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3-MONTH LSAT STUDY PLAN USING THE POWERSCORE BIBLES

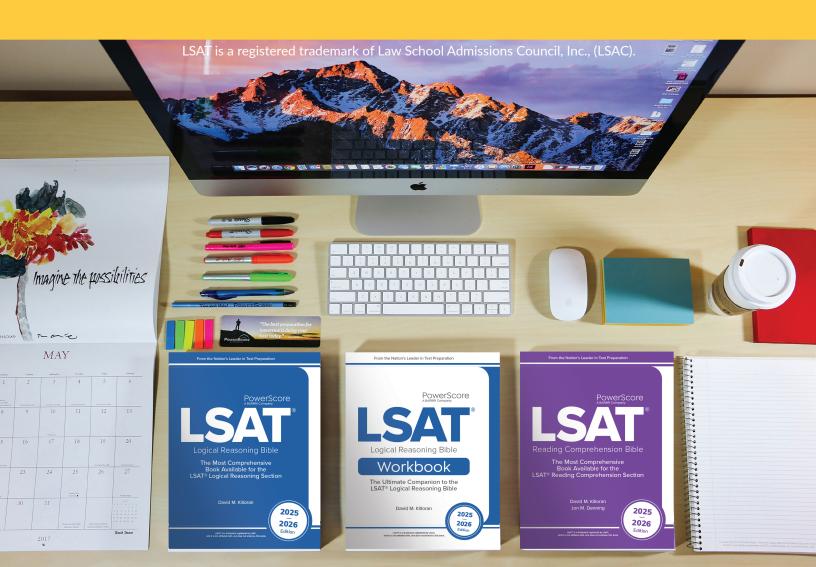


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3-MONTH LSAT STUDY PLAN

General Thoughts

Successfully preparing for the LSAT is about consistency and diligence. Even though the test measures *how* you think and not *what* you know, training yourself to think like the test makers requires time.

Simply put: this isn't a test where cramming proves effective! Instead, your efforts need to be extensive, where you make the most of every study opportunity. For this plan to be effective, you need to dedicate at least 10 hours of test prep time each week (and hopefully much more!).

Three months may seem like a long time, but once you start you'll find that time moves quickly. With this plan and hard work, you have plenty of time to work through the full set of PowerScore materials. If you cannot complete all of the assignments in the time given, prioritize your tasks based on your areas of weakness. Also attempt additional practice tests (particularly newer exams) if time permits!

How to Use This Study Plan

Each week's assignments are categorized into one of three types: Logical Reasoning, Reading Comprehension, and Practice Tests. This will give you a good sense of exactly what you need to cover during a particular week. Although we encourage you to complete the tasks in the order given, you may adjust the schedule and content to your own needs as you progress.

To help you prioritize your tasks based on your specific areas of weakness, we have labeled many of the assignments in this plan as "Optional."

- If you are already somewhat strong in one of the areas, say, Reading Comprehension, you can omit the Optional portions of the plan tailored to that section and devote that time to further study in another section.
- If you find that you have room for improvement in a given area consider any "Optional" assignment tailored to that section to be mandatory.

A chart is provided for each week outlining the materials to be used and sections for your notes and progress reports. We strongly encourage you to keep detailed information in order to accurately measure your progress as well as track any uncompleted assignments. Keep notes about:

- exactly what you complete and when
- any elements you don't complete that should be a priority the following week
- your performance and general throughts on each

We also strongly encourage you to create a detailed **LSAT Study Bible** to accompany the notes in this study plan in order to better understand the concepts covered and your progress through the material. *Begin this immediately!* Instructions on exactly how to construct your Study Bible are provided <u>here</u>.

Finally, the coming weeks will undoubtedly test your resolve—both mentally and physically—so it is extremely important that you fully understand the nature of this test and what even incremental improvements mean. This <u>blog post</u> should help to motivate you as you continue to prepare, so give it careful consideration.

Recommended Materials

The plan assumes you have the Recommended Materials listed below and you are encouraged to consider the optional/supplementary materials as well.

Real LSATs from LSAC:

<u>LawHub Advantage</u>, an LSAC subscription service with access to 70+ Official LSAT PrepTests

PowerScore Materials:

- LSAT Bibles: Logical Reasoning Bible and Reading Comprehension Bible
- LSAT Workbooks: <u>Logical Reasoning Bible Workbook</u> and <u>Reading</u> Comprehension Bible Workbook
- The PowerScore LSAT <u>Analytics Course</u>.
 Subscribe for access to our full online practice platform containing over 90 official practice LSATs, individual test sections and concept drills, and detailed performance analytics.



Free Resources

Webinars

Our free webinars and in-person seminars are a great opportunity to learn from PowerScore's LSAT and admissions experts. Attendees receive special course discounts, so enroll today!

The LSAT PodCast

Hosted by our very own Dave Killoran and Jon Denning, the PowerScore LSAT PodCast offers hours of extra instruction. Topics range from specific LSAT concepts and strategies to test changes and LSAC news to admissions advice and frequently-asked student questions. Don't miss an episode!

LSAT and Law School Admissions Discussion Forum

Our LSAT Discussion Forum offers you a chance to interact with instructors, other students, and even our course developers and authors in a dynamic, collaborative environment! You can ask questions about everything from test concepts to admissions, and read through thousands of discussions on key techniques and strategies. The Forum provides a wealth of information that's sure to help you out as you prepare!

LSAT and Law School Admissions Blog

Our team of Course Developers, including PowerScore Bibles author Dave Killoran, update our blog several times per week with articles discussing LSAT trends, strategy breakdowns, study advice, application recommendations, and much more!

Week 1: Twelve weeks to the LSAT

Your first week of study is extremely important. It serves as an introduction to the LSAT itself, and establishes a baseline as you take a timed practice test. Further, you will begin exploring Logical Reasoning, examining concepts such as the Basics of Logical Reasoning, the Question Stem and Answer Choices, Must Be True and Most Strongly Supported questions, Main Point Questions, and Conditional Reasoning. Each of these elements is absolutely critical to a strong Logical Reasoning performance, so be extremely diligent this week as you begin your preparation.

You will have no specific Reading Comprehension Assignments this week.

Practice Tests

Start your week by taking a practice LSAT. Before you begin this exam, read about <u>how you should take a practice</u> <u>test</u>.

We encourage you to begin with an official LSAT. Take a recent PT in our <u>Analytics Course</u> that you haven't previously seen. Take this exam under the same timed conditions you will face on test day (35 minutes per section unless you have specific accommodations).

This timed test will establish a baseline score, and give you an initial sense of both the test and your natural strengths and weaknesses. Do NOT let the results discourage you! They are in no way indicative of your potential or what your final score will be. It's merely a chance for you to familiarize yourself with the experience of taking a real LSAT under timed (test-day) conditions.

Upon completion of the exam, you'll receive a comprehensive analysis of your performance via our *Analytics Course Platform*. Be sure to save these results and use them to help guide the early stages of your prep.

Logical Reasoning

- To start your initial Logical Reasoning studies, read Chapters One through Four of the <u>Logical Reasoning</u>
 <u>Bible</u>. This reading selection takes you from an Introduction and Overview of the LSAT in Chapter One,
 through discussions of the Logical Reasoning section in general in Chapters Two and Three, and into
 Must Be True questions in Chapter Four.
- Once you feel comfortable with the first four chapters, read Chapter Six on Conditional Reasoning.
 Conditional Reasoning is a particularly challenging concept for many students, so it is imperative that you spend sufficient time with it.
- After you finish Chapter Six in the Logical Reasoning Bible, complete the LR Question Type Training drills
 Must Be True Questions: Volume 1. from your Analytics Course subscription. Together, Chapter Six
 and the drills discuss and test Must Be True/Most Strongly Supported questions, the most common LR
 question type and a prominent feature in Reading Comprehension as well.
 - Note: as you work through the Must Be True questions in the Type Training drills, you will encounter a number or stimuli featuring Conditional Reasoning.
- Next, read Chapter Five in the *Logical Reasoning Bible*. This chapter covers Main Point questions, a common question type in both the Logical Reasoning and Reading Comprehension sections.
- After reading Chapter Five in the Logical Reasoning Bible, return to the Analytics Drill Sets and take Main
 Point Questions, V1. These drills will help you develop your skills at recognizing and understanding
 argumentation.

	Week 1 Assignments		
Assignment	Completed?	Notes	
PrepTest			
LRB Ch1			
LRB Ch2			
LRB Ch3			
LRB Ch4			
LRB Ch6			
LR Drills			
LRB Ch5			
LR Drills			

Week 2: Eleven weeks to the LSAT

This week you'll continue your Logical Reasoning studies with Weaken questions and a comprehensive look at Causality on the LSAT.

Logical Reasoning

- For Logical Reasoning, you should first read Chapter Seven of the *Logical Reasoning Bible*. This chapter examines Weaken questions, which constitute the only question type in the Family #3: Hurt category (as discussed in an early chapter).
- Next, work through Chapter Eight of the *Logical Reasoning Bible*. Chapter Eight covers both basic and advanced Causal Reasoning, a very common type of reasoning on the test (and particularly prevalent in Weaken questions).
- Complete the *Question Type Training* drills in **Weaken Questions: V1** in *Testing and Analytics*, which feature a significant amount of Cause and Effect Reasoning.

Week 2 Assignments		
Assignment	Completed?	Notes
LRB Ch7		
LRB Ch8		
LR Drills		

Feeling Stuck?

Self-study isn't for everyone. Sometimes you need a little help to get through a tough concept, or to gain those last few points you need for your target school.

Work with a Tutor

Many students find that even 5 or 10 hours of targeted personal tutoring can really enhance their self-study. Tutoring packages include comprehensive materials and online resources that are only available to students who take a course or enlist *the help of a tutor*.



Week 3: Ten weeks to the LSAT

This week will provide your first look at Reading Comprehension, as you begin to work through the *Reading Comprehension Bible*. You will also continue examining Logical Reasoning It's still too soon for full Practice Tests; focus instead on mastering the concepts discussed for each section.

Reading Comprehension

- Begin by reading Chapters Two through Four of the *Reading Comprehension Bible*. Skip the section in Chapter Three that covers argumentation. Note that you can also skip Chapter One, as that is an overview of the test that you have already encountered in the Logical Reasoning Bible.
- We encourage our students to become active readers of publications and journals the tone and style of
 which closely aligns with passages on the LSAT. This will help you more quickly acclimate to the nature
 of passages created by the test makers. Some examples of worthwhile sources of additional reading
 include: The Economist, Scientific American, The Wall Street Journal or New York Times, and other
 economically-, legally-, or scientifically-oriented texts.

Logical Reasoning

- Read Chapter Nine of the *Logical Reasoning Bible*. This chapter addresses Strengthen questions, and you will encounter Causality frequently as well (causal reasoning appears in the majority of Strengthen questions).
- Next work through the *Analytics* drills in **Strengthen Questions: V1**, to reinforce your abilities as outlined in the *Logical Reasoning Bible* for this question type.
- Read Chapter Ten of the Logical Reasoning Bible. Here you will examine Justify the Conclusion questions.
- Next, practice with the Analytics drills in Justify Questions: V1
- Read Chapter Eleven of the *Logical Reasoning Bible*. This chapter introduces Assumption questions, one of the most challenging question types for many test takers. So take your time as you work through the ideas presented to ensure a complete understanding of them.
- Finally, to hone your question type skills for Assumption questions, return to *Analytics* and complete the drill set **Assumption Questions: V1**.

	Week 3 Assignments		
Assignment	Completed?	Notes	
RCB Ch2			
RCB Ch3			
RCB Ch4			
LRB Ch9			
LR Drills			
LRB Ch10			
LR Drills			
LRB Ch11			
LR Drills			

Week 4: Nine weeks to the LSAT

This is a bit of a lighter week, in order to let some of these ideas settle in. But DO NOT get complacent! This is also an opportunity for you to get back on schedule if you have fallen behind in previous weeks, so use your time effectively. This week will also require you to take on two practice tests with relaxed time, which can provide unique insight into the areas you still need to improve.

Reading Comprehension

- Continue your Reading Comprehension studies by working through Chapters Five, Six, and Seven of the *Reading Comprehension Bible*. Here you will encounter many key concepts such as Diagramming and how to best attack the various question types and answer choices. Finally, you will work through a summary chapter where all of the ideas you have seen so far get incorporated into a single, overarching approach.
- Next, go back to Analytics to practice some Passage Type Training by completing the first half of the Reading Comprehension drill sets called Humanities: Volume 1, ending with PT 12, October 1994, Passage #1: Modern Architecture, Questions 1-7.

Logical Reasoning

- Read Chapter Eleven of the *Logical Reasoning Bible*. This chapter introduces Assumption questions, one of the most challenging question types for many test takers. So take your time as you work through the ideas presented to ensure a complete understanding of them.
- To hone your question type skills for Assumption questions, return to *Analytics* and complete the drill set **Assumption Questions: V1**.

Practice Tests

Take two Practice Tests you have yet to complete. Give yourself extra time within each section. Doing
this can help isolate specific concepts and paradigms you may be struggling with. When speed is not
the focus of your practice test, rushing or guessing should play no role in determining your score. Any
mistakes you make will likely result from a conceptual misunderstanding of the material being tested.
Use them to your advantage!

Week 4 Assignments		
Assignment	Completed?	Notes
RCB Ch5		
RCB Ch6		
RCB Ch7		
RC Drills		
	•	
LRB Ch11		
LR Drills		
PrepTest 67		
PrepTest 68		

Week 5: Eight weeks to the LSAT

At this point, you should have completed all of the assigned tasks for the first four weeks. If you are still behind, prioritize any missed work and attempt to get caught up. This is a work-intensive week, so prepare yourself to devote a sufficient amount of time to your studies. This week will also require you to take two full practice tests, so plan accordingly. If possible, make the practice tests the final task for the week.

Logical Reasoning

- Read Chapter Twelve of the *Logical Reasoning Bible*. Here you will see Resolve the Paradox questions, the final question type in the Family #2: Help category.
- After you work through Chapter Twelve of the LRB, return to *Analytics* and complete the **Resolve the Paradox: V1** LR *Question Type* drill set.
- Next, work through Chapter Thirteen of the Logical Reasoning Bible. Here you will see Formal Logic, a
 rare, but challenging concept with which many test takers struggle. However, if you are falling behind in
 your studies, you can save this assignment for later, as Formal Logic is quite uncommon (1-2 questions
 per LSAT, typically) and your time may be better spent elsewhere.
- Once you have completed the chapter on Formal Logic in the Reasoning Bible, work through Formal Logic: V1 in Analytics to reinforce your skills.

Reading Comprehension

- Read Chapter Eight of the Reading Comprehension Bible. This chapter addresses Comparative Reading
 Passages and thus is vitally important to fully understand, as approximately one-fourth of your Reading
 Comprehension score is based on the Comparative Reading passage set.
- In *Analytics,* complete the second half of the Reading Comprehension *Passage Type* drill sets **Humanities: V1**.
- Complete the first half of Chapter One: Practice Drills in the Reading Comprehension Bible Workbook, beginning with the Active Reading Drill and stopping after the VIEWSTAMP Analysis: Main Point Identification Drill. Note that this can be skipped if you are feeling comfortable with your Reading Comprehension performance at this point.

Practice Tests

Take two PrepTests under normal testing conditions. Make sure to include breaks.

Week 5 Assignments		
Assignment	Completed?	Notes
LRB Ch12		
LR Drills		
LRB Ch13		
LR Drills		
RCB Ch8		
RC Drills		
RCBW Ch1 Part 1		
	•	
PrepTest		
PrepTest		

Week 6: Seven weeks to the LSAT

This week, and all of the weeks to come, will continue requiring you to take timed practice tests. Plan accordingly. You should spend several hours reviewing your performance on each practice test.

Logical Reasoning

- Read Chapter Fourteen and Fifteen of the Logical Reasoning Bible. The question types discussed—
 Method of Reasoning and Flaw in the Reasoning—are very closely related, so it is useful to pair these
 two chapters with one another.
- Complete the Logical Reasoning Question Type drill sets Method of Reasoning and Method-AP
 Questions: V1 and Flaw in the Reasoning Questions: V1 in Analytics to reinforce those question
 types. Together they will make up a significant portion of your LR score, so it is imperative that you are
 comfortable with them prior to test day.

Reading Comprehension

- Read Chapter Nine of the Reading Comprehension Bible, on Common Passage Themes.
- Complete the rest of Chapter One: Practice Drills in the Reading Comprehension Bible Workbook. If
 you used this resource as suggested last week, this means beginning with the Passage Elements and
 Formations Recognition Drill. Note, again, that this is not necessary if you are feeling comfortable with
 your Reading Comprehension performance at this point.
- In *Analytics,* complete the second half of the Reading Comprehension *Passage Type* drill sets **Humanities: V1** if you have not already done so. If you have finished these drills, there are no additional Reading Comprehension assignments for this week.

Practice Tests

Take two PrepTests under normal testing conditions. Make sure to include breaks.

	Week 6 Assignments		
Assignment	Completed?	Notes	
LRB Ch14			
LRB Ch15			
LR Drills			
LR Drills			
RCB Ch9			
RCBW Ch1 Part 2			
RC Drills			
PrepTest			
PrepTest			

Week 7: Six weeks to the LSAT

At this point you have reviewed a number of the major concepts, so timing starts to take a greater role in your preparation.

Logical Reasoning

- Read Chapters Sixteen through Twenty of the *Logical Reasoning Bible*. At this point you have encountered all of the question types, and all that is left is a discussion of Principle questions (not a distinct "type" per se, but rather a commonly-featured idea), and a final analysis of Section Strategy and Time Management.
- Complete ChapterOne of the Logical Reasoning Bible Workbook.
- Return to *Analytics* and complete the following drills sets: **Parallel Reasoning and Parallel Flaw: V1**, **Evaluate the Argument: V1**, **Cannot Be True: V1**, and **Point at Issue/Point of Agreement Questions: V1**.

Reading Comprehension

• Read Chapter Ten of the *Reading Comprehension Bible*. This discussion of Section Strategy and Time Management will take you to the end of the Reading Bible's conceptual analyses.

Practice Tests

• Take a PrepTest under normal testing conditions. Make sure to include breaks.

	Week 7 Assignments		
Assignment	Completed?	Notes	
LRB Ch16			
LRB Ch17			
LRB Ch18			
LRB Ch19			
LRB Ch20			
LRBW Ch1			
LR Drills			
	1		
RCB Ch10			
PrepTest			

Week 8: Five weeks to the LSAT

Logical Reasoning

- Read Chapters Twenty-One and Twenty-Two of the Logical Reasoning Bible. This will take you to the end
 of this book, however be sure to return to it frequently as you continue to take tests and identify areas of
 weakness. For instance, if you find that a particular question type or idea consistently gives you trouble,
 use the Reasoning Bible to review that concept/type and attempt to eliminate any remaining difficulties.
- Complete the LR *Question Type* drills in both **Conditional Reasoning Questions: V1** and **Cause and Effect Reasoning Questions: V1** in *Analytics*.
- Complete Chapter Two of the Logical Reasoning Bible Workbook.

Reading Comprehension

- Continue in *Analytics* and complete the **Diversity I**, **II**, and **III: V1** RC *Passage Type* drill sets. You will notice that you are working through the chapters in non-sequential order; this is intentional to best reinforce the skills discussed in the *Reading Comprehension Bible*.
- Also complete the individual passages in Chapter Two of the *Reading Comprehension Bible Workbook*, carefully review the detailed analysis given for each.

Practice Tests

• Take two PrepTests under normal testing conditions. Make sure to include breaks.

Week 8 Assignments		
Assignment	Completed?	Notes
LRB Ch21		
LRB Ch22		
LR Drills		
LR Drills		
LRBW Ch2		
RC Drills I		
RC Drills II		
RC Drills II		
RCBW Ch2		
PrepTest		
PrepTest		

Week 9: Four weeks to the LSAT

The focus now moves to working through as many tests as possible under timed conditions, in order to acclimate you to the rigors of the LSAT. Each of these practice exams must be thoroughly reviewed as you consider your evolving strengths and weaknesses. You can then return to any/all relevant conceptual discussions in the LSAT Bibles.

Reading Comprehension

- Complete the RC Passage Type drills in Analytics for Law Related: V1 and Regulation: V1.
- Complete the entire ReChallenge section of the *Reading Comprehension Bible* doing each ReChallenge Set as a timed exercise. Thoroughly review the explanations.

Practice Tests

Take at least three PrepTests under normal testing conditions. Make sure to include breaks.

Week 9 Assignments		
Assignment	Completed?	Notes
RC Drills		
RC Drills		
RCB ReChallenge		
PrepTest		
PrepTest		
PrepTest		

Week 10: Three weeks to the LSAT

■ Reading Comprehension

- Complete the RC *Passage Type* drills in *Analytics* for **Social Science: V1** and **Hard Science: V1**. Hard Science is the most difficult passage type for most test takers, so take your time as you work through the drills to ensure full understanding.
- Work through the full Reading Comprehension sections in Chapters Three and Four of the *Reading Comprehension Bible Workbook*, and thoroughly review the explanations provided for each.

■ Practice Tests

• Take at least three PrepTests under normal testing conditions. Make sure to include breaks.

	Week 10 Assignments		
Assignment	Completed?	Notes	
RC Drills			
RC Drills			
RCBW Ch3			
RCBW Ch4			
PrepTest			
PrepTest			
PrepTest			

Week 11: Two weeks to the LSAT

■ Practice Tests

• Take at least three PrepTests under normal testing conditions. Make sure to include breaks.

Week 11 Assignments		
Assignment	Completed?	Notes
PrepTest		
PrepTest		
PrepTest		

Week 12: One week to the LSAT

This week is about both conceptual and mental preparation. You should plan to take 2-3 practice tests as outlined below, allowing ample time for review, however be sure that you do not attempt a test the day before the exam. Focus in particular on building your confidence and visualizing a strong performance on test day—how you expect to perform will likely become reality.

Practice Tests

• Take up to three PrepTests under normal testing conditions. Make sure to include breaks.

Other

During the final stretch to your test, you should make sure that you are as mentally prepared as possible for the pressures of test day. To help you reach a state of pure mental confidence and balance, we've compiled a list of some of our favorite LSAT mentality resources. Set aside some time before the test to think about how you will approach the LSAT when it begins and especially how you will react if you encounter any difficulties. It's an essential step, and one that can dramatically impact your score. Although all of these articles are important, we strongly recommend you watch the Test Mentality webinar and follow the specific recommendations in that discussion.

The Ultimate Test Mentality Resource List

The final weeks before test day require a different strategy. We have some articles on our <u>Last Minute LSAT</u> <u>Advice</u> page that you might find helpful, including a discussion of <u>final week prep</u> and the difference between LSAT <u>Cancellations</u>, <u>Withdrawals</u>, <u>and Absences</u> if you're having cold feet.

There are several worthwhile articles discussing important issues beyond strategies and mental preparation, such as the logistics of test day itself, and how to prepare yourself for the test with proper diet and nutrition:

What to Do the Day Before and Morning of the LSAT

Thought for Food: Eating Your Way to a 180 on the LSAT

Finally, on the day before the LSAT, relax! Do something that makes you happy and don't worry about the LSAT (assuming you know where your testing center is or your room is prepared for the ProctorU virtual proctor system). It is imperative that you are fully rested before the exam, so avoid any strenuous activities, whether physical or mental. So don't run a half-marathon, and don't attempt any full practice tests!

Week 12 Assignments		
Assignment	Completed?	Notes
PrepTest		
PrepTest		
PrepTest		
Test Mentality		

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