Guessing Strategy

Because the LSAT does not assess a scoring penalty for incorrect answer choices, you should always guess on every question that you cannot complete during the allotted time. However, because some answer choices are more likely to occur than others, you should not guess randomly. The following tables indicate the frequency of appearance of Logic Game answer choices over the years.

All Answer Choices June 1991 - November 2022*										
	A#	A%	B#	B%	C#	C%	D#	D%	E#	E%	TOTAL #
LG	464	19.8	484	**20.6**	463	19.7	472	20.1	464	19.8	2347
LR	922	18.7	1029	20.9	1003	20.3	1045	**21.2**	930	18.9	4929
RC	519	19.3	565	21.0	526	19.6	578	**21.5**	501	18.6	2689
TOTAL	1905	19.1	2078	20.9	1992	20.0	2095	**21.0**	1895	19.0	9965

*These statistics do not include nondisclosed LSAT administrations.

The table above documents the frequency with which each answer choice appeared as a percentage of all LSAT answer choices between June 1991 and November 2019 inclusive. If history holds, you would typically be best served on the test as a whole by always guessing answer choice (D). Do not choose random answer choices; do not put in a pattern such as A-B-C-D-E etcetera. Although guessing answer choice (D) does not guarantee you will get the questions correct, statistically speaking guessing answer choice (D) gives you a slightly better chance of answering correctly than guessing randomly.

Last Five Answer Choices Per Section June 1991 - November 2022*										
	A#	A%	B#	B%	C#	C%	D#	D%	E#	E%	TOTAL #
LG	114	**22.6**	103	20.4	97	19.2	97	19.2	94	18.6	505
LR	147	15.0	192	19.6	193	19.7	219	22.3	229	**23.4**	980
RC	82	16.6	114	**23.0**	89	18.0	110	22.2	100	20.2	495
TOTAL	343	17.3	409	20.7	379	19.1	426	**21.5**	423	21.4	1980

*These statistics do not include nondisclosed LSAT administrations.

As the second table indicates, if you cannot finish the final questions in a section, in the Logical Reasoning section you should always guess answer choice (E). In the Reading Comprehension section you should always guess answer choice (B), and in the Logic Games section you should guess (A). This is especially the case because the answers at the end of sections are not independent of each other.

Please keep in mind that the strategies discussed above hold only for pure guessing, and are based on past answer choice frequencies. If you are attempting to choose between two answer choices, do not choose solely on the basis of statistics alone!

On a related note, if you are a strong test taker who correctly answers most questions but occasionally does not finish a section, quickly review the answer choices you have previously selected and use the answer that appears least as your guessing answer choice. For example, if you have completed twenty questions in a section, and your answer sheet contains a majority of (A)s, (B)s, (C)s, and (E)s, guess answer choice (D) for all of the remaining questions to get the percentage of each response as close to 20% as possible.