LSAT question types and answer traps

How to read any Logical Reasoning question

1. Read the question stem first, so you know your task.
2. Find the conclusion, then the evidence.
3. Name the gap between them in a few words.
4. Predict what the right answer will do before you read the choices.
5. Reject choices by naming their trap.

Logical Reasoning question types

Type	Typical stem	What the right answer does
Flaw	"The reasoning is flawed because..."	Describes the gap
Necessary assumption	"The argument depends on..."	Fills the gap; negating it breaks the argument
Strengthen	"Which, if true, most strengthens..."	Makes the gap smaller or rules out another cause
Weaken	"Which, if true, most seriously weakens..."	Makes the gap bigger, often with another cause
Inference	"Which must also be true?"	Follows from the statements alone

The negation test for assumption questions

- Rewrite the answer choice as its opposite.
- If the argument falls apart, the choice is a necessary assumption.
- If the argument still stands, it isn't.

Common answer traps

Trap	What it looks like
Out of scope	Brings in a topic the text never raises
Too strong	"Most", "all" or "only" where the text supports "some"
Real but minor	A true detail that isn't the main problem
Reversed	Flips the direction of a rule
Could be true	Possible, but nothing requires it
Helps but not needed	Supports the argument without being required
Half right	Matches one paragraph and misses the rest

Mapping a Reading Comprehension passage

- After each paragraph, write a few words on what it does.
- Note whose view it gives: the author, supporters or critics.
- Circle signal words such as "however", "yet" and "critics reply".
- Mark where the author's own view appears. The main point usually lives there.

Review checklist after each practice set

- For every question you missed, name the question type and the trap you fell for.
- For every question you got right, check whether you could reject each wrong choice.
- Record timed and untimed accuracy separately.
- Note the question type you missed most this week and practice that type next.

Format details are from LSAC (lsac.org), checked on November 19, 2026. The LSAT has 77 scored questions: 50 in Logical Reasoning and 27 in Reading Comprehension.