

CLAT PREPARATION GUIDE FOR 2021/22

ASPIRANTS

Hey guys! I'm Sanjeet Aggarwal and I have just given my law entrance examinations this year, after preparing for 2 years. I secured AIR 29 in AILET, AIR 82 in CLAT, 99.36 in the LSAT, and 68/75 in the SLAT exam (not trying to show off here, just want you guys to trust me :p)

Over the course of the past 2 years I've received tons of suggestions, advice and assistance from my seniors, teachers and various coaching institutes, some of which were helpful, and many which were not. This document is an attempt from my side to compile all the resources, materials, advice and guidance that helped me in my journey to my dream law school, and I hope it will be of some help to all of you as well 😊

I'll begin with some of the general questions that my juniors have been asking me, and then I'll get to specific sources and materials that I can suggest.

1. CAN I CLEAR CLAT WITHOUT ANY COACHING? WHICH INSTITUTE SHOULD I OPT FOR?

The answer is, yes. I was a two-year student of career launcher new Delhi, but with the change in the pattern, you do not need to attend any classroom classes to clear the entrances. Moreover, instead of doling out lakhs of rupees to these coaching institutes who will forget about your existence the day you pay the last installment, use the resources available on the internet and other groups. I would suggest buying either LE or CL's material and mocks if possible, and they should suffice. For topic specific learning such as quantitative aptitude, analytical reasoning, and critical reasoning, the best and most reliable resource is absolutely FREE! Which is Youtube! Just go and type "circular arrangement tricks" or "how to solve syllogisms" and you'll find teachers better than any coaching institute. Type in whatever topic you feel you're not good in and put "pdf" and press the search button, you'll find a plethora of resources. But yes, for safety take either of LE or CL's material and mocks and complete them.

2. CAN I CLEAR CLAT IN MY FIRST ATTEMPT? HOW TO DIVIDE TIME BETWEEN BOARDS AND CLAT?

You can most definitely clear clat in your first attempt along with your boards, I know tons of people who did it this year, including myself. Just be focused and have a clear aim.

In regards to managing time, I'd say I haven't been too successful at that, I managed an 87 in my boards, with a paltry 69 in Maths. But I've seen my classmates secure top ranks in CLAT while also managing 95+ in their boards. It depends on what your priorities are and where your focus lies

I'd advise you to study for CLAT as much as you can in your 11th grade and early 12th grade, and focus on boards after December. Then you can get at it with your clat preparation after you're done with your boards. Considering how unpredictable CLAT is, don't depend solely on it, have a few backups in place, just in case something goes wrong in the end.

3. HOW MANY HOURS DO I NEED TO STUDY EVERY DAY?

CLAT isn't an exam that solely deals with your preparation, unlike JEE or NEET, it also has a lot to do with your aptitude and thinking which you have developed over the years. With that being said, I do advise studying everyday if possible, if you're giving the CLAT this year, then most definitely, and even if you're giving it in 2022, still, study.

If you feel like you're tired and might not have the power to study a lot on a day, do GK or read a book that'll help you with your English. If you're waiting for someone who's late and have 10-15 minutes on your hand, do vocabulary on a mobile app, or read a couple of news articles on an app. These short spasms of studying might not look like much, but if you make a habit out of it, they'll add up to many hours in the end, and will definitely make a difference. I'd say study at least 2-3 hours a day for clat if you're giving it in 2022, and at least 5-6 hours if you're giving it in 2021, depending on how prepared you are.

If you have problems with focusing while studying, and just can't resist checking Instagram for the latest memes, much like I did, download and use an app called 'Forest' on the play store. It's a great focus enhancer, and really worked for me. Try to gradually do more and more hours of studying with this app.

And attending classes at some coaching does not count as studying, practicing, giving mocks, reading and working by yourself is much more important.

4. HOW MANY MOCKS SHOULD I GIVE? HOW SHOULD I ANALYSE THEM?

I'd recommend giving a mock a week regardless of when you're giving CLAT, if you're sure about your preparation, then move on to giving 2 a week at a later stage.

It's very important to spend at least an hour or so analyzing each mock, so that you know which sections you're weak in and what you need to work on, apart from that it's also important to look at the mistakes you've made and learn from them. If you've given a mock and are done analyzing it, if you were given that mock to attempt again, you should score 150/150 in it. That should be your objective.

I know that many of you have hundreds of other questions, but some of these were the most common ones I've come across, and I hope they help you out



Given below are the resources and materials and subject wise strategy for CLAT AND AILET, which I followed, and I hope they're of help to all of you as well. I would suggest you go through this year's clat paper and past 3 years of AILET before you read about the materials and resources I used, as you'll have a better idea of what is being asked in the exams, and how the mentioned resources can be of assistance to you.

ENGLISH

- For CLAT, the only thing you need to do for English is read, read and read. Books, articles, weeklies, anything you can get your hands on. This will help as it will develop your understanding of different topics and improve your reading speed. Given below is a list of books that I'd recommend reading, if you're a giving the clat in 2021, read as and when you have time, and if you're a 2 year student, devour them all –
 1. Midnight's Children- Salman Rushdie

2. India After Gandhi- Ramachandra Guha
3. Of Mice and Men- John Steinbeck
4. A Short History Of Nearly Everything- Bill Bryson
5. The God of Small Things- Arundhati Bhattacharya
6. White Tiger- Aravind Adiga
7. Pax indica, India: From Midnight to the Millenium, Inglorious Empire, An Era of Darkness, The Great Indian Novel- Shashi Tharoor.
8. Moby Dick- Herman
9. Slaughtehouse Five- Vonegut
- 10.Satanic Verses, Quichottte- Salman Rushdie.

The above books will help in building your vocabulary as well as speed, and even GK to an extent. Feel free to read other Pulitzer, Booker or Nobel prize winning authors, their books will be equally helpful. Try making reading a habit.

- For vocabulary and improving grammar for CLAT, and for AILET's English, refer to your coaching institutes material, and practice from Norman Lewis for vocab, and buy Objective English by SP Bakshi.
- If your vocab is particularly weak, download the vocabulary. Com app for practice on your phone and look for other apps to practice cloze tests and grammar.

LOGICAL REASONING

- For analytical reasoning, look for YouTube videos for tips and tricks, beyond that, it's just practice. Use either MK Pandey or RS Aggarwal for practice, apart from coaching institute's material. Go through past years papers and practice for them as well. The more you practice, the faster you will get. Build shortcuts and methods for yourself as you go along.
- For critical reasoning again, practice is key. Search online for past year's LSAT international, GMAT or SAT questions and prep guides, along with solutions. Practice online or buy thee if you can, they're the most reliable for critical reasoning. Don't just check your answers, understand the logic and rationale behind each and every answer, and make sure you will answer it correctly if given again. I got a 6 questions passage in AILET 2020 which was tough,

but I had already solved the exact question in of GMAT's logical reasoning compilations, so it was a major booster for my score.

LEGAL REASONING

- For AILET, go through past years legal reasoning questions and their answers, apart from that, search online and be thorough with important articles, parts, schedules and amendments of the constitution, as well as important landmark cases. You can buy the Willey's Legal reasoning book for practice, and use Career launcher's legal reasoning and knowledge practice books for further assistance.
- For CLAT, be thorough with all the legal related news, articles and updates, and bills. Follow prs India website for authentic information on new bills passed, and also read extensively about all important judgements and cases in news. Practicing legal reasoning and knowledge for ailet, and from past year's clat papers will also be helpful. Use your respective coaching institute's material as well, that should suffice.

MATHS/QUANTITATIVE APTITUDE

- As I've already written above, I was REALLY bad at math, barely managing to pass all through my 11th and 12th grade. I was barely scoring a mark or two in any of my mocks till 12th grade in math, it was then that I came across Rahul Sir's Math Videos on YouTube, earlier they were from studyiq but I think they're now from wifi study's channel. Rahul sir gives topic wise methods to solve questions, and be it compound interest, time and work or surface area volumes, all of his methods have NO FORMULAS, they're completely logic based and not to sound like a television advertisement, but his videos alone took my math scores from 1-2, to 18/20 in the old clat mocks. Watch his topic specific videos at 1.25x, and then solve the questions using his methods from your coaching institutes material or RS Aggarwal's quantitative aptitude, and get used to those methods, they will help save crucial time and build your understanding along with it. This will be of help for both ailet and clat.

- For CLAT specifically, use any coaching institutes materials to practice data interpretation- including pie charts, bar graphs, tables, line charts and case lets. Search online using google or YouTube for tips and tricks. The more you practice, the faster you will get.
- Also be familiar with all divisibility tricks, squares and roots, percentage to fraction conversions and shortcut multiplication and division tricks, you'll find resources for all of these online. Some vedic math shortcuts can also be really helpful. But the key is still practice.

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE-

- This, for me is a make or break section, if you can master this section, you can set yourself apart from many of the test takers. While it will take you a lot of time to be good at this section, on your exam day, you'll be able to solve it very quickly, and can pocket a chunk of the marks with ease. However, while the GK being tested by AILET and CLAT are often complementary, the questions and the form in which they are asked is very different now. So, I'll give divide this section for CLAT GK and AILET Gk.
- CLAT GK- If reading the newspaper is something you can afford to, and you like to do, go ahead and read the Hindu or the Indian Newspaper, but if you're looking for a quicker way like I was, follow the 'Stuff for Clat' channel on telegram. This channel posts links of dozens of important articles from multiple resources, including newspapers, everyday. Follow it regularly, and use proxy networks if some of the links aren't opening. You'll come across all important articles here. Apart from this, use your coaching institute's monthly or weekly compendiums, and newscanvas' compilations of important gk events. Download the GK today and jagran josh app and read article on it whenever you get time on your hands. Right when the exams are around the corner, use compendiums made by coaching institutes that you might find on telegram groups, or purchase them jointly with friends. For static gk and revising current affairs, use bankers adda.com for lists and important information. For CLAT, you need to have really in depth understanding about all the major news events you come across. For example, if a new rbi governor is appointed, other law entrances might

ask you his/her name, but clat might ask you who the first rbi governor was, who the longest serving governor was, what book did the previous rbi governor write? how many members are there in the rbi's monetary policy committee? So on and so forth, so use google, research and be thorough. Don't forget to revise the topics continuously, so that you do not forget important details.

- For AILET, use your institutes weekly compendiums, I can personally vouch for manthan(CL) and clatpost(LE). Apart from that, take quizzes on gktoday.com, jagran josh and weekly quizzes on cloudfairs.com. You can only use gradeups' one liner pdfs for revision and practice. Revise and do this over and over again. You can also use one of the many gk quiz apps available on the playstore for daily quizzes and practice, which you can do while on your way home in the metro or during a car ride. Like I said, these short spasms of studying really add onto your preparation.
- You can also purchase Pearsons GK manual for static gk.

That's almost all the information I've gathered over the past couple of years, and I hope it'll be of help to all of you.

Just to give you a final tip, as one of my teacher's told me, your school, parents and relatives will make you study for your boards by constantly reminding you how close they are, but you have to study for your entrances by motivating your own self. Don't stress, study consistently, and don't forget to maintain a social life and existence beyond this exam, you don't have to breakup with your girlfriends or boyfriends or de-activate Instagram and whatsapp permanently, clat is not all your life is. Continue doing the things you like, and stay happy, and I'll say it again, be consistent. I hope this doc helps you in your preparation, feel free to forward it to other aspirants if it is of any help to you. BEST OF LUCK! Hope to see you all in your dream colleges 😊

As college starts late on campus, I'll also be conducting zoom clat preparation classes for particular subjects, mock strategies, individual study plans and doubt sessions. Write to me at sanjeetaggarwal@Gmail.com if you're interested in attending.

