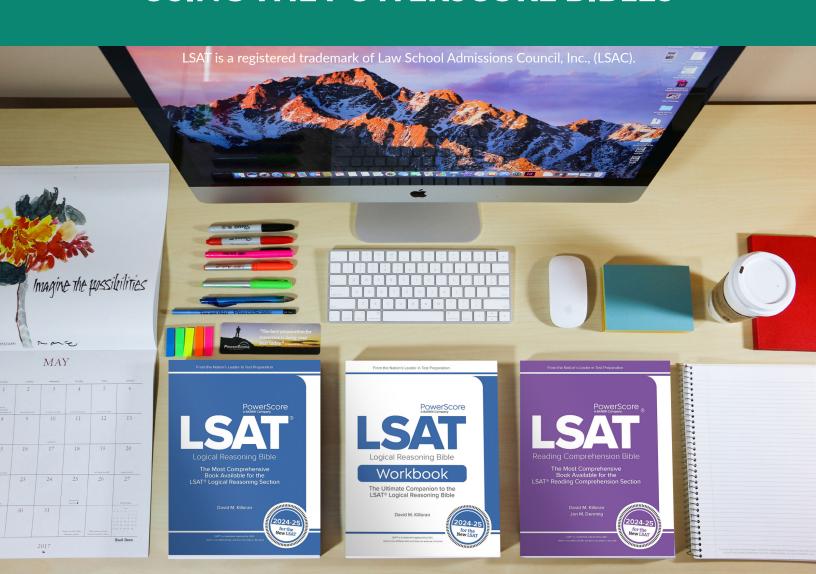
# PowerScore A BARBRI Company

# 2-MONTH LSAT STUDY PLAN USING THE POWERSCORE BIBLES



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### 2-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 15 hours of test prep time each week (and hopefully much more!).

Two 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!



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 Logic Games or Reading Comprehension Assignments this week.

#### Practice Tests

Start your week by taking a practice LSAT. Before you begin this exam however, read the following information to better understand exactly <u>how you should take a practice 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 already 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 begin your Logical Reasoning studies, read Chapters One through Four of the <u>Logical Reasoning 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 page 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: Seven 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. This week will also provide your first look at LSAT Reading Comprehension as you begin to work through the *Reading Comprehension Bible*.

#### Logical Reasoning

- For Logical Reasoning, you should first read Chapter Seven the *Logical Reasoning Bible*. This chapter examines Weaken questions, which constitute the only question type in the Family #3: Hurt category (as discussed in Chapter Three).
- 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 *Analytics*, which feature a significant amount of Cause and Effect Reasoning.

#### Reading Comprehension

- Begin by reading Chapters Two through Four of the *Reading Comprehension Bible*. Skip the section in Chapter Three that Covers argumentation.
- 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.

Week 2 Assignments		
Assignment	Completed?	Notes
LRB Ch7		
LRB Ch8		
LR Drills		
RCB Ch2		
RCB Ch3		
RCB Ch4		

## **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: Six weeks to the LSAT

This week you will continue examining Logical Reasoning and Reading Comprehension. For your practice test this week, give yourself extra time in each section. Having more time to complete the test can provide a unique insight into the areas you need to improve on the most.

#### 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 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**.

#### Reading Comprehension

- Continue your Reading Comprehension studies by working through Chapters Five and Six 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.
- Complete the RC Passage Type drills in Analytics for Law Related: V1 and Regulation: V1.
- Continue to actively read non-LSAT material and publications as recommended previously, and attempt to apply the reading skills discussed in Chapter Two of the *Reading Comprehension Bible*.

#### Practice Tests

• Take another recent Practice Test 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 3 Assignments		
Assignment	Completed?	Notes
LRB Ch9		
LR Drills		
LRB Ch10		
LR Drills		
LRB Ch11		
LR Drills		
RCB Ch5		
RCB Ch6		
RC Drills		
RC Drills		
PrepTest		

#### Week 4: Five weeks to the LSAT

This week continues your conceptual lessons in Logical Reasoning and Reading Comprehension, so stay diligent as you work to complete the assignments. If you are falling behind in the reading, use your time effectively and attempt to get back on schedule by the end of the week.

Take your practice test towards the end of this week. As you transition into the second half of your study plan, the mistakes you make on this test will become an exceptionally valuable diagnostic tool. Use them to identify the types of questions and passages that are costing you points.

#### Logical Reasoning

- Begin by reading Chapters 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.
- Read Chapter Sixteen of the Logical Reasoning Bible. This chapter covers Parallel Reasoning questions, which can be extremely time-consuming without the proper approach. These questions also pair nicely with the other two types discussed this week, Method and Flaw.
- Return to Analytics and complete the Parallel Reasoning and Parallel Flaw: V1 drill set.

#### Reading Comprehension

- Work through Chapter Seven of the *Reading Comprehension Bible*. This is 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.

#### Practice Tests

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

Week 4 Assignments		
Assignment	Completed?	Notes
LRB Ch14		
LR Drills		
LRB Ch15		
LR Drills		
LRB Ch16		
LR Drills		
RCB Ch7		
RC Drills		
PrepTest		

#### Week 5: Four 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 another work-intensive week, so prepare yourself to devote a sufficient amount of time to your studies. You will also need to take two practice tests under normal testing conditions, so plan accordingly. If possible, make the practice tests the final task of 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: Three 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 Chapters Eighteen through Twenty in the *Logical Reasoning Bible*. These three chapters cover the remaining LR question types, each of which appears infrequently. Of these types, focus primarily on Point at Issue, which is the most common of the three.
  - Once complete, all that is left in Logical Reasoning is a discussion of Numbers and Percentages, and Principle questions (not distinct "types" per se, but rather commonly-featured ideas), and a final analysis of Section Strategy and Time Management.
- After each chapter, work through the relevant Volume1 LR drill sets in Analytics (Evaluate the Argument, Cannot Be True, and Point at Issue/Point of Agreement Questions). If you are short on time, focus mainly on the Point at Issue drills.
- Complete Chapter One of the Logical Reasoning Bible Workbook.

#### 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.
- 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.

#### **Practice Tests**

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

Week 6 Assignments		
Assignment	Completed?	Notes
LRB Ch18		
LR Drills		
LRB Ch19		
LR Drills		
LRB Ch20		
LR Drills		
LRBW Ch1		
	•	
RCB Ch9		
RCBW Ch1 Part 2		
RC Drills		
RC Drills		
	<u> </u>	
PrepTest		
PrepTest		

#### Week 7: Two weeks to the LSAT

At this point you have completed nearly all of the conceptual material in the Bibles, so the majority of your time in these last two weeks will be spent on timed practice tests. The goal then is to work through as many tests as possible—again, always under timed conditions—in order to fully acclimate yourself to the rigors of test day.

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 to address areas in which you are still struggling.

These weeks are about refinement much more than building a knowledge base, so let that be your primary objective. Identify your weaknesses in each section, and systematically eliminate them!

#### Logical Reasoning

- Read Chapter Seventeen of the *Logical Reasoning Bible*. Here you will find a discussion of Numbers and Percentages, a common and often difficult idea present in many types of Logical Reasoning questions.
- To help tackle this increasingly common type of evidence in Logical Reasoning question, complete the **Numbers and Percentages Questions: V1** *Analytics* drills.
- Read Chapter Twenty-One of the *Logical Reasoning Bible*. This chapter covers Principle Questions, which, like Numbers and Percentages (and Conditional and Causal Reasoning) are not distinct "types" per se, but rather commonly-featured ideas.
- Next, work through the Principle Questions: V1 drills in Analytics.

#### Reading Comprehension

- Read Chapter Ten of the Reading Comprehension Bible. This discussion of Section Strategy and Time
  Management will give you some final considerations for test day, and take you to the end of the Reading
  Bible's conceptual analyses.
- 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*.
- Time permitting, complete the individual passages in Chapter Two of the *Reading Comprehension Bible Workbook*, and carefully review the detailed analysis given for each.

#### Practice Tests

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

Week 7 Assignments		
Assignment	Completed?	Notes
LRB Ch17		
LR Drills		
LRB Ch21		
LR Drills		
RCB Ch10		
RC Dills I		
RC Dills II		
RC Dills III		
RCBW Ch2		
PrepTest		
PrepTest		
PrepTest		

#### Week 8: 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.

#### Logical Reasoning

 Read Chapter Twenty-Two of the Logical Reasoning Bible. This final chapter presents a detailed discussion of Section Strategy and Time Management, which should correspond closely to a similar closing chapter in the Reading Comprehension Bible. This will also take you to the end of this book.

As always, be sure to return to it as you continue to take tests and identify areas of weakness, even during your final week. For instance, if you find that a particular question type or idea is still consistently giving you trouble, use the Reasoning Bible to review that concept/type and attempt to eliminate any remaining difficulties. It's not too late to still make improvements!

#### Practice Tests

Take 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 8 Assignments		
Assignment	Completed?	Notes
LRB Ch22		
PrepTest		
PrepTest		
PrepTest		
Test Mentality		

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