

CLAT Community

daily
AR

SECTIONAL TEST

46

DAYS TO GO FOR
CLAT 2027



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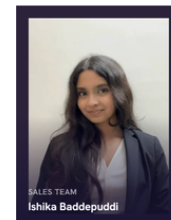
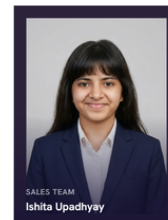
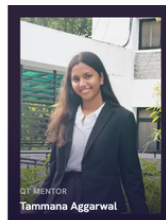
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OUR COURSES



OUR MENTORS



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MENTORS' NOTE

Good morning everyone,

If you're reading this, you're already doing something that thousands of CLAT aspirants never do—you've shown up today. That might sound like a small thing, but over the next few months you'll realise that success in CLAT is rarely decided by one brilliant mock or one 12-hour study session. It's decided by the hundreds of ordinary days where you choose to sit down and study even when you don't feel like it.

The entire CLAT Community team is rooting for you. Whenever you're stuck, ask doubts, discuss questions, and make use of the people around you. You don't have to prepare alone. We hope today's material helps you take one more step towards your dream.

Now stop reading this note and get to work. Your future self will thank you for the effort you put in today.

All the best.

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DAILY AR**PASSAGE 1**

The Hill Districts' tug-of-war league has five teams: Ibex, Jackal, Kestrel, Lynx and Marten. Every pair of teams met exactly once. A win earns 2 points, a draw earns 1 point for each side and a defeat earns none, so twenty points were awarded in all. The final table ranks teams by points; two teams level on points are separated by the result of the match between them, and if that match was drawn they share the rank and the next rank is left vacant. The printed table is lost, and the league secretary recalls only the following. Lynx was not beaten in any match. Marten finished with 1 point and Kestrel with 3 points. Ibex's only defeat was against Kestrel. Jackal's only defeat was against Ibex. The trophy for the league was donated in 1987. Unless a question says otherwise, these facts and the rules above hold.

Q1. Which two teams drew with Lynx?

- (A) Kestrel and Marten
- (B) Ibex and Jackal
- (C) Ibex and Kestrel
- (D) Jackal and Marten

Q2. What is Jackal's position in the final table?

- (A) Joint second
- (B) Second
- (C) Third
- (D) Fourth

Q3. Suppose that, instead, teams level on points were separated by the number of matches won, and teams still level shared the rank with the next rank left vacant. What would be the positions, in this order, of Ibex, Jackal and Kestrel?

- (A) 2, 2, 4
- (B) 2, 2, 3
- (C) 2, 3, 4
- (D) 1, 1, 4

Q4. A match is called an 'equaliser' if the team placed lower in the final table earned at least as many points from it as the team placed higher. How many of the ten matches were equalisers?

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- (A) 1
- (B) 3
- (C) 5
- (D) 4

Q5. A sixth team, Narwhal, then plays one match against each of the five teams and draws all five. With Narwhal added, and the same rules applied, what is Narwhal's position in the table of six?

- (A) Joint second
- (B) Third
- (C) Fourth
- (D) Fifth

Q6. Call a list of distinct teams a 'win chain' if each team in it beat the next team in the list. What is the greatest number of teams in a win chain?

- (A) 2
- (B) 3
- (C) 4
- (D) 5

Q7. If exactly one of the secretary's five recollections (the five facts about Lynx, Marten, Kestrel, Ibex and Jackal) were forgotten and the other four kept, which forgotten recollection would leave the greatest number of different possible sets of results for the ten matches?

- (A) Lynx was not beaten in any match.
- (B) Marten finished with 1 point.
- (C) Kestrel finished with 3 points.
- (D) Ibex's only defeat was against Kestrel.

Q8. How many of the following statements are correct?

- (i) Kestrel beat exactly two teams.
- (ii) The teams placed second and third won the same number of matches.
- (iii) Marten lost to every team except Kestrel.
- (iv) Exactly two teams won more matches than they lost.

- (A) 1
- (B) 2

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(C) 3

(D) 4

PASSAGE 2

A coastal city's cycle-hire authority licenses several operators, and each operator numbers the keys it issues in order of issue. Operator Red's Key 1 carries the number 7. For every operator the rule is the same: each later key carries the number of the key before it plus the sum of the digits of that number. So Red's Key 2 carries 14 and Key 3 carries 19. Operator Blue's Key 1 carries 1, and Operator Green's Key 1 carries 3. A number is called shared if it is carried by at least one Red key and at least one Blue key. The digital root of a number is the single digit obtained by adding its digits again and again until one digit remains. The authority was founded in 1994, and its keys are made of brass. Unless a question says otherwise, the rule and these starting numbers apply.

Q9. What is the smallest shared number?

(A) 107

(B) 94

(C) 115

(D) 103

Q10. Of the numbers carried by Red's Keys 1 to 15, how many are shared?

(A) 5

(B) 4

(C) 3

(D) 1

Q11. Which of the following numbers is certainly NOT carried by any Red key?

(A) 257

(B) 169

(C) 229

(D) 231

Q12. What is the digital root of the number carried by Red's Key 100?

(A) 1

(B) 2

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(C) 4

(D) 7

Q13. A new operator, Silver, begins with a first-key number n . For which of the following values of n can it be asserted, without listing any keys, that no Silver key will ever carry a number carried by a Red key?

(A) 41

(B) 25

(C) 32

(D) 39

Q14. Operator Gold's Key 1 carries a two-digit number and its Key 2 carries 117. What number does Gold's Key 5 carry?

(A) 135

(B) 153

(C) 144

(D) 171

Q15. How many of the following statements are correct?

(i) Every Blue key from Key 16 onwards carries a shared number.

(ii) Every number carried by a Green key is a multiple of 3.

(iii) Some Red key carries a number whose digital root is 9.

(iv) Blue's Key 20 carries the same number as Red's Key 16.

(A) 1

(B) 2

(C) 3

(D) 4

Q16. Operator Teal's Key 5 carries 103, and its Key 3 carries an odd number. What number does Teal's Key 1 carry?

(A) 70

(B) 63

(C) 61

(D) 77

PASSAGE 3

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At a coastal town's kite festival, four pilots, Asha, Bimal, Charu and Deven, flew six rounds. In every round each pilot receives one score. Pilots are compared in a round by that round's score alone, and the standings after a round are by cumulative total, that is, all scores so far. Each pilot's scores follow a fixed rule. Asha's scores rise by the same amount from each round to the next. Bimal scored 9 in Round 1, and each later score is his previous score plus the number of the round just completed. Charu's score in Round n is $n^2 + k$, where k is a fixed whole number. Deven's Round 1 score is a single-digit number, and each later score is his previous score plus the sum of the digits of that previous score. The surviving record states: Asha's Round 3 score was 22; Deven's Round 4 score was 29; in Round 5, Asha and Deven scored the same; in Round 2, Asha and Charu scored the same. The prize fund was ₹50,000.

Q17. What was Charu's score in Round 6?

- (A) 49
- (B) 45
- (C) 40
- (D) 34

Q18. After Round 3, who stood third in the cumulative standings?

- (A) Asha
- (B) Bimal
- (C) Charu
- (D) Deven

Q19. Between the end of Round 1 and the end of Round 6, how many times did the cumulative leader change?

- (A) 0
- (B) 2
- (C) 1
- (D) 3

Q20. In how many of the six rounds was Bimal's score the lowest of the four pilots in that round?

- (A) 6
- (B) 5

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(C) 4

(D) 3

Q21. After Round 6, by how many points did the leader of the cumulative standings lead the runner-up?

(A) 14

(B) 4

(C) 5

(D) 6

Q22. How many pilots occupied a different position in the cumulative standings at the end of Round 6 from the one they occupied at the end of Round 3?

(A) 2

(B) 0

(C) 3

(D) 1

Q23. The rounds continue by the same rules after Round 6. Asha and Deven scored the same in Round 5. What is the next round in which they score the same?

(A) 11

(B) 9

(C) 17

(D) 10

Q24. How many of the following statements are correct?

(i) After Round 6 Charu's total exceeds Bimal's by more than 60.

(ii) Deven was ahead of Asha in the standings after each of the first four rounds.

(iii) In every one of Rounds 2 to 6, Bimal's score was below Charu's.

(iv) In Round 7 Asha's score is higher than Charu's.

(A) 2

(B) 0

(C) 1

(D) 3

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ANSWER KEY

Q1. Answer: (B)

Ibex's only defeat was against Kestrel, so Kestrel beat Ibex. Kestrel's 3 points are that win (2) plus exactly one more point, so Kestrel won no other match and drew exactly one.

Marten's 1 point means exactly one draw and three defeats. Marten cannot have beaten Kestrel (that alone would give Marten 2 points), and Kestrel won nothing else, so Kestrel–Marten was a draw: it is Kestrel's one draw and Marten's one point. Hence Kestrel lost to Jackal and to Lynx, and Marten lost to Ibex, Jackal and Lynx. Now Ibex's only defeat was Kestrel and Lynx lost no match, so Ibex–Lynx cannot have had a winner: it was a draw. Jackal's only defeat was Ibex, so Jackal did not lose to Lynx either, and Jackal–Lynx was also a draw. Lynx drew with Ibex and Jackal.

(A) wrong — Assumed an unbeaten team must have drawn with the two weakest teams; but Kestrel and Marten were both beaten by Lynx.

(C) wrong — Forgot that Kestrel lost to Lynx and gave Kestrel's third point to a draw with Lynx instead of a draw with Marten.

(D) wrong — Took Marten's single point to be a draw with Lynx; Marten's draw was with Kestrel.

Tags: Ranking and Arrangement Test — RAT7 round-robin results reconstructed from 'only defeat', point-total and unbeaten clues (new device)

Difficulty: Very Hard — no clue names a drawn match; the draws must be forced from point totals and 'only defeat' statements.

Q2. Answer: (C)

From the results in Q1: Ibex beat Jackal and Marten, drew with Lynx and lost to Kestrel, so Ibex has 5 points. Jackal beat Kestrel and Marten, drew with Lynx and lost to Ibex, so Jackal also has 5. Lynx has 6 (wins over Kestrel and Marten, two draws), Kestrel 3, Marten 1. Ibex and Jackal are level on 5, and the rule separates them by their own match, which Ibex won. The table reads Lynx, Ibex, Jackal, Kestrel, Marten, so Jackal is third.

(A) wrong — Ignored the head-to-head rule and let the two teams level on 5 share second place; the rule separates them because their match was not drawn.

(B) wrong — Reversed the head-to-head: gave the separating win to Jackal, although Jackal's only defeat was against Ibex.

(D) wrong — Applied a transitive-win fallacy: Kestrel beat Ibex and Ibex beat Jackal, so

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Kestrel was put above Jackal; points, not chains of wins, decide the table (Kestrel has 3).

Tags: Ranking and Arrangement Test — RAT1 position from points with a head-to-head tie-break

Difficulty: Hard — needs the whole result set and a correctly directed head-to-head.

Q3. Answer: (A)

Points are unchanged: Lynx 6, Ibex 5, Jackal 5, Kestrel 3, Marten 1. Only Ibex and Jackal are level on points. Ibex won two matches (Jackal, Marten) and Jackal won two (Kestrel, Marten), so the new rule cannot separate them: they share second place. Their two places are used up, so the next rank left vacant is third and Kestrel is fourth. Positions: 2, 2, 4.

(B) wrong — Forgot the vacancy rule: shared second place was followed by third, not fourth.

(C) wrong — Kept the old head-to-head separation although the question replaces it.

(D) wrong — Applied the wins rule to the whole table instead of only to teams level on points; Lynx, Ibex and Jackal all won two matches, but Lynx is ahead on points.

Tags: Ranking and Arrangement Test — RAT2 shared rank with a vacated next rank under a substituted tie-break rule

Difficulty: Very Hard — the replacement rule fails to separate the pair, and the vacancy must be applied to the next team.

Q4. Answer: (D)

Final order: Lynx 1, Ibex 2, Jackal 3, Kestrel 4, Marten 5. Six matches were won by the higher-placed team (Ibex over Jackal and Marten, Jackal over Kestrel and Marten, Lynx over Kestrel and Marten). The other four are equalisers: Kestrel beat Ibex (lower-placed team won), and the draws Ibex–Lynx, Jackal–Lynx and Kestrel–Marten (equal points). That is 4.

(A) wrong — Counted only the match in which the lower-placed team won (Kestrel over Ibex) and forgot that draws give equal points.

(B) wrong — Counted only the three draws and forgot the one match the lower-placed team won.

(C) wrong — Counted Ibex's win over Jackal as an equaliser because the two teams finished level on 5 points; the match was not level, and Ibex is the higher-placed side.

Tags: Ranking and Arrangement Test — RAT3 comparison of match results against final positions (new definition-based count)

Difficulty: Very Hard — the final table must be built first, then each of ten matches is tested against two ranks.

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Q5. Answer: (C)

Each draw gives Narwhal 1 point, so Narwhal has 5. Each of the five original teams also gains 1 point from its draw with Narwhal: Lynx 7, Ibex 6, Jackal 6, Kestrel 4, Marten 2. Narwhal's 5 lies below 7, 6 and 6 and above 4 and 2. Three teams are ahead of it, so it is fourth.

(A) wrong — Compared Narwhal's 5 with the old totals (Ibex 5, Jackal 5) and forgot that Ibex and Jackal also gained a point.

(B) wrong — Counted only Ibex and Jackal as ahead and left Lynx out of the count.

(D) wrong — Ordered by matches won (Narwhal has none) and put it below Kestrel; the table is by points.

Tags: Ranking and Arrangement Test — RAT4 insertion of a new entrant when every existing total shifts

Difficulty: Hard — the new entrant changes every other team's total, not just its own.

Q6. Answer: (D)

Use the results: Lynx beat Kestrel; Kestrel beat Ibex; Ibex beat Jackal; Jackal beat Marten. So Lynx, Kestrel, Ibex, Jackal, Marten is a win chain containing all five teams. No chain can have more than five teams.

(A) wrong — Counted only the league winner's own victories as a chain, ignoring that the victims also beat others.

(B) wrong — Followed the table order (Ibex, Jackal, Kestrel), which breaks at each draw and at Kestrel–Marten; a chain follows wins, not positions.

(C) wrong — Assumed Lynx's match with Kestrel was not a win for Lynx (or counted links instead of teams), which cuts the chain to four.

Tags: Ranking and Arrangement Test — RAT5 longest win chain through a result matrix (order not equal to rank)

Difficulty: Very Hard — the chain runs against the table order (Lynx–Kestrel–Ibex–Jackal–Marten), so ranking cannot be used as a shortcut.

Q7. Answer: (D)

Test each recollection by removing it and counting all result sets that fit the other four.

Removing 'Lynx unbeaten' leaves 4 possibilities; removing 'Marten 1 point' leaves 24; removing 'Kestrel 3 points' leaves 16; removing 'Ibex's only defeat was against Kestrel' leaves 26; removing 'Jackal's only defeat was against Ibex' would leave 4. The greatest is 26,

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for the Ibex clue: it is the only clue that fixes a result for a team whose other results are otherwise loose.

(A) wrong — Assumed a negative statement ('not beaten') is the loosest; it actually fixes four results at once and leaves only 4 possibilities.

(B) wrong — Assumed a points total is looser because it names no opponent; Marten's single point still pins down a draw and three defeats, leaving 24, close to but less than 26.

(C) wrong — Assumed 3 points can arise in more ways than 1 point and so must be the loosest clue; withdrawing it leaves 16.

Tags: Ranking and Arrangement Test — RAT6 informational weight of clues (counting result sets after withdrawal)

Difficulty: Elite — every clue must be withdrawn in turn and the survivors counted; the clue types mislead.

Q8. Answer: (B)

Records (wins, draws, defeats): Lynx 2, 2, 0; Ibex 2, 1, 1; Jackal 2, 1, 1; Kestrel 1, 1, 2;

Marten 0, 1, 3. (i) False: Kestrel's only win was over Ibex; its other points came from one draw. (ii) True: Ibex (second) and Jackal (third) each won two. (iii) True: Marten lost to Ibex, Jackal and Lynx and drew with Kestrel. (iv) False: Lynx, Ibex and Jackal each won more than they lost, so three teams, not two. Two statements are correct.

(A) wrong — Rejected (ii), thinking two teams that are separated in the table must differ in wins; the separation came from their head-to-head, not from wins.

(C) wrong — Accepted (iv) by forgetting Jackal's 2–1 record when counting teams with more wins than defeats.

(D) wrong — Accepted (i) by treating Kestrel's win and draw as two wins, and accepted (iv) as well.

Tags: Ranking and Arrangement Test — capstone, four statements on records versus table positions

Difficulty: Very Hard — two statements are true only after the full result set is built, and two near-miss statements are false.

Q9. Answer: (A)

Red's numbers: 7, 14, 19, 29, 40, 44, 52, 59, 73, 83, 94, 107. Blue's numbers: 1, 2, 4, 8, 16, 23, 28, 38, 49, 62, 70, 77, 91, 101, 103, 107. The first number common to both lists is 107 (Red's Key 12, Blue's Key 16). From there the rule makes the two chains identical.

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(B) wrong — Gave Red's last number before the meeting point (94) instead of the common number.

(C) wrong — Gave the next number both chains carry (115), one step past the first common number.

(D) wrong — Gave Blue's last number before the meeting point (103) instead of the common number.

Tags: Series — SE7 digit-sum recurrence (term plus sum of its digits), two chains compared for a first meeting

Difficulty: Hard — two chains must be generated in parallel and compared without being misled by the near-misses 94 and 103.

Q10. Answer: (B)

Once a number appears in both chains, the rule gives the same next number to both, so every later number is shared. Red's Key 12 is 107, the first shared number. Red's Keys 12 to 15 carry 107, 115, 122 and 127, all of which Blue also carries (Blue's Keys 16 to 19). Red's Keys 1 to 11 carry 7, 14, 19, 29, 40, 44, 52, 59, 73, 83 and 94, none of which Blue carries. That is 4 shared numbers.

(A) wrong — Counted Key 11 (94) as well, because its successor is shared; 94 itself is not on Blue's chain.

(C) wrong — Stopped at Key 14, counting 107, 115 and 122 only, and missed Key 15 (127).

(D) wrong — Counted only the meeting number 107, not noticing that equal numbers force equal successors, so every later number is shared too.

Tags: Series — SE8 merging of recurrence chains (equal term forces equal tail)

Difficulty: Very Hard — the merge is permanent, and the count depends on spotting the exact key where it begins.

Q11. Answer: (D)

A number and the sum of its digits leave the same remainder when divided by 9. So if a key's number leaves remainder r , the next key's number leaves remainder $2r \pmod{9}$. Red starts with 7, so its remainders run 7, 5, 1, 2, 4, 8, 7, ... and never 0, 3 or 6. No Red number is a multiple of 3. Of the four options only $231 = 3 \times 77$ is a multiple of 3. The other three are carried: Red's Key 19 is 169, Key 23 is 229 and Key 26 is 257.

(A) wrong — Rejected 257 for being prime, an irrelevant property; Red's chain contains primes (7, 19, 29, 73) and 257 is its Key 26.

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(B) wrong — Rejected 169 for being a perfect square, an irrelevant property; it is Red's Key 19.

(C) wrong — Rejected 229 because its digit sum (13) is odd and prime, an irrelevant property; it is Red's Key 23.

Tags: Series — SE9 remainder (mod 9) invariant of a digit-sum recurrence

Difficulty: Elite — without the remainder-by-9 idea the test needs about 25 keys listed, and 231 looks reachable from a predecessor (204).

Q12. Answer: (B)

A number has the same digital root as its remainder on division by 9 (a remainder of 0 meaning a root of 9). Red's remainders double each key: 7, 5, 1, 2, 4, 8, and then 7 again, a cycle of length 6. Key 100 is 99 steps after Key 1, and 99 leaves remainder 3 on division by 6, so Key 100 matches Key 4 in the cycle, whose remainder is 2. (Key 4 carries 29, digital root 2.) The digital root is 2.

(A) wrong — Treated Key 100 as the third key of the cycle (an off-by-one: used $99 \bmod 6 = 3$ as the key number instead of adding 1), giving root 1.

(C) wrong — Took the cycle length as 5 (7, 5, 1, 2, 4), so Key 100 matched the last place of the cycle, root 4.

(D) wrong — Assumed the digital root stays at the first key's value 7, instead of changing with every key.

Tags: Series — SE10 cycle length in a derived remainder sequence, position at a distant index

Difficulty: Elite — the cycle must be discovered and indexed correctly at a key far beyond any list a student can write.

Q13. Answer: (D)

Red's numbers never leave remainder 0, 3 or 6 on division by 9; they are not multiples of 3.

A chain that starts at a multiple of 3 keeps doubling its remainder and stays on multiples of 3 (remainders 3, 6, 3, 6, ... or 0, 0, ...), so it can never meet Red. 39 is a multiple of 3, so Silver can never share a number with Red. The other starts, 41, 25 and 32, are not multiples of 3; their chains have remainders inside Red's cycle and do in fact join Red's chain (all three reach 620, Red's Key 54), so nothing can be guaranteed for them.

(A) wrong — Assumed a chain starting at a number not on Red's chain can never join it; Blue starts at 1 and joins Red at 107, and 41 joins at 620.

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(B) wrong — Made the same assumption for 25; its chain joins Red's at 620.

(C) wrong — Made the same assumption for 32; its chain joins Red's at 620.

Tags: Series — SE11 impossibility of meeting from a remainder invariant (two recurrence chains)

Difficulty: Elite — the claim must be proved for every key at once; trial lists can only show chains that do meet.

Q14. Answer: (C)

Key 2 = Key 1 + the digit sum of Key 1 = 117. A two-digit start gives 99 ($99 + 18 = 117$). (A three-digit start, 108, would also give 117, but the passage excludes it; either way the chain from 117 is the same, so the two-digit clue turns out not to matter.) From 117: Key 3 = $117 + 9 = 126$, Key 4 = $126 + 9 = 135$, Key 5 = $135 + 9 = 144$.

(A) wrong — Stopped one key early and gave Key 4 (135).

(B) wrong — Counted from 117 as if it were Key 1 (or went one key too far) and gave 153.

(D) wrong — Reused the digit sum of the first number (18) at every step: 99, 117, 135, 153, 171.

Tags: Series — SE12 backward step of a digit-sum recurrence with redundant data (two possible starts merge)

Difficulty: Very Hard — the inversion needs candidates, and a redundant clue invites needless effort.

Q15. Answer: (C)

(i) True: Blue's Key 16 is 107, Red's Key 12, and from then on Blue repeats Red's numbers.

(ii) True: Green's remainders on division by 9 are 3, 6, 3, 6, ..., always multiples of 3. (iii)

False: a digital root of 9 means a multiple of 9, and Red's numbers are never multiples of 3.

(iv) True: Blue's Key 16 matches Red's Key 12, so Blue's Key n matches Red's Key $n - 4$; Blue's Key 20 is Red's Key 16 (both 137). Three statements are correct.

(A) wrong — Rejected (iv) and also (ii), believing a chain from 3 must eventually reach numbers that are not multiples of 3.

(B) wrong — Rejected (iv) through an offset error (comparing Blue's Key 20 with Red's Key 24 or Key 20).

(D) wrong — Accepted (iii), assuming that some number in a long list must have digital root 9.

Tags: Series — capstone, four statements (merge tail, remainder invariant, impossible root,

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index offset)

Difficulty: Very Hard — three of the four statements rest on invariants of the recurrence, not on listing keys.

Q16. Answer: (A)

Work backwards: the previous number m satisfies $m + (\text{digit sum of } m) = \text{the number}$, so it is not found by subtracting the digit sum of the number you hold. For 103 the only possibilities are 92 and 101. For 92 the only previous number is 82; for 101 the previous numbers are 91 and 100. So Key 3 could be 82, 91 or 100. Only 91 is odd, so Key 3 = 91, Key 4 = 101.

Before 91 only 77 works, and before 77 only 70. Teal's Key 1 carries 70 (70, 77, 91, 101, 103). The other branch 61, 68, 82, 92, 103 has even Key 3 and is excluded; the branch through 100 cannot be extended back to a Key 1 at all.

(B) wrong — Inverted wrongly by subtracting the digit sum of the number held at each step: $103 - 4 = 99$, $99 - 18 = 81$, $81 - 9 = 72$, $72 - 9 = 63$.

(C) wrong — Followed the other branch (61, 68, 82, 92, 103) and ignored the condition that Key 3 is odd.

(D) wrong — Gave Key 2 (77) instead of Key 1.

Tags: Series — SE13 inverting a digit-sum recurrence through branching predecessors, resolved by a parity condition

Difficulty: Elite — the inverse is not unique, branches die or survive only after several steps, and a side condition selects the survivor.

Q17. Answer: (B)

Deven: his Round 4 score 29 can come only from 19, which can come only from 14, which can come only from 7, so his scores are 7, 14, 19, 29, and Round 5 is $29 + 11 = 40$. Asha's Round 5 equals Deven's, 40, and her Round 3 is 22, so two rounds add 18 and she rises by 9 a round: 4, 13, 22, 31, 40, 49. Charu's Round 2 equals Asha's 13, so $4 + k = 13$ and $k = 9$. Round 6: $36 + 9 = 45$.

(A) wrong — Took k to be Asha's Round 2 score (13) rather than solving $4 + k = 13$: $36 + 13 = 49$.

(C) wrong — Took k to be Asha's first score (4): $36 + 4 = 40$.

(D) wrong — Evaluated Charu's Round 5 ($25 + 9$) instead of Round 6.

Tags: Series — SE14 recovering parameters of four different rules from linked clues;

Ranking — scores feeding the standings

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Difficulty: Very Hard — four rules, four clues and a backward chain must all be solved before the score is found.

Synthesis: Series (digit-sum chain, arithmetic rise, $n^2 + k$) and Ranking (equal-score clues across pilots) are fused at the first step: the equalities between pilots determine the rules.

Q18. Answer: (A)

Totals after Round 3: Asha $4 + 13 + 22 = 39$; Bimal $9 + 10 + 12 = 31$; Charu $10 + 13 + 18 = 41$; Deven $7 + 14 + 19 = 40$. The order is Charu 41, Deven 40, Asha 39, Bimal 31. Third is Asha.

(B) wrong — Confused ‘third’ with the lowest total and gave Bimal, who is fourth.

(C) wrong — Ranked by Round 3 scores alone (Asha 22, Deven 19, Charu 18, Bimal 12), which puts Charu third; the standings use cumulative totals.

(D) wrong — Slipped on a one-point margin (Deven 40 against Asha 39) and put Asha above Deven.

Tags: Ranking — cumulative standings from series with a round score versus total trap;
Series — partial sums

Difficulty: Hard — the Round 3 total needs three rules evaluated, and the margins are one and nine points.

Synthesis: Series (all four rules) feeds Ranking (cumulative order): both are needed throughout.

Q19. Answer: (C)

Cumulative leaders: after Round 1 Charu (10); Round 2 Charu (23); Round 3 Charu (41); Round 4 Asha (70, ahead of Deven 69 and Charu 66); Round 5 Asha (110); Round 6 Asha (159). The leader changes once, between Rounds 3 and 4.

(A) wrong — Stopped after Round 3, where Charu was still leading, and concluded the leader never changed.

(B) wrong — Used the leader of each round’s single score (Charu, Deven, Asha) instead of the cumulative leader: two changes.

(D) wrong — Used single-round leaders and counted the Round 5 tie between Asha and Deven as another change.

Tags: Ranking — leader changes in cumulative standings; Series — four rules extended to Round 6

Difficulty: Very Hard — single-round leaders and cumulative leaders differ, and the question

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asks about the second kind.

Synthesis: Series rules supply all scores; Ranking logic converts them into leader changes.

Q20. Answer: (B)

Round scores: Round 1: Asha 4, Bimal 9, Charu 10, Deven 7 (Asha lowest). Round 2: 13, 10, 13, 14 (Bimal lowest). Round 3: 22, 12, 18, 19. Round 4: 31, 15, 25, 29. Round 5: 40, 19, 34, 40. Round 6: 49, 24, 45, 44. Bimal is lowest in Rounds 2 to 6, which is 5 rounds.

(A) wrong — Assumed Bimal was lowest in Round 1 as well, without finding that Asha scored only 4.

(C) wrong — Left out Round 2, thinking the tie between Asha and Charu made the lowest place unclear; Bimal's 10 is below everyone.

(D) wrong — Left out both rounds with a tie at the top (Rounds 2 and 5), reading a tie as invalidating the round.

Tags: Ranking — lowest place round by round; Series — Asha's first score derived from the rule

Difficulty: Hard — the Round 1 exception depends on Asha's derived first score.

Synthesis: Series gives Asha's Round 1 value (4); Ranking asks for the lowest place in each round.

Q21. Answer: (D)

Totals after Round 6: Asha $4 + 13 + 22 + 31 + 40 + 49 = 159$ (six terms of an arithmetic series: $6 \times (4 + 49) \div 2$); Deven $7 + 14 + 19 + 29 + 40 + 44 = 153$; Charu $10 + 13 + 18 + 25 + 34 + 45 = 145$; Bimal $9 + 10 + 12 + 15 + 19 + 24 = 89$. The leader Asha is 6 points ahead of Deven.

(A) wrong — Gave the lead over third place ($159 - 145$) instead of over the runner-up.

(B) wrong — Compared Round 6 scores only, Asha 49 and Charu 45, and took Charu as the runner-up.

(C) wrong — Compared Round 6 scores only, Asha 49 and Deven 44.

Tags: Series — sum of an arithmetic series and of three other rules; Ranking — lead over the runner-up

Difficulty: Hard — six-term totals for three different rules, and a margin of only six.

Synthesis: Series sums feed the Ranking margin; the totals of all four rules are needed.

Q22. Answer: (A)

End of Round 3: Charu, Deven, Asha, Bimal. End of Round 6: Asha, Deven, Charu, Bimal.

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Charu moves from first to third and Asha from third to first; Deven stays second and Bimal fourth. Two pilots changed position.

(B) wrong — Compared the Round 6 standings with the order of Round 3 single scores (Asha, Deven, Charu, Bimal), which is identical, and found no change.

(C) wrong — Counted pairs of pilots whose relative order flipped (Charu–Deven, Charu–Asha, Deven–Asha) instead of pilots whose position changed.

(D) wrong — Counted only the new leader and treated the exchange as one change.

Tags: Ranking — position change between two standings; Series — totals at two stages

Difficulty: Hard — Deven's relative order against both others changes while his own position does not.

Synthesis: Series totals at two stages feed the Ranking comparison.

Q23. Answer: (A)

Asha's Round n score is $4 + 9(n - 1) = 9n - 5$, which leaves remainder 4 on division by 9 in every round. Deven's scores form a digit-sum chain, whose remainders on division by 9 double each round: 7, 5, 1, 2, 4, 8, and then repeat, a cycle of 6. His remainder is 4 in Round 5, and then in Round 11, 17, ... So the next round in which a tie is possible is 11. Check: Asha's Round 11 is 94; Deven's scores from Round 6 are 44, 52, 59, 73, 83, 94. The next tie is Round 11.

(B) wrong — Slipped in Deven's chain at Round 9 (read 73 as 76), matching Asha's 76.

(C) wrong — Skipped the first return of the cycle and gave the second tie round (17).

(D) wrong — Took the remainder cycle as 5 rather than 6, giving Round $5 + 5 = 10$.

Tags: Series — SE15 remainder cycle against an arithmetic progression; Ranking — equal scores in a round

Difficulty: Elite — the cycle of Deven's remainders and the constant remainder of Asha's scores must be combined to locate the next tie.

Synthesis: Series (digit-sum cycle and arithmetic progression) is combined with Ranking (equal scores) to find the next tie round.

Q24. Answer: (C)

(i) False: Charu 145, Bimal 89, difference 56. (ii) False: after Round 4 Asha has 70 and Deven 69. (iii) True: Bimal 10, 12, 15, 19, 24 against Charu 13, 18, 25, 34, 45. (iv) False: Asha's Round 7 is $4 + 54 = 58$ and Charu's is $49 + 9 = 58$, equal, not higher. Only (iii) is correct.

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(A) wrong — Accepted (iv), expecting Asha's faster rise to put her ahead in Round 7; the scores are equal.

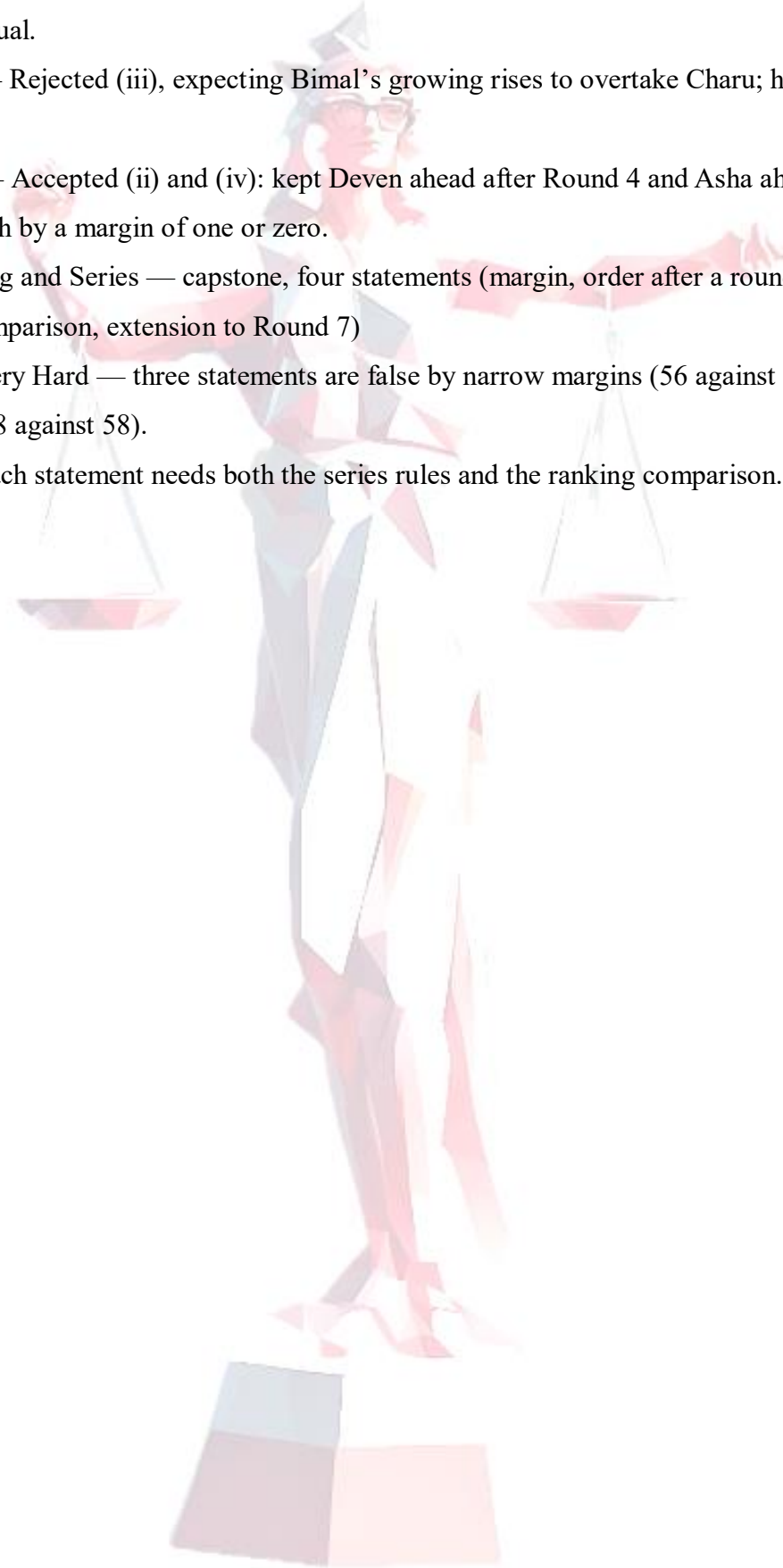
(B) wrong — Rejected (iii), expecting Bimal's growing rises to overtake Charu; his gap in fact widens.

(D) wrong — Accepted (ii) and (iv): kept Deven ahead after Round 4 and Asha ahead in Round 7, each by a margin of one or zero.

Tags: Ranking and Series — capstone, four statements (margin, order after a round, round-by-round comparison, extension to Round 7)

Difficulty: Very Hard — three statements are false by narrow margins (56 against 60, 70 against 69, 58 against 58).

Synthesis: Each statement needs both the series rules and the ranking comparison.



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