

# Preparing Candidates for Success In Law School: An Insider's Look At The LSAT & LSAC Services

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Building a Just and Prosperous World



# The LSAT

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## Fairness, Validity, Readiness

- ✓ Critical Thinking Skills
- ✓ Candidate preparation and performance translates to first-year of law school (1L)
- ✓ Results are tested for validity
- ✓ No tricks or secrets to answering test questions correctly
- ✓ Test questions are reviewed by a diverse team of Test Developers
- ✓ Accessible for candidates and law schools

# LSAT Format & Content

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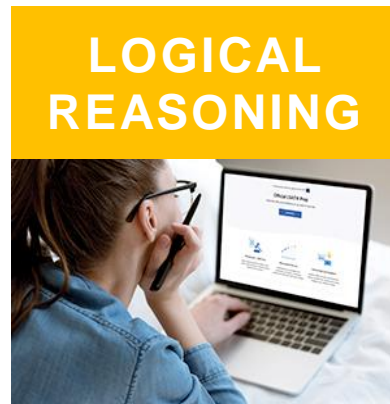
3 Hours

4 scored multiple-choice sections: 35 minutes each

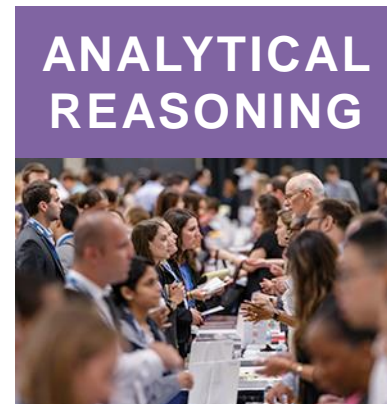
Total of 100-102 scored multiple-choice questions

1 unscored multiple-choice section (35 minutes)

1 unscored writing sample



TWO SECTIONS



OFF-SITE  
FLEXIBLE TEST DAY

# Reading Comprehension

LSAT questions are designed to prepare candidates for reading that is complex and involves intricate arguments.

- Read one complex passage ... OR  
two related passages—Comparative Reading
- About 450–500 words in total
- Answer 5–8 questions
- 4 Reading Comprehension sets per test
- Variety of topics: Humanities, Natural Science, Social Science, Law Related



# Logical Reasoning



LSAT questions are designed to prepare candidates to understand, analyze, evaluate, and draw inferences from short arguments.

- Short argumentative passages (20–100 words); 1 question about each passage
- About 25 questions per Logical Reasoning section; about 50 per test
- Topics include: politics and government, economics, medicine, psychology, natural sciences, education, ethics
- Formats offered: excerpts from articles, editorials, letters to the editor, dialogues, advertisements
- Familiarity with terms such as: argument, inference, assumption, conclusion, and premise

# Analytical Reasoning



LSAT questions are designed to prepare candidates to understand a structure of relationships and draw conclusions about that structure.

- Read a passage of up to 130 words that describes a scenario and a set of rules that apply to it
- Answer 5–7 questions about what can or must be the case
- The scenarios involve various kinds of relationships, such as:
  - above, next to
  - before, after
  - group membership
- Four AR sets per test section

## Sample Analytical Reasoning Passage

Exactly six guideposts, numbered 1 through 6, mark a mountain trail. Each guidepost pictures a different one of six animals— fox, grizzly, hare, lynx, moose, or porcupine. The following conditions must apply:

- The grizzly is pictured on either guidepost 3 or guidepost 4.
- The moose guidepost is numbered lower than the hare guidepost.
- The lynx guidepost is numbered lower than the moose guidepost but higher than the fox guidepost.



# Writing Sample



This section of the LSAT is designed to prepare candidates to write clear and persuasive arguments based on the facts presented in the prompt.

- Prompt: decide between alternative courses of action using given criteria
- Not scored by LSAC
- Completed writing sample is sent to law schools for their use in evaluating applicants
- 35 minutes
- Flexible date, time, and location



# LSAT Writing: Steps to Completion

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**1 REGISTER**  
for the LSAT.



**2 RUN**  
*Get Acquainted with LSAT Writing*  
on the computer you are planning  
to use to complete your LSAT Writing.



**3 PREPARE**  
to take LSAT Writing.



**4 CLICK**  
the link in your [LSAC.org](https://lsac.org)  
account to launch the test.



**5 FOLLOW**  
the instructions on the screen  
to complete the security check-in.



**6 WRITE**  
your essay in response  
to the prompt as instructed.



**7 CLICK**  
the **Submit** button and then  
**End Test** once you are finished



# LSAT Writing Features

- Interface includes common word-processing functions, including:
  - Spell-check
  - Cut, copy, and paste text
- Includes variety of accessibility features, such as zoom buttons, an extra spacing button, and speech-to-text compatibility
- Download PSI Software and complete security steps (approx. 15 minutes)

The screenshot displays the LSAT Writing interface. At the top left is the LSAC logo. To its right are two buttons: "General Directions" and "Extra Spacing". Further right is an "End Test" button with a red 'X' icon and a timer showing "32:54". The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column contains a "Writing Prompt" section with a title, a paragraph of text, a bulleted list of two criteria, and two more paragraphs. The right column contains a text entry area with a toolbar at the top. The toolbar includes undo, redo, a "Formats" dropdown, bold (B), italic (I), and a checkmark icon. Below the toolbar is a large text box containing the text "ZM Corporation should sell SB because it would provide cash for the company. |". Below the text box, it says "Words: 13" and there is a "Submit" button.

LSAC

General Directions Extra Spacing

✕ End Test 32:54

### Writing Prompt

ZM Corporation, a major household appliance manufacturer, is in bankruptcy and must decide whether to sell SB, a foreign-based appliance company it owns, or shut it down permanently. Using the facts below, write an essay arguing for one option over the other based on the following two criteria:

- ZM wants to emerge from bankruptcy financially sound and do so as quickly as possible.
- ZM wants to focus on developing its own brands and strengthening its sales.

The sale of SB would produce an immediate injection of cash for ZM. Two bidders have a strong interest in SB. The SB brand has a strong reputation for technological innovation. SB has highly dedicated customers in several key markets. SB has lost money in nine of the past ten years. Recently ZM has invested heavily in developing updated products for SB that use some of ZM's most advanced technology. ZM would continue to sell parts and technology to SB for these appliances. An independent SB would compete with some of ZM's brands in certain markets.

Shutting down SB would involve substantial short-term costs and would be a long process. ZM would have to pay off SB's creditors and make settlements with SB's unions, as well as honor warranties and provide parts and service for SB customers. There is some possibility that selling off SB's assets piecemeal after shutdown might, in the long term, bring in more net money than selling SB intact. A shutdown would allow ZM to retain exclusive control of its

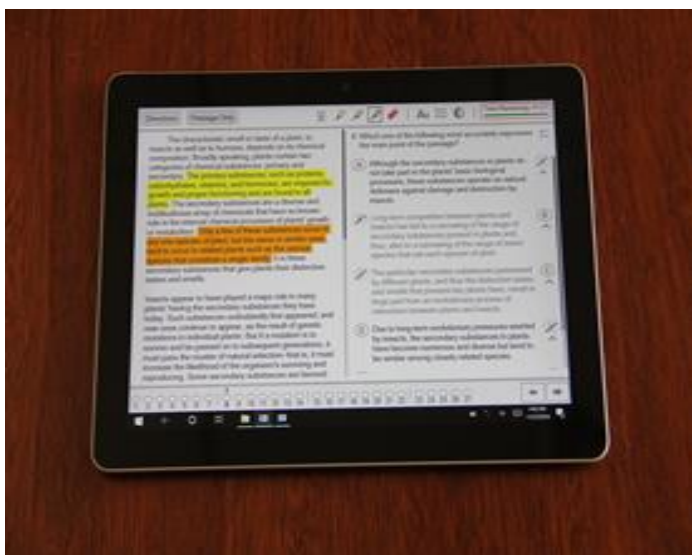
Press Alt+F10 or equivalent for toolbar access. Press Esc to exit the toolbar.

Formats B I

ZM Corporation should sell SB because it would provide cash for the company. |

Words: 13

Submit



# The Digital LSAT

Microsoft Surface Go tablet, July 2019

LSAC is committed to ensuring accessibility for test takers with disabilities. The Digital LSAT offers flexible type sizes, a built-in-screen reader and other enhancements that will assist test takers who need these options.

- ✓ Highlight with the ability to use multiple colors along with the ability to erase
- ✓ Underlining capability
- ✓ Line spacing (increase or decrease)
- ✓ Brightness adjustable
- ✓ Secure testing
- ✓ Easier check-in on test day
- ✓ No Standardized Timing issues


# Digital LSAT Features

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- Microsoft Surface Go tablets, scratch paper, and a stylus/pen will be provided on test day at test center.
- Test takers can bring No. 2 pencils, erasers, and other items noted.
- Test takers can select answer choices with a “tap” as well as underline and highlight text on the tablet.
- The tablet displays a timer with a five-minute warning and auto-stop feature to reduce proctoring issues.

 Tap letter to select answer choice / Tap again to unselect

 Rule out answer choice

 Collapse answer choice  
(appears only when space is limited)

 Mark for review

 Next question

 Previous question

Time Remaining: 07:52

# Get acquainted with the Digital LSAT

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LSAC offers a free Digital LSAT familiarization tutorial in the  
Test Prep section of LSAC.org

## Tutorials

Multiple Choice

Video

Practice

Reading Comp Passages

Video

Practice

Screen Preferences

Video

Practice

## Section Practice

Analytical Reasoning

Try Out


Logical Reasoning

Try Out

Reading Comp

Try Out

# Khan Academy Official LSAT Prep

A collaboration with the makers of the LSAT 

## Official LSAT® Prep

Build the skills and confidence to succeed on test day.

Get Started



### Official prep - 100% free

We've teamed up with the makers of the LSAT to offer thousands of official practice questions from real tests.



### Personalized for you

We'll identify your strengths and weaknesses and create a customized practice plan that works with your schedule.



### Instant help and feedback

Build the skills you need with interactive lessons, problem sets, timed practice tests, strategies, tips, videos and more.

Candidates may begin preparing and practicing for the LSAT by creating an account with Khan or utilizing one of the Official LSAT Prep books featured on LSAC.org.

### LSAT PrepTest Books



I just took my first Khan Academy official LSAT practice test. I increased from my diagnostic test 8 points! I am truly gaining so much knowledge and confidence from the Khan Academy LSAT prep!



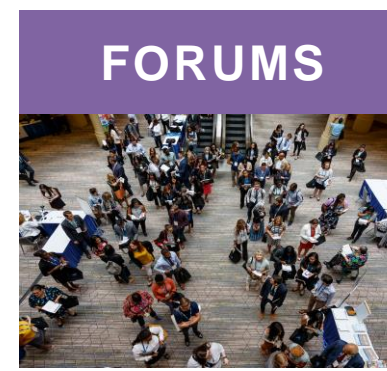
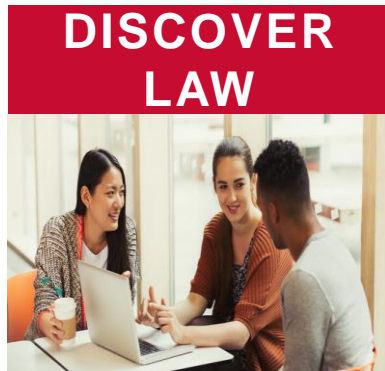
ASHLEY, via Twitter





# LSAC Services & Web Features

- ✓ Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion grant opportunities, pipeline programs, scholarship information
- ✓ Student Stories, Field of Law Quiz, and Law School Search Tool
- ✓ Access data in Reports, register to attend an LSAC Forum, submit an Ambassador request
- ✓ Credential Assembly Services (CAS) for Candidates applying to law school
- ✓ LSAC's Fee Waiver program



# LSAC Prelaw Programs, Events, & Forums

## PLUS



Four-week law school immersion programs designed for students in the first two years of college.

- Apply Spring 2020
- Summer start-end dates
- Accommodations On-campus
- \$1,000 stipend
- Improve reading, writing, and networking skills

## EVENTS



Participate in a pipeline program or recruitment event near you.

- Diversity Matters Events
- Regional and Statewide Prelaw Events
- Prelaw Summer Programs by CLEO and AILC
- LSAC.org Calendar

## LSAC FORUMS



LSAC sponsors Law School Forums in 10 major cities.

- Participate in Workshops lead by experts in the field
- Meet Law School Deans serving on Panels
- Speak with prelaw advisors
- Connect with over 115+ law schools

# Credential Assembly Services (CAS)

Most American Bar Association-approved law schools and many others require that JD applicants use CAS.

- ✓ Sign-up with LSAC account
- ✓ Letters of Recommendation, Transcript(s), LSAT Score(s), Writing Sample(s)
- ✓ Assign “required” materials to each law school application
- ✓ CAS Registration Fee \$195
- ✓ CAS Report Fee \$45 (for each law school)
- ✓ CAS Report for Law Schools



# LSAT Fee Waiver

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Candidates should complete the Fee Waiver application six weeks before the LSAT registration deadline. Approval is based on the absolute inability to pay for the LSAT and CAS.

- ✓ Sign-up with LSAC account
- ✓ Two LSATs
  - Test dates must fall within two-year fee waiver period
- ✓ CAS Registration Fee
- ✓ Six CAS Law School Reports
- ✓ Conditional Approval
- ✓ Appeal Process

# Thank you.

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Email: [iramos@lsac.org](mailto:iramos@lsac.org) and  
[prelaw@lsac.org](mailto:prelaw@lsac.org)

Stay Connected



@Official\_LSAT

@LSACDiversity

@LSACForums



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