

BLOGS

Legal Reasoning Questions for CLAT UG 2026

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1. Principle:

Entering another's property without consent amounts to trespass.

Facts:

A person entered a private garden to collect a ball that had accidentally fallen there.

Options:

- A. The person is guilty of trespass.
- B. The person is not guilty because there was no intention to harm.
- C. The person is guilty since consent was not obtained.
- D. The person is not guilty because retrieving one's own property is justified.

Answer: C

Explanation: In trespass, intention is irrelevant. Unauthorized entry itself is sufficient.

2. Principle:

A contract made by a minor is void from the beginning.

Facts:

A person aged 16 entered into an agreement to repay a loan with interest.

Options:

- A. The contract is valid because it was signed.
- B. The contract is void since one party is a minor.
- C. The contract is voidable at the option of the minor.
- D. The contract becomes valid if approved by parents.

Answer: B

Explanation: Agreements by minors are void ab initio and cannot be enforced.

3. Principle:

Self-defense is justified if the response is proportionate to the threat.

Facts:

During an attempt to steal a wallet, the victim struck the thief with a slap.

Options:

- A. The act is unjustified since violence was used.
- B. The act is justified as the response was proportionate.
- C. The act is unjustified because the victim could have walked away.
- D. The act is justified since theft is a crime.

Answer: B

Explanation: A slap is proportionate to an attempt at theft, hence valid under self-defense.

4. Principle:

No one can transfer a better title to goods than what they possess.

Facts:

A stolen bicycle was sold to an innocent purchaser.

Options:

- A. The purchaser gets a valid title due to innocence.
- B. The purchaser does not get a valid title as the seller had none.
- C. The purchaser can keep the bicycle and sue the seller.
- D. The purchaser must return the bicycle but may retain the price.

Answer: B

Explanation: The seller had no ownership; therefore, no title could pass to the purchaser.

5. Principle:

Killing during a sudden quarrel without pre-planned intention is culpable homicide, not murder.

Facts:

During a heated exchange, a blow was struck causing death.

Options:

- A. This is murder.
- B. This is not an offence since the quarrel was sudden.
- C. This is culpable homicide.
- D. This is only grievous hurt.

Answer: C

Explanation: Absence of premeditation makes it culpable homicide, not murder.

6. Principle:

Silence does not constitute acceptance in contracts unless there is a legal duty to respond.

Facts:

An offer stated, "If you do not reply, it will be treated as acceptance." No reply was given.

Options:

- A. Silence amounts to acceptance.
- B. Silence does not amount to acceptance.
- C. Silence amounts to partial acceptance.
- D. Silence amounts to acceptance because the offeror set the condition.

Answer: B

Explanation: The law does not recognize silence as acceptance unless duty to speak exists.

7. Principle:

Negligence occurs when reasonable care is not taken, causing harm to another.

Facts:

A surgical instrument was left inside a patient after an operation.

Options:

- A. The doctor is liable for negligence.
- B. The doctor is not liable as errors occur naturally.
- C. The hospital is liable but not the doctor.
- D. The patient is responsible for consenting to the surgery.

Answer: A

Explanation: Leaving an instrument shows lack of reasonable care, which is negligence.

8. Principle:

A valid marriage requires free consent of both parties.

Facts:

One party was compelled by family pressure to marry.

Options:

- A. The marriage is valid because marriage is a duty.
- B. The marriage is void since there was no free consent.
- C. The marriage is voidable at the option of the coerced party.
- D. The marriage becomes valid if consummated.

Answer: C

Explanation: Forced consent makes the marriage voidable at the option of the pressured party.

9. Principle:

Defamation is making false statements that harm reputation when published to others.

Facts:

A person falsely accused another of theft in a private group of friends.

Options:

- A. This is defamation since reputation is harmed.
- B. This is not defamation because the group was small.
- C. This is defamation because publication to even a few people is sufficient.
- D. This is not defamation because it was merely an opinion.

Answer: C

Explanation: Communication of false statements to even a limited audience can amount to defamation.

10. Principle:

Right of private defense extends to causing death when faced with a threat of death or grievous harm.

Facts:

A person was attacked with a knife and responded by shooting the attacker.

Options:

- A. The defender is guilty of murder.
- B. The defender is not guilty because the act was in private defense.
- C. The defender is guilty because escape was possible.
- D. The defender is guilty of culpable homicide.

Answer: B

Explanation: A life-threatening knife attack justifies the use of deadly force in self-defense.