

# CLAT 2020 Test Series Plan

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# Reading Comprehension Questions for CLAT Exam.

## Passage for CLAT Set 4

**Direction: Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.**

What exactly is a GMO? The official USDA definition is “an organism produced through genetic modification.” Strictly speaking, all plant breeding methods, including simple cross breeding, alter a plant’s DNA, so all agricultural products are genetically modified, technically. They have been since the dawn of agriculture, thousands of years ago. Genetic engineering in today’s conversation is a more precise and expedient method of modification, however.

Sometimes, the benefits created by GMOs are simply to allow your food to last longer. “A recent example of a GMO crop that provides a consumer benefit is the Arctic Apple, which is genetically modified to prevent the browning of the apple once sliced,” says Vogliano, a PhD candidate studying sustainable food systems in developing countries at Massey University in New Zealand.

“The term ‘GMO’ can sound scary when you first hear about it,” says Vogliano. “However, consumers should feel confident that GMOs on the market are safe to consume and to date have not been linked with any adverse health effects,” he says. “One point I hear often is that GMO wheat is causing the rise of wheat sensitivities. However, this is not true as GMO wheat is not available for commercial use in America.”

A lot goes into making sure that GMO products are safe. “More than 75 studies are performed on each new biotech food crop before it is commercially available in the United States,” explains Cochran. “This ensures they are safe for people, animals, and the environment.”

And then there’s the issue of potential ecological imbalance. “While the genetic modification of crops may come with benefits, the sheer production volume of a single crop variety creates an ecological imbalance in our agricultural system,” says Vogliano. “Biodiversity loss is one of our generation’s **gravest** concerns.”

Today we have two options to determine this and one is to look for the USDA Organic Certification on a food. You can also look for the third-party Non-GMO Project label, indicating a product contains no GMOs. However, this label is voluntary, and it may cause confusion.

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from The Reader’s Digest, article: The Label We’ve All Been Waiting for on Genetically Modified Foods]

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**1. How according to the author GMO can create ecological imbalance?**

- A. As GMO is harmful as the food becomes durable for a very long time period.
- B. As only one variety of crops is produced in a very vast quantity through GMO causing loss of biodiversity
- C. As genetic modification of the crop inculcates its inability to survive in certain weather condition
- D. None of these

**2. Which of the following explains the reason why GMO is popular and is prevailing everywhere?**

- A. As it creates a wide variety of food
- B. It helps to maintain the ecological balance and is not harmful at all.
- C. It has been a conventional method which is often practised by many all around the world since very long.
- D. When the food is modified by GMO, it becomes more durable due to genes modification.

**3. Why one cannot depend on label to check whether the modified food by GMO is safe or not?**

- A. Because label does not display all the ingredients involved.
- B. They do not put label which depicts the truth and are corrupted.
- C. As the label are discretionary and thus is unreliable as it creates uncertainty.
- D. Many of the ingredients on the label may be unprocessed.

**4. Which of the following summarizes the passage?**

- A. The advantages and disadvantages of GMO
- B. The ecological imbalance created by GMO
- C. The unreliable label on the processed food and its consequences
- D. The journey of GMO from its inception to the modern day status

**5. What does the word 'gravest' as used in the passage mean?**

- A. Insane and unreliable
- B. Unimportant and absurd
- C. Deep and complex
- D. Serious and significant



**Correct Answers**

|   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|

|   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| B | D | C | A | D |
|---|---|---|---|---|



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## Explanations:

- 1.** As only one variety of crops is produced in a very vast quantity through GMO causing loss of biodiversity

As mentioned by the author in the second last paragraph very clearly that although GMO has many benefits of modified food, in agriculture it creates a huge ecological imbalance as only a single crop variety is produced, thus the other varieties become extinct gradually.

Hence the answer is option B.

- 2.** When the food is modified by GMO, it becomes more durable due to genes modification.

From the second paragraph it can be clearly deduced that the author has indicated the benefit of GMO and why is used by giving an example of apple.

All other options seem irrelevant except for option D.

Hence the answer is option D.

- 3.** As the label are discretionary and thus is unreliable as it creates uncertainty.

As it is clearly expressed in the last paragraph that the label will inculcate confusion as it is optional and no stringent regulations are there to maintain it.

Hence the answer is option C.

- 4.** The advantages and disadvantages of GMO. In the whole passage, the author has discussed the existence of GMO and also all the other aspects like why is scary, how should one check it etc. Only option A depicts all these aspects.

Hence the answer is option A.

- 5.** Serious and significant

The author has described that creation of imbalance in ecosystem and the loss of biodiversity are the most important concerns; the word can be the meaning of option D in the most relevant way.

Hence the answer is option D.

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