

introduction 3

- content of the test
- how do you study for it
- is there a best time to take the test?

what's the content on the test?

in terms of content, what can you expect?

- content of the LSAT is actually not going to be the law
 - not going to be tested on your knowledge of laws or legal processes or statutes or anything like that
- there isn't really any content that you can learn for the test because it doesn't test you on any particular content
- instead it tests your reasoning and logical abilities
- logic is the basis of good reasoning; logic is necessary for good reasoning and it's incredibly important for the test

what's the content on the test?

- that doesn't mean you're going to learn abstract symbols and formal logic
 - what you're going to have to learn, and learn well, is how to distinguish between premises and conclusions
 - what makes an argument good or bad
 - there will be some formal logic, but nothing too complex
 - and a type of logic called conditional reasoning, or if-then reasoning
- the LSAT contains general information, there's no specific legal content, and you'll need to know logic and in particular conditional reasoning

how do you study for it?

important to understand the philosophy behind the test

- the philosophy is what you need to know and what you need to understand about good reasoning abilities
- in particular, need to recognize that you're being tested on skills that are important in the practice of law

you have to learn the techniques for the different types of questions

how do you study for it?

the techniques are designed for the different types of questions

- the questions all test different aspects of your reasoning ability and there's different and best ways to approach these different questions
 - you need to go through each section type
 - learn what the different questions and their variations are
 - learn why the right answer is right and the wrong answer is wrong for each
 - do them untimed and in isolation to master each one
 - and then finally do as many LSATs as you can under realistic conditions

when should you take it?

is there a best time to take the test?

- there is no examination date which is easier than the rest
- most law schools start taking applications in fall so any date except March will generally allow you to apply on time
- most schools finish taking applications by March so the November/January (if you're trying to start that same year) mean you're applying towards the end

when should you take it?

- most schools have rolling admissions, which means that decisions are made as applications come in
 - so there are less spots the closer you get to the March deadline
 - so November and January tend to put you at a bit of a disadvantage
- however, the most important factor is to take it after giving yourself enough time to study
 - time is the biggest factor in doing well on this test
 - depends on several factors, but ideally at least 3 – 4 months of prep is necessary

summary

- what is the LSAT?
 - the LSAT is the law school entrance examination
- why is it important?
 - it's required for law school, and it's also an important part of the application
- what's the structure of the LSAT?
 - one analytical reasoning section, two logical reasoning sections, one reading comprehension section, one experimental section which could be any one of the previous ones, and one writing section
 - they're all 35 minutes long and there's a 10 to 15 minute break between sections 3 and 4
 - your raw score is the amount of questions you get right and that's converted to a number on a scale from 120 to 180

summary

- what's the structure of the LSAT?
 - the test tests your ability to reason logically
 - there's no specific legal content but you do need to know logic and in particular conditional reasoning
- how should you study for it?
 - learn the logic, learn the techniques and strategies, do the exercises, and then do actual LSATs