusion, then select the answer that closes it (or makes the link more plausible).
- LR tip:** Pre-phrase the gap: 'the argument assumes ____'; the strengthener supports exactly that.
- Example:** Argument assumes the survey sample is representative; strengthen: the sample matched census demographics.

66 Strengthen Trap

Key facts: The trap strengthens a different claim, weakens, or adds irrelevant detail. It must specifically lift THIS conclusion.

LR tip: *Relevance is the filter: does it bear on the conclusion's likelihood?*

Example: A colorful fact about the industry sounds relevant but leaves the conclusion's likelihood unchanged - wrong.

67 Weaken

Key facts: Asks you to make the conclusion less likely. The best answer attacks the assumption or introduces counter-evidence.

LR tip: *Find the assumption and punch exactly that hole; a small hole beats an off-topic missile.*

Example: Conclusion 'the policy works'; weaken: 'the data only covered districts that already enforced it.'

68 Weaken Strategy

Key facts: Name the assumption, then predict the answer that exposes it: alternative explanation, reversed causation, unrepresentative sample, unfulfilled condition.

LR tip: *Your pre-phrase should be specific enough that you can reject answers that miss it.*

Example: Assumption: correlation means causation. Weaken: 'a third factor drives both.'

69 Weaken Trap

Key facts: The trap answer strengthens, discusses the topic without touching the argument, or weakens the premises without shaking the conclusion.

LR tip: *Only an answer that lowers the conclusion's probability is correct.*

Example: An answer that questions the conclusion's phrasing but not its likelihood is a trap.

PART 4B: THE QUESTION-TYPE TAXONOMY - ASSUMPTION, FLAW, PARALLEL

Necessary and sufficient assumptions, flaw, and parallel reasoning – the pattern matching core of LR.

70 Necessary Assumption

Key facts: A claim the argument **REQUIRES** to stand. If it were false, the argument would collapse. Necessary = must be true for the argument to work.

LR tip: *The argument needs this assumption; without it the logic breaks.*

Example: Argument 'She is a lawyer, so she is honest' requires: lawyers are honest.

71 Necessary Assumption Test

Key facts: Negate each answer and see if the argument collapses. If negating the answer wrecks the argument, it is necessary.

LR tip: *The negation test is the gold standard - apply it to every contender.*

Example: Answer 'the sample is representative': negated, 'the sample is unrepresentative' - the argument's conclusion collapses, so it is necessary.

72 Sufficient Assumption

Key facts: A claim that, if true, **FULLY** justifies the conclusion - it fills the entire gap so the argument becomes airtight (valid).

LR tip: *Sufficient = plugs the whole hole; it makes the conclusion follow.*

Example: Conclusion 'We should hire Dana': sufficient answer 'Dana is the most qualified candidate, and we should hire the most qualified.'

73 Sufficient vs Necessary

Key facts: Sufficient assumptions are usually broader or more general (they bridge everything); necessary ones are minimal (just required). A sufficient answer often implies the necessary one, not vice versa.

LR tip: *Sufficient = the whole bridge; necessary = one required beam.*

Example: 'We should always hire the most qualified' is sufficient; 'Dana is qualified at all' is merely necessary.

74 Flaw

Key facts: Asks what is wrong with the argument. The correct answer names the logical error - often the assumption gap expressed as a mistake.

LR tip: *Name the flaw in your head before reading answers: correlation-causation? reversal? scope?*

Example: 'The study found a link, so the claim that X causes Y is flawed' - correct flaw: treats correlation as causation.

75 Flaw Strategy

Key facts: Flaws live where the argument leaps: from some to all, from correlation to causation, from a sample to a population, from a requirement to a guarantee.

LR tip: *Pre-phrase with the Part 5 catalog in mind; the answer is one of those patterns.*

Example: Argument samples one city and concludes nationwide - flaw: unrepresentative sample (hasty generalization).

76 Flaw Trap

Key facts: The trap describes a flaw the argument does **NOT** commit, often a real-sounding but mismatched criticism.

LR tip: *Make the answer fit the actual move; a technically true criticism of a different argument is wrong.*

Example: 'The argument attacks the messenger' - but no person was attacked, so that flaw does not apply.

77 Parallel Reasoning

Key facts: Pick the answer whose reasoning structure matches the stimulus: same type of premise (e.g., conditional) and same logical move.

LR tip: *Abstract the stimulus to a skeleton (A->B, A, so B), then find its twin.*

Example: Stimulus: 'If P then Q; P; so Q.' Correct parallel: 'If wet, slippery; wet; so slippery.'

78 Parallel Reasoning Strategy

Key facts: Ignore topics entirely; match form only. Translate both stimulus and answers into the same shorthand before comparing.

LR tip: *Structure is identity; subject matter is noise.*

Example: A stimulus about parking and an answer about weather can be structurally identical.

79 Parallel Flaw

Key facts: Like parallel reasoning, but the stimulus is flawed - the correct answer reproduces the SAME flaw (not just any flaw).

LR tip: *Name the flaw, then find the answer that commits it.*

Example: Stimulus flaws correlation-causation; correct answer also infers causation from correlation.

80 Parallel Reasoning Trap

Key facts: The trap matches the topic (same subject matter) but changes the structure; or matches the conclusion but flips the premise logic.

LR tip: *Compare skeletons, not words; a same-topic answer is a decoy.*

Example: If the stimulus is conditional (if-then), an answer that is not conditional cannot be parallel to it.

81 Principle (Apply / Support)

Key facts: Principle questions come in two flavors: (a) apply - pick the general rule the argument's reasoning exemplifies; (b) support - pick the principle that, if accepted, strengthens the conclusion.

LR tip: *Abstract the argument into a rule for apply; find the rule that underwrites the conclusion for support.*

Example: Apply: the argument 'punish the liar' exemplifies 'lying should be punished.' Support: that same rule, if true, justifies punishing the liar.

82 Principle Strategy

Key facts: For apply, the principle must cover the argument's facts and match its moral/logical direction. For support, the principle must strengthen THIS conclusion.

LR tip: *A principle that conflicts with the argument, or only echoes it without covering its facts, is wrong.*

Example: Support question: 'we should ban sugary drinks in schools' - correct principle 'schools should only sell nutritious food.'

83 Principle Trap

Key facts: The trap principle is too narrow (does not cover the case), too broad (covers everything), or in the wrong direction (would weaken).

LR tip: *Test the principle on the argument's exact facts.*

Example: 'People should eat healthily' is a true-ish principle but does not justify the specific ban - trap.

84 Paradox (Explain / Resolve)

Key facts: The passage presents an apparent contradiction; the correct answer explains how both facts can coexist.

LR tip: *Do not challenge the facts - dissolve the conflict.*

Example: Fact: airline tickets got cheaper, yet the airline made more money. Resolution: more passengers flew at the lower price.

85 Paradox Strategy

Key facts: Ask 'what fact, if true, would make both statements true at once?' The answer introduces the missing piece, not a denial.

LR tip: *The resolution must be compatible with BOTH sides of the paradox.*

Example: Cheap tickets + record profit: answer 'demand expanded massively' resolves it.

86 Paradox Trap

Key facts: The trap explains only one side or adds a new contradiction.

LR tip: *Both sides must stand; a one-sided explanation fails.*

Example: 'The tickets were cheap because fuel was cheap' explains cheapness but not the profit surge - incomplete.

PART 4C: THE QUESTION-TYPE TAXONOMY - ROLE, METHOD, EVALUATE, INFERENCE

Point at issue, the role of a statement, method of reasoning, evaluate questions, and the inference family.

87 Point at Issue

- Key facts:** Two speakers (often labeled) directly disagree on ONE specific claim. The correct answer is a claim one affirms and the other denies.
- LR tip:** *The answer must be the precise disagreement, not a shared belief.*
- Example:** Speaker 1: 'The fee is too high.' Speaker 2: 'The fee is fair.' The point at issue: whether the fee is too high.

88 Point at Issue Strategy

- Key facts:** For each answer, ask 'would one speaker say yes and the other no?' Only the genuine disagreement survives.
- LR tip:** *Eliminate answers both speakers accept or neither addresses.*
- Example:** Both speakers agree the fee exists; neither addresses the fee's legality - those are not the point at issue.

89 Point at Issue Trap

- Key facts:** The trap states a claim one speaker implies but the other never denies, or a shared premise.
- LR tip:** *A dispute requires both sides to take opposite positions on the same claim.*
- Example:** 'The fee was proposed by the board' - if neither disputes it, it is not the issue.

90 Role of Statement

- Key facts:** Asks how a specified sentence functions in the argument: premise, conclusion, intermediate conclusion, background, or a concession.
- LR tip:** *Locate the sentence, then ask what supports it and what it supports.*
- Example:** In 'Because sales fell, revenue dropped, so profits shrank' - 'revenue dropped' plays the role of an intermediate conclusion.

91 Role of Statement Strategy

- Key facts:** A sentence that supports the main point but is itself supported is an intermediate conclusion; one that only supports is a premise.
- LR tip:** *The role answer will use the precise vocabulary: premise, conclusion, intermediate conclusion.*
- Example:** 'Sales fell' supports 'revenue dropped' and nothing supports 'sales fell' - it is a premise.

92 Role of Statement Trap

- Key facts:** The trap calls background or a concession a premise, or calls an intermediate conclusion the main conclusion.
- LR tip:** *Background states context but is not used as support.*
- Example:** A sentence that merely introduces the topic ('In recent years, fees have risen') is background, not a premise.

93 Method of Reasoning

- Key facts:** Asks how the argument argues - by analogy, by counterexample, by ruling out alternatives, by showing a necessary condition unmet, etc.
- LR tip:** *Describe the argument from the outside; do not evaluate it.*
- Example:** Method answer: 'It argues by providing a counterexample to a general claim.'

94 Method of Reasoning Strategy

- Key facts:** Summarize the move in your own words before looking: 'it points out an exception', 'it compares two cases', 'it exposes a contradiction'.
- LR tip:** *The correct answer is a description, not a judgment.*
- Example:** Passage counters 'all politicians are dishonest' with one honest politician - method: counterexample.

95 Method of Reasoning Trap

- Key facts:** The trap evaluates ('it fails to...') when the question asks for description, or describes a different method.
- LR tip:** *If the answer says the argument is flawed but the question asks how it argues, it is likely wrong.*
- Example:** 'The argument attacks its opponent' - but the argument actually cites evidence; that method does not match.

96 Evaluate (Quantitative)

- Key facts:** Asks which question, if answered, would most help decide whether the conclusion holds - the answer's yes/no flips the argument's

strength.

LR tip: *The correct question probes the assumption: the answer could strengthen OR weaken depending on the response.*

Example: Conclusion 'the ad works'; evaluate question: 'Did sales rise beyond seasonal norms?' - yes strengthens, no weakens.

97 Evaluate Strategy

Key facts: Find the assumption, then phrase it as a question that is currently unanswered. The right answer's answer matters to the argument.

LR tip: *If the passage already settles the question, or the answer would not change the argument, it is wrong.*

Example: Assumption: the sample was representative. Evaluate: 'Was the sample randomly drawn from the full population?'

98 Evaluate Trap

Key facts: The trap question's answer is already given in the passage, or would not affect the conclusion either way.

LR tip: *Run the test: 'If yes, does the argument get stronger or weaker? If no, the opposite?' If neither moves, skip it.*

Example: 'Is the product popular?' - popularity was already stated; asking again changes nothing.

99 Inference

Key facts: The broad family asking 'what follows' spans must-be-true and most-strongly-supported. It rewards combining premises.

LR tip: *Treat inference like a math problem: put the given facts together and see what they produce.*

Example: Given 'every senior majors in either law or business' and 'Ana is a senior' - infer Ana majors in law or business.

100 Inference Strategy

Key facts: Combine premises step by step; the correct inference uses only what is given and adds nothing.

LR tip: *Beware answers that add a new fact, swap quantifiers, or reverse a conditional.*

Example: Infer from 'all A are B; all B are C' that 'all A are C' - nothing more.

101 Inference Trap

Key facts: The trap reverses or negates a conditional, or imports outside knowledge.

LR tip: *Strictly bound answers to the passage; no real-world truth can save an unsupported answer.*

Example: From 'if qualified, hired' you cannot infer 'if hired, qualified' - the trap reverses the arrow.

102 The Resolve/Explain Family

Key facts: Paradox, explain, and resolve questions share one skill: reconciling apparently conflicting facts with a missing explanation.

LR tip: *Answer the 'how can this be?' with 'here is what makes both true'.*

Example: Same-skill drill: 'both things happened - why?' is the same question in every disguise.

103 Applying the Taxonomy

Key facts: In the first seconds of a question, name the type and recall its job: strengthen lifts, weaken drops, assumption fills, flaw names, parallel matches, paradox resolves.

LR tip: *Pattern recognition is the speed skill; the taxonomy is its engine.*

Example: You see 'most strengthens' and immediately hunt the assumption gap - that is the taxonomy working.

PART 5: THE FLAW CATALOG

The recurring logical errors LR tests name them instantly and the flaw questions answer themselves.

104 Correlation vs Causation

- Key facts:** Observing that two things change together does not prove one causes the other. A third factor, or reversed causation, may explain it.
- LR tip:** *Correlation = together; causation = mechanism. The test loves this gap.*
- Example:** 'Ice cream sales and drownings rise together, so ice cream causes drownings' - classic correlation-causation flaw.

105 Post Hoc (False Cause by Time)

- Key facts:** Assuming that because B followed A, A caused B. Sequence alone proves nothing.
- LR tip:** *After does not equal because of.*
- Example:** 'The team won right after I changed seats, so my seat change caused the win' - post hoc.

106 Ad Hominem

- Key facts:** Attacking the person making the argument instead of the argument itself. A bad person can still make a good point.
- LR tip:** *The character attack avoids the issue; the argument stands or falls on its own.*
- Example:** 'He is a politician, so his claim about taxes is false' - ad hominem.

107 Appeal to Authority

- Key facts:** Using a title, celebrity, or supposed expert as proof, without showing the evidence. Even real experts must be supported by reasons.
- LR tip:** *Credentials are not evidence; the argument must carry the weight.*
- Example:** 'The famous actor says the supplement works, so it works' - appeal to authority.

108 Slippery Slope

- Key facts:** Claiming that one step inevitably leads to a disastrous chain, without evidence for the chain's inevitability.
- LR tip:** *Ask: is each link actually forced? Without evidence, it is a slope, not a proof.*
- Example:** 'If we allow dogs in the park, soon we will allow elephants' - slippery slope.

109 False Dichotomy

- Key facts:** Presenting only two options when more exist. The argument forces a choice between A and B while C is available.
- LR tip:** *List the options: if a third exists, the dichotomy is false.*
- Example:** 'Either we cut funding or the program collapses' - but donor revenue could close the gap.

110 Circular Reasoning

- Key facts:** The conclusion restates the premise (or vice versa). The argument assumes what it should prove.
- LR tip:** *The proof and the point are the same sentence in disguise.*
- Example:** 'The policy is wrong because it is a bad policy' - circular.

111 Equivocation

- Key facts:** Shifting the meaning of a word mid-argument so the premise and conclusion use different senses.
- LR tip:** *Track one keyword through the whole argument; a meaning slip is the flaw.*
- Example:** 'The book is light (weight), so it is light (not serious) reading' - equivocation.

112 Statistical Fallacy (Averages)

- Key facts:** Using an average to claim something about individuals, or mixing means and medians (a few extreme values skew an average).
- LR tip:** *Ask what distribution hides behind the number.*
- Example:** 'The average salary is high, so every worker earns well' - the average hides low earners.

113 Sampling Bias

- Key facts:** Generalizing to a whole group from an unrepresentative sample. The sample must mirror the population.

LR tip: Check who was surveyed versus who the conclusion covers.

Example: A survey of zoo visitors supports a claim about all city residents - the sample skews.

114 Confusing Necessary and Sufficient

Key facts: Treating a requirement as a guarantee: 'B is required for A, so B causes A' - or 'A is enough for B, so B requires A plus more'.

LR tip: Requirement is not a cause; a guarantee is not automatic.

Example: 'Water is necessary for plant growth, so watering makes plants grow' - watering alone is not sufficient.

115 Straw Man

Key facts: Attacking a distorted or exaggerated version of the opponent's position, then declaring victory.

LR tip: If the opponent never said the attacked claim, it is a straw man.

Example: 'The senator wants to cut defense; clearly she wants our enemies to win' - straw man.

116 Hasty Generalization

Key facts: Drawing a broad rule from too few instances. Small samples do not support sweeping conclusions.

LR tip: Count the instances; a handful cannot carry a universal.

Example: Two rude cab drivers, conclusion 'all cab drivers are rude' - hasty generalization.

117 Shifting the Burden of Proof

Key facts: Demanding that the opponent prove the negative, or treating 'not disproven' as 'proven'. The claim-bearer must support the claim.

LR tip: No evidence against X is not evidence for X.

Example: 'Ghosts exist because no one has proven they do not' - shifting the burden.

118 Appeal to Popularity

Key facts: Claiming something is true because many people believe it. Popularity is not evidence.

LR tip: Majorities can be wrong; the argument needs reasons.

Example: 'Everyone uses this app, so it must be the best' - appeal to popularity.

119 Confusing Possibility with Probability

Key facts: Showing that something COULD happen does not show it is LIKELY (or that it WILL).

LR tip: Possible = one scenario; probable = odds. The test punishes the conflation.

Example: 'It is possible the market recovers, so it will recover' - possibility slid into certainty.

120 The 'Some' Overgeneralization

Key facts: Leaping from some cases to all cases, or from an exception to the rule.

LR tip: Some proves an example, not a universal.

Example: 'Some officers were biased, so the whole department is biased' - overgeneralization.

121 Relative vs Absolute

Key facts: Percentages and rates hide raw numbers. A big percentage of a tiny group can be smaller than a small percentage of a huge group.

LR tip: Always ask 'of what?' - the base matters.

Example: 'Crime rose 100% in our small town, worse than the city's 5%' - the city's raw numbers dwarf the town's.

122 Alternative Explanation Ignored

Key facts: A plausible rival cause exists, but the argument asserts its own cause without ruling the rival out.

LR tip: Before accepting X causes Y, ask what else explains Y.

Example: 'Overtime rose and accidents rose, so overtime caused accidents' - but winter weather also rose that month.

123 Error of Composition

Key facts: Inferring that what is true of the parts is true of the whole. Aggregates behave differently from their members.

LR tip: *One player's strength does not make the team strong.*

Example: 'Every band member is an excellent soloist, so the band sounds great together' - not guaranteed.

124 Error of Division

Key facts: Inferring that what is true of the whole is true of each part.

LR tip: *The group's property need not distribute to every member.*

Example: 'The team is the best in the league, so every player is elite' - division error.

125 Two Wrongs

Key facts: Defending an act because others do it, or because the other side did it first. Wrongness does not come from company.

LR tip: *Someone else's bad act does not make yours right.*

Example: 'I cheated because everyone cheats' - two wrongs.

126 Appeal to Ignorance

Key facts: Claiming truth because there is no counter-evidence (or false because there is no proof). Lack of evidence is not evidence of lack.

LR tip: *The absence of disproof is silence; silence supports nothing.*

Example: 'The drug is safe because no one has shown it is harmful' - the tests were never run.

127 Quantifier Confusion

Key facts: Swapping some/most/all in the inference: 'most A are B' becomes 'most B are A', or 'all' becomes 'most'.

LR tip: *Track each quantifier's direction; reversal or dilution is the flaw.*

Example: 'Most doctors are women' concluded as 'most women are doctors' - quantifier confusion.

128 The Motive Fallacy

Key facts: Attacking the arguer's MOTIVE (they benefit, so it is false). Bias does not prove falsehood; the reasons must still be examined.

LR tip: *Motives and truth are separate; a vested interest is a warning, not a refutation.*

Example: 'The CEO wants the merger, so its benefits are fake' - motive fallacy.

129 False Analogy

Key facts: Comparing two things that differ in a way that matters to the conclusion. Analogies must be relevantly similar.

LR tip: *The strength of an analogy is the relevance of its similarities.*

Example: 'A company is like a family, so firing an employee is like disowning a child' - the comparison breaks.

PART 6: STRATEGY - FROM KNOWLEDGE TO POINTS

Pre-phrasing, elimination logic, timing discipline, and the review loop that compounds accuracy.

130 Pre-Phrasing

- Key facts:** Before reading the answer choices, predict the answer in your own words. Pre-phrasing makes choices decoys instead of puzzles.
- LR tip:** *If you can phrase it, you spot it; vague pre-phrases still structure the hunt.*
- Example:** Strengthen question: you predict 'the sample was representative' - and that answer pops out.

131 Reading for Structure

- Key facts:** First pass through a stimulus: find the conclusion and its premises; ignore the fluff. Structure reading beats slow full reading.
- LR tip:** *Your first annotation = conclusion bracket + premise underline.*
- Example:** In 90 seconds you mark the conclusion and one premise; the question then targets one of them.

132 The Paraphrase Method

- Key facts:** Restate the argument in one plain sentence in your own words. If you cannot paraphrase, you have not mapped it.
- LR tip:** *Paraphrase forces understanding; jargony readings hide gaps.*
- Example:** 'The author thinks the policy is bad because of one bad year' - the gap is that one year proves nothing.

133 Eliminate 4, Defend 1

- Key facts:** There is exactly one right answer. Eliminate choices with certainty (scope, extreme, reversal, unsupported), then defend the survivor.
- LR tip:** *Elimination is faster and safer than choosing; wrong answers die on clear criteria.*
- Example:** Three answers are off-topic, one reverses the conditional, and the last survives - answer it.

134 Extreme-Language Traps

- Key facts:** Always, never, all, none, everyone, no one - extreme words are usually wrong in strengthen/weaken/inference (though correct in some parallels).
- LR tip:** *When an answer goes extreme, ask whether the conclusion really demands that strength.*
- Example:** 'The drug NEVER works' vs the more defensible 'the drug works for most' - the absolute often overreaches.

135 Scope Traps

- Key facts:** Answers that drift off-topic: different group, different time, different comparison, different quantity. They sound logical but do not touch the argument.
- LR tip:** *Check every answer against the conclusion's exact scope.*
- Example:** Conclusion about this year's graduates; answer about last year's - scope shift.

136 The Negation Drill

- Key facts:** For necessary assumption answers, negate each contender; the one whose negation wrecks the argument is correct. This is the highest-yield mechanical skill.
- LR tip:** *Practice negating cleanly: 'most are X' negates to 'fewer than half are X'.*
- Example:** Answer 'the sample was random' - negate: 'the sample was not random' - the argument collapses; correct.

137 The 1:24 Discipline

- Key facts:** Average pace is 84 seconds per question. Spend 45-60 seconds on easy ones to bank time; never sink 3+ minutes on one question.
- LR tip:** *Set a mental alarm: 90 seconds in, if you are not close, flag and move.*
- Example:** You leave a hard question flagged at 90 seconds, finish the section, and return with fresh eyes.

138 Skipping and Labeling

- Key facts:** Flag questions that stall you and move on. Returning later rewards the subconscious and protects the rest of the section.
- LR tip:** *A flagged question costs nothing; a sunk 3 minutes costs two questions.*
- Example:** You skip question 14, answer 15-25 cleanly, then come back to 14 with 4 minutes left.

139 The First Ten Questions

- Key facts:** The first questions in an LR section are often gentler; bank time there without rushing. Difficulty can come in waves.
- LR tip:** *Front-load speed, then slow down for the hard middle.*
- Example:** Through question 10 in 11 minutes, you hold a cushion for questions 11-20.
-

140 Section Order Strategy

- Key facts:** After practice, know whether you are stronger on your first LR section or your second, and how the intermission affects you.
- LR tip:** *Diagnose your fatigue curve; plan the harder section deliberately.*
- Example:** If your accuracy drops in section 4, you know to budget extra flags for the last section.
-

141 Confidence Tracking

- Key facts:** During practice, mark each answer 'sure' or 'unsure'. Review both: a wrong 'sure' is a pattern; a right 'unsure' is a gap.
- LR tip:** *Your confidence diary shows where to drill before the next timed set.*
- Example:** You marked 12 'sure' and missed 3 of them - those 3 reveal a systematic misunderstanding.
-

142 The Drill Loop

- Key facts:** For every miss: (1) redo it untimed, (2) name the question type and the flaw, (3) write the pre-phrase you should have made, (4) explain why your pick was wrong.
- LR tip:** *The loop converts each miss into a permanent lesson; review is where points are made.*
- Example:** You missed a weaken question; the loop reveals you never found the assumption - now you drill assumption-finding.
-

143 Untimed Mastery First

- Key facts:** Speed is a byproduct of pattern recognition. Do untimed sets until accuracy is 90%+, then add the clock.
- LR tip:** *Rushing before mastery bakes in errors; slow precision becomes fast precision.*
- Example:** You do 20 untimed questions at 95% accuracy, then the same set timed at 88% - the foundation held.
-

144 The Wrong-Answer Autopsy

- Key facts:** Categorize every wrong pick: scope shift, extreme language, reversal, unsupported inference, or misread question. Counts reveal your personal traps.
- LR tip:** *Your most common bucket is your highest-yield drill target.*
- Example:** Eight of your ten misses are scope shifts - now you read every answer against the conclusion's exact scope.
-

145 Stamina Training

- Key facts:** Once a week, take a full timed set (2 LR + 1 RC + the unpaced 'experimental' section) to practice the 3-hour grind.
- LR tip:** *Stamina is a skill; the intermission is a real tool - use it to reset.*
- Example:** A weekly full-length keeps your last section accuracy from collapsing under fatigue.
-

146 Flagging on the Tablet

- Key facts:** Use the test interface: flag questions, use the highlighter, and keep scratch paper organized by question number.
- LR tip:** *Tablet habits are test habits - practice them before the real delivery.*
- Example:** You flag question 14, highlight the conclusion, and return after finishing the section.
-

147 The One-Pass Skim

- Key facts:** Read a stimulus once, actively: bracket the conclusion, underline the premises, ignore background. A second read is a sign to slow the first.
- LR tip:** *One strong pass beats two worried passes; trust the map you made.*
- Example:** You finished mapping a stimulus in 40 seconds and answered the question without re-reading - that is the goal.
-

PART 7: FINAL REVIEW & TEST-DAY BLUEPRINT

The 48 hour rapid review, the day-of checklist, and the mental system that protects your score.

148 The 48-Hour Rapid Review

- Key facts:** In the last two days: re-read the taxonomy (Part 4), re-drill the flaw names (Part 5), and run 30 timed micro-questions - no new content.
- LR tip:** *Review patterns, not new topics; confidence comes from recognition.*
- Example:** You flip through the flaw catalog and name each one in under five seconds.

149 The Core Fact Sheet

- Key facts:** Recite from memory: 2 scored LR (25q/35min) + 1 scored RC + 1 unscored; score 120-180; LR = 50/75 = 2/3; pace 1:24.
- LR tip:** *These five numbers anchor every pacing decision on test day.*
- Example:** Between sections you mentally confirm: 'two LR count - give all four sections real effort.'

150 Logistics the Night Before

- Key facts:** Test center address, route, ID, glasses, snack, water, and a phone charged but left in the car - packed and set out.
- LR tip:** *Logistics done early frees the morning for calm, not scrambling.*
- Example:** You set two alarms and lay out your ID and directions before bed.

151 Morning of the Test

- Key facts:** Eat a familiar meal, arrive 30+ minutes early, and walk in with a calm ritual (deep breaths, one easy math drill, positive framing).
- LR tip:** *The goal is a settled nervous system; adrenaline is fine, panic is not.*
- Example:** You review zero new content in the car - just breathing and a favorite song.

152 Test-Center Check-In

- Key facts:** The proctor verifies your ID and assigns your tablet; no personal devices in the intermission (that is an auto-violation).
- LR tip:** *Leave the phone in the locker; the intermission is a snack-and-stretch break only.*
- Example:** Between sections 2 and 3 you stretch, eat a snack, and do not touch any electronics.

153 The 10-Minute Intermission

- Key facts:** Between sections 2 and 3 you get 10 minutes: use the restroom, drink water, reset your posture. Then section 3 starts fresh.
- LR tip:** *The intermission is a score tool - use it to reset, not to ruminate on section 2.*
- Example:** You return to section 3 with your pacing re-set to 1:24.

154 Section One Mindset

- Key facts:** Your first LR section sets the tone. Start steady, bank time early, and do not judge your performance mid-section.
- LR tip:** *Never self-assess during the test; that is for after.*
- Example:** You feel a hard question but flag it and keep your pace - no mid-test verdicts.

155 The Unscored Reality

- Key facts:** Because the experimental section is indistinguishable, treat all four sections at full effort. No section is a rest.
- LR tip:** *Assume every section counts; the cost of a 'rest' section is a possible scored section.*
- Example:** A suspiciously easy LR section still gets your full precision - it might be scored.

156 The No-Good-Options Question

- Key facts:** When every answer looks wrong, the task is elimination: remove the four with fatal flaws and take the least-bad survivor.
- LR tip:** *A bad-looking correct answer still beats four worse ones; defend the survivor.*
- Example:** You cannot find a perfect strengthen, but three answers are off-topic and one reverses - you pick the remaining logical one.

157 The Last Section

- Key facts:** Your final 35-minute section is a stamina test. Bank time on early questions, keep flagging, and finish with a return pass over flags.

LR tip: *Fatigue is expected; your weekly full sets are why you hold pace.*

Example: In section 4 you stay at 1:15 average through question 15 - the cushion funds the hard tail.

158 Score Preview and Retakes

Key facts: After your score is available, you have the option to preview/report decisions per the current LSAC policy, and you can retake in a future cycle with structured prep.

LR tip: *Make reporting choices calmly and factually; plan the retake with a review log, not panic.*

Example: You get your 15X score, review the misses, and schedule the next cycle with a study plan.

159 The PrepTest Partnership

Key facts: The definitive move: this guide teaches the concepts, and LSAC's official free prep (Khan Academy + official PrepTests) supplies the real questions. Together they beat either alone.

LR tip: *Use both - concepts here, official voice there - and your accuracy compounds.*

Example: You drill 'necessary assumption' here, then verify the skill on an official PrepTest section the same week.

160 The Final Mindset

Key facts: LR is learnable: 50 of 75 scored questions, a finite set of patterns, and a clear system. You are not gambling on test-day luck - you are executing trained recognition.

LR tip: *Walk in with the system, not the fear; the patterns are yours.*

Example: On test day you see an argument and name the flaw before reading the answers - that is the win condition.

161 The Rule of Two Sources

Key facts: Never rely on one method: your concept workbook builds the framework; official materials calibrate the voice. A single-source study is a single point of failure.

LR tip: *Framework + official voice = the strongest prep stack.*

Example: You check your assumption-negation skill against official questions weekly - and it holds.

162 The After-Test Plan

Key facts: Whatever the score, the plan is the same: log the misses, name the patterns, and schedule the next targeted drill block before thinking about retakes.

LR tip: *A score is data, not identity; the review log is where the next score is made.*

Example: You spend 30 minutes after the test writing down the three question types to drill next - before you even see the score.

THE TEST-DAY BLUEPRINT

A condensed checklist to review the morning of the LSAT.

- 1. Format: 2 scored LR (25q / 35 min each) + 1 scored RC + 1 unscored (LR or RC). 4 sections, ~3 hours, 10-min intermission after section 2.
- 2. Score: 120-180 scale. LR is 50 of the 75 scored questions - two-thirds of your score. Pace = 1:24 per question.
- 3. Map every argument: conclusion first (the 'why' test), premises second, assumption third. Name the flaw if one exists.
- 4. Formal logic: if-then (flip+negate = contrapositive), only = necessary, unless = if not, some/most/all strength hierarchy.
- 5. Taxonomy recall: main point (restate conclusion), must be true (conservative), strengthen/weaken (assumption gap), necessary assumption (negation test), sufficient (plug the gap), flaw (name it), parallel (match structure), principle (general rule), paradox (dissolve), point at issue (yes/no split), role (function), method (describe), evaluate (unanswered question), inference (combine).
- 6. Flaw catalog: correlation-causation, post hoc, ad hominem, appeal to authority, slippery slope, false dichotomy, circular, equivocation, statistics, sampling bias, necessary/sufficient confusion, straw man, hasty generalization, burden shifting.
- 7. Strategy: pre-phrase every answer, read for structure once, eliminate 4 then defend 1, watch extreme language and scope shifts, flag and return, follow the 1:24 discipline.
- 8. Test day: 4 sections all at full effort, tablet + stylus + scratch paper, no phone in the intermission, snack and stretch, steady pace through section 4.
- 9. After: log misses by type, schedule targeted drill, and consider the retake cycle with a written plan - score is data.
- 10. Partnership: this guide teaches the concepts; LSAC's official free prep (Khan Academy + PrepTests) supplies the real questions. Use both.
-
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