

The truth about LNAT past papers

Two official 2010 practice papers, an online simulator with an old option count, and no released library of live papers.

THE SHORT ANSWER

The official LNAT site gives you two paper-based practice tests from 2010, answer material, and an online simulation. They are **practice material, not a yearly archive of live papers**. The current real test uses four answer choices; the online sample still shows five. Save one official paper for a full rehearsal and judge commercial material by transparency, not by the word “past”.

Checked against the sources named in this guide, August 2026. British English. Free to share.

1 What officially exists

The LNAT practice page currently links two paper tests, selected commentary and a marking scheme. The PDFs are titled Sample Test 1 and Sample Test 2 and date from 2010. The site also offers an on-screen simulation.

That is the official stock. There is no public run of annual 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025 live LNAT papers. Different sittings draw from a large calibrated bank, and the Consortium does not release those live forms afterwards.

1 The tell

A genuine source says what it is. “Official 2010 practice test” is honest. “2025 LNAT past paper” needs a release page from the LNAT Consortium. If none exists, the label is doing more work than the evidence.

2 Three format traps in the official material

The official resources remain valuable, but they are not identical to a current sitting.

Resource	Useful for	Do not pretend
Paper test 1	Passage reasoning, distractor analysis, first diagnostic	A printed page reproduces the test-centre screen
Paper test 2	A protected 95-minute rehearsal and essay prompt	Repeated attempts remain fresh score evidence
Online simulation	Screen layout, flags, scrolling, timer and typing	Five answer options match the current real test’s four
Commentary and marking scheme	Seeing why close answers fail	One explanation teaches every passage type automatically

The 2010 paper PDFs also show five essay choices, while the current test gives three. The current timing and core reasoning task are still useful: 42 Section A questions across 12 passages in 95 minutes, followed by one essay in 40 minutes.

3 Use scarce material in the right order

1. **Start with a small official set, untimed.** Learn what the question means by main conclusion, inference, purpose and degree.

2. **Write a misreading beside every miss.** “Imported knowledge” is more reusable than “I chose B”.
3. **Use original third-party material for volume.** Require a named source, original passages, four options, answer reasons and a clear statement that it is not a recalled live paper.
4. **Return to official test 1 in timed passage blocks.** Record accuracy and time by passage, not only the total.
5. **Protect official test 2.** Sit it once, on screen if possible, with the essay immediately afterwards.
6. **Replay for method, not prediction.** A remembered question can test whether you can explain the logic, but not whether 31 is your current unseen-paper level.

2 Try it

For every resource, complete a five-line label: publisher, original or official, current four-option format, full answer reasons, and date first seen. If the publisher hides two of those, do not let its score set your confidence.

4 Worked Section A: what an original item should expose

Worked example A close option needs a precise reason to die

Passage. Museums often defend free admission by counting visitors, but a larger crowd does not prove broader access. If the same well-served group visits more often, attendance rises while inequality remains. Charging nothing may still be worthwhile; it removes one obvious barrier. Yet museums should also measure first-time visits, travel distance and the range of schools represented. A policy aimed at access should be judged by access, not by the easiest number to print in an annual report.

Question. Which statement best captures the author’s main point?

- A. Free admission never improves access to museums.
- B. Visitor totals alone are a poor measure of whether access has broadened.
- C. Museums should charge frequent visitors and admit first-time visitors free.
- D. School visits are the only reliable measure of museum access.

Correct: B. The author accepts a possible benefit of free entry but argues for measures that match the policy aim.

Misreading: Absolute upgrade, A: “may still be worthwhile” rules out “never”.

Misreading: Policy invention, C: the passage asks for better measurement, not a new pricing system.

Misreading: Example promotion, D: school representation is one suggested measure, not the only one.

A good explanation names the exact word or logical move that separates B from its neighbours. “B feels most sensible” is not an answer rationale. It is a mood.

Worked example The hedged middle can still be wrong

Passage. When editors discover that an article’s central source was fabricated, some append a warning while leaving the article in the normal archive. That compromise is indefensible. The warning does not stop an unsupported claim travelling without it, while normal display continues to lend the falsehood an archive’s authority. Remove the article from ordinary access, retain only a clearly separated research copy and publish a correction. This is not erasure. It is a refusal to present fabrication as reporting. Where the central evidence is invented, there is no balance left for an editor to preserve.

Question. Which action does the author support?

- A. Leave the article in normal access when a prominent warning gives readers enough context to judge it cautiously.
- B. Remove it from normal access and publish a correction.
- C. Remove every article containing any factual error, however minor, from all public and research archives permanently.
- D. Preserve the fabricated article only in a private copy that cannot be inspected by researchers or the public.

Correct: B. The author prescribes removal from normal access, a separated research copy and a public correction.

Misreading: Hedge reflex, A: the warning-plus-display compromise is called indefensible, not accepted as a cautious middle route.

Misreading: Scope explosion, C: the argument concerns fabricated central evidence, not every minor factual error.

Misreading: Archive erasure, D: the author explicitly retains a separated research copy.

Do not award a mark for sounding balanced. Award it for reproducing the balance, or the refusal to balance, that the passage actually contains.

5 How to audit paid or free question banks

Use five gates:

- **Originality:** no claim that remembered live content is official.
- **Passage dependence:** the correct answer follows from the text, not outside knowledge.
- **One best answer:** the key survives a hostile comparison with every option.
- **Named distractors:** each wrong option corresponds to a plausible misreading.
- **Current delivery:** four options, mixed passage styles, and timing that respects the 95-minute section.

Difficulty is not the sixth gate. Material can be harder than the live test and still teach careful reading, but the publisher must say so. A mysterious low score on deliberately brutal questions is not an official LNAT forecast.

6 A ration plan that preserves freshness

Do not spend both official papers in the first anxious weekend. Give each use a job and record whether the questions were genuinely unseen.

Stage	Official material	What you keep
Diagnostic	Two passages from test 1, un-timed	Misreading labels and a first accuracy baseline
Technique	Remaining test 1 passages in mixed timed blocks	Passage-by-passage timing and corrected reasoning
Rehearsal	All of test 2, then one essay	One honest full-section result under current timing
Replay	Missed questions only, after a delay	An explanation from blank paper, not a second “score”

Keep a freshness ledger with three labels: **unseen**, **seen but unsolved**, and **remembered**. Only unseen work belongs in a score trend. Remembered material is still useful for proving why one option beats another.

7 Sources

LNAT Consortium, Practice tests

The online simulation, two paper-based practice tests, commentary, marking scheme and the warning that the simulator still shows five options while the real test uses four. [Open the official practice page.](#)

LNAT Consortium, Test format and FAQs

Current 42-question, 12-passage, 95-minute Section A and one-of-three, 40-minute Section B; different calibrated forms across sittings. [Read the format.](#)

LNAT Sample Test 2 (2010)

The date and historic paper format. [Open the official PDF.](#)

No recalled live LNAT content is reproduced. The worked passages and all options in this guide are original.