

It's common sense that you would study the LSAT itself in order to prepare, but you may be able to improve your score before you've even seen the test, or when you're trying to relax after a Prep Test.

### **Tip One: Take Relevant College Courses**

Many people say that studying philosophy (particularly a Critical Thinking course) is good preparation for the LSAT. That's probably true. A well-rounded college education will prepare you for the reading comprehension section, at the very least. I've studied a bit of computer science, and I felt that was very relevant. Several of my classes were devoted to manipulating logical expressions and games, and I have no doubt that this helped me.

The classes I felt were most helpful were Discrete Mathematics (aka formal logic), Computer Architecture, Theory of Computation, and Logic Design. This list is by no means exhaustive. All of these were in the engineering department. Even within it, some were notorious for their difficulty. As such, I wouldn't recommend taking these classes solely to improve your LSAT ability, because they may well drag your GPA down. On the other hand, if they're already required or optional for your major, don't blow them off if you're entertaining the thought of law school.

### **Tip Two: Maintain an Appropriate Attitude**

In terms of your attitude, you need balance when approaching the LSAT. You won't do well if you're intimidated by the test, a section type, or question type. At the same time, you won't do well if you start to get cocky and think that the test, a section type, or question type are easy. Each and every question needs to be treated as a bomb squad member would treat a live explosive. Whether it's a hand grenade (LR question #1) or a nuclear bomb (LR question #19 parallel reasoning), they can both blow up and kill you if you're not careful. I found that I would miss questions if I fell into either extreme. Through practice you should be able to get yourself into the correct mindset.

### **Tip Three: Train Yourself for Test Day Conditions**

Some people recommend studying in a place with other people such as a library. It's definitely wise to practice somewhere with some background noise. It was inconvenient for me to go to the library, but I did practice with the window open along a noisy street. One aspect of the test you can't control is the noise and distractions in the room, so you might as well be prepared for that.

Most administrations of the test will begin early in the morning. If you're a night owl like me, then you should train yourself to be up and functioning at this time of day prior to the test. Start waking up early and do a Prep Test properly timed.

Always practice with a bubble sheet. You will have to do so on test day, so you might as well be used to it.

### **Tip Four: Wake Your Brain Up on Test Day**

Some people also find doing a warm up to be helpful. On test day I woke up bright and early and did about 8.5 minutes of fresh, never-before-seen problems from each section type. That meant one game, one reading passage, and every fourth LR question in a section. You can do this pretty quickly and it should help your brain switch into LSAT mode.

### **Tip Five: Take Care of Your Body**

It goes without saying, but you need to take care of your physical well-being. Get plenty of sleep. I started going to the gym while I was studying and I honestly think it helped. Exercise is supposed to be good for your brain. If you normally eat nothing but junk food and drink soda by the case, consider investing in some healthier fuel for yourself.