I) Law Knowledge

The ability to comprehend and organize the rules of a specific subject of law and specific legal doctrines within that subject.

A) Rule Comprehension

1) Identification of General Rule

The ability to identify general legal principles in the relevant subject or specific doctrines within that subject.

2) Rule Deconstruction

The ability to understand how to break down any legal principle into its elements in preparation for its analysis with relation to the facts from a specific fact pattern.

3) Identification of Rule Elaborations

The ability to identify specific, relevant legal principles that further qualify or limit the general rules. May include policy rationale.

4) Rule Articulation

The ability to articulate a legal principle in a manner that clearly presents all of the elements of that principle and without use of any facts from a specific fact pattern.

B) Rule Organization

The ability to establish a logical relationship among rules.
II) Law Application

The ability to comprehend the legal issues presented by a fact pattern, and provide reasonable explanations, either objectively or persuasively, for how to analyze the relevant legal principles in light of the specific facts from the fact pattern to arrive at a legally sound conclusion.

A) Issue Comprehension

1) Identification of Issues

The ability to identify the arguable legal issues presented by a fact pattern.

2) Prioritization of Issues

The ability to distinguish between large and small arguable legal issues presented by a fact pattern.

B) Analysis

1) Weaving of Law and Fact

The ability to explain, either objectively or persuasively, the reasons for why the relevant legal principles, in light of the facts from the fact pattern, lead to a certain conclusion, or resolution, of the issue. This includes the ability to identify and make counter arguments.

2) Analytical Judgment

The ability to make reasonable inferences from the facts from the fact pattern, and use those inferences to explain the reason for why the relevant legal principles, in light of the specific facts from the fact pattern, lead to a certain conclusion, or resolution, of the issue.

3) Analogy/Distinction

The ability to compare by analogy or distinction the specific facts of a case precedent to the specific facts from the fact pattern, and use that comparison to explain the reason for why the specific, relevant legal principles, in light of the specific facts from the fact pattern, lead to a certain conclusion, or resolution, of the issue.

4) Weaving of Policy and Fact

The ability to explain, where appropriate, the reason for why specific, relevant principles of public policy or equity, in light of the specific facts from the fact pattern, lead to a certain conclusion, or resolution, of the issues.
III) Law Expression

The ability to clearly organize and logically state the issues presented by a specific fact pattern, the relevant legal principles that aid in the resolution of the issue, the analysis of those principles in light of the facts from the fact pattern, and the conclusion, or resolution, of the issue.

A) Overall Organization

The ability to clearly organize the sequence of the issues and sub-issues by a specific fact pattern, in logical order.

B) IRAC Structure

The ability to state the issues and sub-issues presented by a specific fact pattern, the specific, relevant legal principles that aid in the resolution of the issue, the analysis of those principles in light of the specific facts from the fact pattern, and the conclusion, or resolution, of the issues. Similar organization such as CRAC may be appropriate.

C) Clear and Concise Writing

The ability to state the foregoing clearly and concisely in prose and follow other instructions specific to the task.