

# VERBAL REASONING CAT



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## **Chapter 1: Introduction to Verbal Reasoning**

### **1.1 Introduction:**

Verbal reasoning is the ability to comprehend and reason using concepts expressed through words. A verbal reasoning test is a form of aptitude test to find out how well a candidate can assess verbal logic. It is a test of intelligence to provide an assessment of an individual's ability to think, reason and solve problems in different ways.

The best practice to build command over this section is practise. The more you practise; the better is your score.

### **1.2 Relevance in Entrance Test:**

This area is generally asked in non-CAT Tests.

Frequently seen in SNAP, NMAT, XAT, MAT The level of these question types is higher in XAT Generally 2- 4 questions are asked from this area.

### **1.3 Skills Required:**

- a. Logical thinking
- b. Analytical reasoning



## 1.4 Types of Questions Asked

1. Statement and Arguments
2. Statement and Assumptions
3. Statement and Conclusions
4. Course of Action
5. Assertion and Reason
6. Cause and Effect
7. Fact, Inference and Judgement (FIJ)

## 1.5 Tips

These seven tips are well worth remembering before you take the

- **Remember that the test is timed.** It's important to work out how much time you can spend on each question overall and make sure it does not take you longer than this.
- **Practice in advance.** The questions are designed to trick you and the text will often be written in a deliberately ambiguous way.
- **Read the questions first.** If displayed, read the question(s) before you read the text, so you know what you are looking for.

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- **Don't use general knowledge.** Everything you need to answer the question is included in the passage already, so don't be tempted to let your general knowledge affect your answer.
- **Take things literally.** Passages must be interpreted literally as written - assertions that are implied are not necessarily true unless explicitly stated.
- **If you can't see it, it's not there.** Some questions will be about things not included in the passage.
- **You can change your answers.** That said, try to avoid spending ages debating over one question and wasting time scrolling back and forth.

### 1.6 Format of Actual Questions

#### NMAT question

**1. Direction:** A statement is followed by three arguments. Decide which of the argument is strong and is able to support the given statement.

**Statement:** It is good that the central board is switching its exam pattern to an open book exam pattern like the other boards in the country.





**Argument I-** Yes, an open book exam will test the higher order thinking skills rather than the test learning through rote or memorizing.

**Argument II-** No, exams have to be treated as exams, accessing books during the exams has long been considered an unhealthy practice.

**Argument III-** Yes, an open book exam simulates the real world. In our day to day existence, we have access to everything- what is important is whether we know when to access what.

- A. Only argument 1 is strong
- B. Only argument II is strong
- C. Both I and II are strong
- D. Both I and III are strong arguments
- E. Neither I nor II nor III is a strong argument

**Ans. Option D**

**Sol:** Argument II does not support the given statement and hence it is not strong.

Argument I gives a strong reason in support of the given statement as it states that we can check higher thinking skills by following the open book system



Argument III- also supports the given statement as it gives an analogy between exams and real life situation.

**2. Directions:** A statement is followed by two assumptions. Identify which assumption is implicit. Select from the following options

- A. Only I is an assumption
- B. Only II is an assumption
- C. Either I or II is an assumption
- D. Neither I or II is an assumption
- E. Both I and II are assumptions

**Statement:** You will never know how big a bookstore can be unless you enter the Delhi Book Store.

**Assumption I-** The Delhi Book Store has the greatest number of books

**Assumption II-** You cannot imagine a book store as big as the Delhi Book Store.

**Ans. Option D**

**Sol:** Even if true the two statements are conclusive statements than assumptions.



## SNAP Based

**3. Directions:** In the following question, a statement is given followed by two conclusions I and II.

Give answer:

- (a) if only conclusion I follows;
- (b) if only conclusion II follows;
- (c) if either I or II follows;
- (d) if neither I nor II follows;

**Statement:** The best way to escape from a problem is to solve it.

**Conclusions:** I. Your life will be dull if you don't face problem.

II. To escape from problem, you should always have some solutions with you.

**Ans. (d)**

**Sol: Option** Both conclusions I and II does not follow is stating something which is irrelevant. Option 2 states that one should always have some solutions beforehand. But in the main statement it is stated that one face a problem then one should try to solve the problem.



## XAT question

**4. Directions:** Read the following statements carefully:

**Statement 1:** If you want to understand the causes that existed in the past, look at the results. As they are manifested in the present.

**Statement 2:** Murali did not work as hard as his friends but had secured 1st rank in the examination.

Which of the following options is correct with respect to the above two statements?

- A. If Statement 2 is right, Statement 1 is invalid.
- B. Statement 1 and Statement 2 are contradictory to each other.
- C. Statement 2 supplements Statement 1.
- D. Statement 2 is a rare occurrence and hence irrelevant.
- E. Statement 1 will hold true even if Statement 2 is valid.

**Ans. Option E**

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## **Chapter 2: Statement and Argument Questions**

### **2.1 Introduction:**

Strong and Weak argument questions are asked in the verbal and logical reasoning test section. In these questions, a statement will be given. This will be followed by two/ three arguments. The question stem will then ask you to select which of these arguments is strong or weak.

#### **What is a strong argument?**

- Strong arguments are those arguments which are directly related to the statement and satisfy the logic condition.
- Strong argument supports or strengthens the given statement.

#### **What is a weak argument?**

Weak arguments are those arguments which are not connected or indirectly related to the statement.

Weak argument does not logically support the given Statement

It does not support the conclusion

It does not help in arriving at the conclusion



## 2.2 Format of the question:

The question will have the following components:

**Statement**

**Argument I**

**Argument II**

Question stem with five choices. And you have to select one of the following:

- A. Only argument I is strong
- B. Only argument II is strong
- C. Either argument I or II is strong
- D. Neither argument I or II is strong
- E. Both argument I and II are strong

## 2.3 Tips to solve Strong and Weak Argument questions

**Tip 1-** While attempting these questions, make sure you arrive at the answer only on the information that is given to you.

**Ex: Statement-** Should Mercy killing be legalised in India?

**Argument 1-** Yes, Mercy killing is already legalized in other countries



**Argument 2-** No, given the India's current social Fabric, there is high probability that the mercy killing provision might end up being misused by some people for their ulterior motives

**Sol:** The stance taken by other countries cannot be applied to India too as there is difference in the socio-cultural factors prevailing in different countries. Hence Argument I is weak

Argument II- provides a valid reason and rationale for the statement. Hence II is a strong argument.

**Tip 2:-** If the argument relies on some assumption, it is a weak argument.

**Ex.: Statement-** Should Doctors be banned from carrying out private practice?

**Argument-** Yes, this will improve the quality of service in public hospitals.

**Sol:** The above argument assumes that public hospitals at present do not provide quality service. It also assumes that poor quality of service in public hospitals is only because of the shortage of doctors in public hospitals.





## Remember

**Tip 1-** do not bring in external knowledge.

**Tip 2-** Do not make assumptions.

Hence the given argument is based on the assumptions and hence it is not a strong argument.

**Tip 3-** If the argument gives someone's opinion it is not a valid argument.

**Ex.: Statement-** You should buy Swift Desire car.

**Argument-** Yes, because Sachin Tendulkar says Swift car has the best mileage.

**Sol:** Just because Sachin Tendulkar says, does not mean it is the best car. Since we have the opinion of an individual it is a weak argument.

**Tip 4-**Look for logical reasons that support the argument. Statement without a logical reason and not connected to the statement are weak argument

**Ex.: Statement-** Should People the age of 18 be allowed to drive?

**Argument I-** Yes, People of any age should be free to do what they like



**Argument II-** No, People below the age of 18 do not have enough mental and physical maturity to drive a vehicle.

**Ans.** Argument II is valid.

**Sol:** Argument I does not give a logical justification with reasons. On the other hand Argument II gives a valid justification and is related to the main statement.

**Tip 5-** The reason should be connected and related to the meaning of the Statement given.

**Statement-** Should there be a divorce between the judiciary and the legislature?

**Argument-** No, the judiciary and the legislature are not a married couple.

**Sol:** In this Ex., the meaning of divorce is different in the statement, but it is taken in the literal meaning in the argument. Hence the reason is not valid. Hence it becomes a weak argument.

The job of finding a forceful or weak argument can be accomplished by following the procedure described here.

I. **Primary Screening:** A Primary Screening involves looking for the following things in an argument.

a). **Unclear/Ambiguous Arguments:** Ambiguous arguments fall in the category of weak ones. In case of



such an argument, it is not clear how the argument is related to the suggested course of action and what the person really wants to convey. Take, for Ex., the following case.

**Statement:** Religious festivals like the Kumbh should be banned because many people die in stampedes at such festivals.

**Argument:** Yes – The purpose of a person's life is to live and not die.

The argument here is ambiguous or unclear. We cannot make out how it is related to the main statement.

Therefore, it is a weak argument.

b). **Superficial Arguments:** Are those which only look at the surface of the problem and fail to make a deep analysis of it. Have a look at the following problem:

**Statement:** Should we scrap our constitution and bring in its place a new one?

**Argument:** Yes – Old things are of little use.

**Statement:** Should we allow foreign print media to operate from Indian territory?

**Argument:** No – Foreign print media are useless.



Both of these arguments do not go deep into the problem and talk of superficial things. Hence they are weak.

c). **Boomerang** - Type: Boomerang is a stick, which if thrown on an object, comes back to you. These comprise a question posed as a reply to the main statement. Hence the name. Such counter-questions do not contain any argument and are without substance. All such counter-questions make weak arguments, e.g.,

**Statement:** Should we make family planning compulsory in India?

**Argument:** Yes – Why not?

**Statement:** Should India have a Presidential type of government?

**Argument:** No – Why should we do so?

Both of these arguments are weak because they are inconsequential and are not good arguments.

d). **Naive Arguments:** Are those which are related to the main statement but are not supported by facts. They are simple assertions and lack logical reasoning. Owing to all this, they are relegated to the status of weak arguments. Consider, for illustration, this one:



**Statement:** We should enjoy ourselves to full before saying good-bye to this world.

**Argument:** No – Such thinking does not enable us to do anything in this world.

The argument given here is a simple assertion or plea of a person. It lacks substance or reasoning. Hence, it can be classified as a weak argument.

After being through with Primary screening, if you find the argument to be weak, you do not have to test on it on any other criteria. But if on Primary screening, you find it to be logical, you have to look for other things in order to certify it as a strong argument.

**I. Primary Screening: ASBN-A For Ambiguous, S for Superfluous, B for Boomerang, N for Naive**

**II. Secondary Screening:** Once an argument passes the Primary screening, it should be put to Secondary Screening.

**1. Proper Relation:** An argument which is totally unrelated to the question can be rejected as a weak straightway. But what about an argument which is related to the question, but is not a balanced course of action. In simple words, if you are feeding a grain or a



glass of water to a camel or alternatively, you are using a huge water tanker to quench the thirst of a crow, this is not a wise option. A statement and an argument must be properly related to each other in that the argument should deal with the primary issue raised in the question and must not deal with minor, insignificant or irrelevant issues connected with the question.

Examine the following problem.

**Statement:** Should we ban all types of protests, strikes by employees everywhere?

**Argument:** Yes – This is the only way to teach discipline to the employees.

Teaching discipline to employees is a desirable course of action, but to achieve it, banning legitimate strikes or protests may not be a viable option. By the way, if we ban these forms of protest, even genuine demands of employees (for which they may go on a strike) will not be addressed. Thus, it is a case of achieving too little with too much.

**Statement:** Should all people go to the hills?

**Argument:** Yes – Because the hills with their salubrious climate promote longevity. Now, no one would just go to



the hills to increase his life-span. Further, such a course of action is not economically viable for many of us.

Therefore, the argument does not put forth a reasonable option to pursue and hence, is a weak argument.

**Predictability of Results:** An argument will be classified as stirring if it talks of results that can be predicted with a fair degree of reliability based on established facts, universal truth, experience and (the not-so-common!) common-sense.

**Statement:** Should the system of competitive tests continue for selection of candidates for jobs and admissions?

**Argument:** Yes – It makes for the selection of the really deserving candidates.

The argument is a convincing one because our experience and common sense tells us this to be true.

Let's, for the moment, assume, that there are no tests for any kind of job selection. What would happen in such a case? Selections would be based on the selector's own whims and notions, which may not be valid in all the cases. Therefore, to avoid it and ensure impartiality, it is better to have selection tests. And this is what the arguments says.



Now, let us have a look at another Ex..

**Statement:** The system of joint families is better than the nuclear family system.

**Argument:** No – The nuclear family system offers greater scope for individual freedom, enterprise and creativity and progress.

The argument put forth here is a strong one because most rational people would agree with the logic of the argument based on experience and common sense.

**Statement:** India should be concerned about the development taking place in Pakistan, its neighbour.

**Argument:** No – What happens in Pakistan is their headache, we should mind our own business.

Experience tells us that today's world is highly integrated in character and what happens in one country has repercussions for not only its neighbours, but also for those that are far away from it. Since Pakistan is our immediate neighbour, anything happening there should be of concern to us because it affects us. In this light, the argument advanced here is a weak one. Here are some more Ex. of this kind:





**Statement:** Should India aim at improving its female literacy rate to control the booming population?

**Argument:** Yes – This step should certainly be successful because educated women can better understand the benefits of having a small family.

The argument is a strong one because both experience and common sense dictate it. An educated person can better appreciate the correlation between family size and economy status, as proved by the Sri Lankan women.

**III. Probability:** Probability refers to the chances of an argument being true. Here we will classify arguments as weak or strong on the basis of chances of their truthfulness. There are certain cases where a solution suggested in the question has not been tried so far or we might not have experienced it. In such cases, only logic can tell us the probability or the improbability of logicity of such arguments. Examine the following cases.

**Statement:** Should the system of internal assessment be abolished in colleges and universities?

**Argument:** Yes – It promotes favoritism among teachers and leads to victimization of many students.



The argument is correct because logic warrants it. You may not have experienced it, but it is logically correct.

Therefore it is a strong argument.

**Statement:** Shall we introduce state financing of elections in India?

**Argument:** Yes-It will eliminate the role of money power which many candidates use to win elections.

The argument is convincing because we have seen it happening many times that a candidate wins simply because of his money-power used in elections.

**IV. Desirability:** After putting the arguments to the above tests, we will finally subject them to the criterion of desirability. An argument suggests a course of action to be taken to achieve certain results. But are those results really desirable in terms of overall societal benefits or harms? This final test will put the arguments throughout this test and only those arguments which pass it will be considered strong. Consider, for instance, the following case:

**Statement:** Shall we make the learning of music compulsory for all school students?



**Argument:** Yes – It will enhance the job opportunities for musically trained people.

Now, what the argument says is not really desirable. Schools are not meant to create more and more jobs for teachers; they are meant to impart learning to students. Further, this argument does not speak of the rightful reasons for having compulsory music in schools. Therefore, it fails the desirability test, and hence is a weak argument. Similarly, look at the following Ex.:

**Statement:** Shall we allow foreign print media in India?

**Argument:** No – This will increase the number of newspapers in India.

By all means, competition in any arena always improves the quality of product/service. Therefore, disallowing foreign newspapers only on the ground that they will add to the number of newspapers, is not a good argument. Therefore, the above is a weak argument.

Apart from all these criteria, a strong argument must satisfy the following parameters.

**It Must Not:-**

- 1. Violate well-accepted truths/norms.**
- 2. Violate the law of the land.**



### **3. Be based on individual opinions / individual Ex.s**

#### **Secondary Screening- PPPDTLI:**

**P for Proper Relation, P for Predictability, P for Probability, D for Desirability,**

**L for Law, I for Individual Opinion / Perception / Ex.**

Only an argument passing all these tests can be classified as strong, the rest are weak. As you can see, some arguments fail to pass the Primary Screening, they can be rejected as weak straightway. There is no need to put them through other tests. For arguments which pass the Primary Screening, you should apply the Secondary Screening criteria as discussed above to sift the strong arguments from the weak ones.



## **Chapter 3: Statement and Assumption**

### **3.1 Introduction:**

Statement and assumption questions are the variant of verbal reasoning. These questions are asked to check logic and decision making skills.

What is an implicit assumption?

An assumption is the most important part of any argument. Almost all arguments are based on an assumption. Assumptions are not stated explicitly.

Implicit assumption is an assumption that includes the underlying agreements or statements made in the development of a logical argument, course of action, decision, or judgment that are not explicitly voiced or stated.

**Implicit means not directly stated.**

### **3.2 Format of the question:**

A typical question involves:

A statement which is followed by 2 or more assumptions and we are supposed to answer which assumption follows.



In each question below is given a statement followed by two assumptions numbered I and II. You have to consider the statement and the following assumptions and decide which of the assumptions is implicit in the statement.

**Give answer:**

- (A) If only assumption I is implicit
- (B) If only assumption II is implicit
- (C) If either I or II is implicit
- (D) If neither I nor II is implicit
- (E) If both I and II are implicit.

**Ex:**

**Statement:** "You are hereby appointed as a programmer with a probation period of one year and your performance will be reviewed at the end of the period for confirmation." - A line in an appointment letter.

**Assumptions:**

- I. The performance of an individual generally is not known at the time of appointment offer.
- II. Generally an individual tries to prove his worth in the probation period.



- A. Only assumption I is implicit
- B. Only assumption II is implicit
- C. Either I or II is implicit
- D. Neither I nor II is implicit E.
- Both I and II are implicit

**Sol:** Option E

The performance of the individual has to be tested over a span of time as the statement mentions. So, I is implicit. The statement mentions that the individual's worth shall be reviewed (during probation period) before confirmation. So, II is also implicit.

**Note:**

- a) In assumption questions, we have to identify author's assumption and not our own.
- b) Leave aside your logic about how things work
- c) While you can make common sense assumptions (the sun is visible only during the day, water makes things wet, etc.), do not bring in your own assumptions about things that are not necessarily common knowledge or may not always be true.



d) 'Assumption' in the questions is something that author believes to be true.

### 3.3 Technique to Solve Assumption based Questions

#### Denial Test:

**Step1-** To use the denial test, take the statement you want to test and negate it (reverse its meaning).

**Step 2 -** If the argument stops making sense or becomes impossible, then the original statement must be a central assumption.

**Ex. I:** Statement: Rahul booked train tickets one month in advance

**Assumption I-** Railways book tickets 1 month in advance

**Assumption II-** Rahul prefer train journey over plane journey.

**Sol:** Let's use Denial test

**Step 1-** Reverse the assumption.

So, assumption 1 becomes- Railways do not book tickets one month in advance.

What happens to the main statement? It goes against the main statement and if Railways do not give tickets, Rahul can't book.





**Step 2-** After reversing/ negating the assumption if your main statement is falsified or collapses or gets weakened, that means that assumption is important if we want our statement to remain true.

Hence only Assumption I is implicit in the above example.

**Ex. II:** Using the same argument,

Statement- "All dogs are carnivores, so Mike is a carnivore,"

Assumption- Mike is a dog.

**Sol:** Let's apply the denial test to that statement and see what happens to the argument.

First, negate (reverse the meaning of) the statement.

Mike is not a dog.

Second, plug that into the argument:

All dogs are carnivores

+

(Mike is not a dog)

=

Mike is a carnivore



Does that make sense? I guess Mike could still be a carnivore, but that would be pure luck that the conclusion was right. If Mike isn't a dog, how do we know. All we know is that dogs are carnivore.

Remember, the argument requires the central assumption. If it works just as well with the opposite statement, the argument doesn't need it in the first place.

**Ex. III:** Statement: Sally plays volleyball for Central High School. Therefore, Sally must be more than 6 feet tall.

Assumption: All volleyball players for Central High are more than 6 feet tall.

**Sol:** Use the denial test

Step 1- Reverse or deny the assumption

We get, All volleyball players for Central High are not more than 6 feet tall.

What's the effect of denying this assumption? We are no longer able to conclude that Sally is, without a doubt, 6 feet tall. The argument is no longer valid when we deny the assumption, so that assumption must be crucial to the argument.



**Ex. IV:** Statement: 'You are expected to be frank and objective while writing your self- appraisal report'. – An instruction for writing self-appraisal report.

**Assumptions:**

1. Unless cautioned, people may tend to be little shy and less objective while writing their self-appraisal report.
2. Every self-appraisal report helps the person in his further development.

**Sol:** In statement, the author advises, while writing Self-Appraisal report to be expected frank & objective.

I. Unless cautioned, people may tend to be little shy and less objective while writing their self-appraisal report. This could be the assumption because if people aren't less objective and shy then why would author tell them that explicitly that they are expected to be objective.

II. Every self-appraisal report helps the person in his further development. This cannot be the assumption as it's nowhere mentioned in the statement that such report helps development. Here, we don't have to use our real-world-logic which states otherwise.



**Ex. V: Statement:** The higher authorities of any organization are expected to be models of observation & learning and should not be considered as merely sources of reward and punishments.

**Assumptions:**

I. Employees are likely to be sensitive enough to learn by observing the behavior of their seniors.

II. Normally bosses are considered as sources of reward and punishment.

**Sol:** In the statement, the author tells what higher authority should be model of: Observation & Learning; And not just: reward & Punishment.

I. Employees are likely to be sensitive enough to learn by observing the behavior of their seniors. The author hasn't mentioned anything about employees learning so this assumption just can't be correct.

II. Normally bosses are considered as sources of reward and punishment. This assumption is implicit because author said, "Higher authorities.....Not just source of reward & Punishment". Here, author has tried to highlight some additional feature of Higher Authority, which gets diminished due to its 'Reward & Punishment' feature.



**Ex. VI: Statement:** ‘But, out of X, Y, B and D products, you buy ‘Y’ which alone is based on the latest technology’ –A shop owner tells a customer.

**Assumptions:**

1. The customers normally accept the recommendation of the shop owner.
2. Use of latest technology is supposed to ensure better quality standards.

**Sol:** Here, the passage author has described the scene where a shopkeeper is telling the customer to buy ‘Y’ out four other products due to its superior technology.

I. The customers normally accept the recommendation of the shop owner. If customer did never accept the recommendation of shopkeeper then why would shopkeeper recommend something. Here, shopkeeper is recommending that means customers normally accept that. Hence, it follows.

II. Use of latest technology is supposed to ensure better quality standards. A customer buys a product because it's quality is good over others. And, technology if latest is superior over others in doing a specified task more efficiently than one with obsolete technology. So, this assumption also follows.



### 3.4 Sample Questions

**Directions:** In the following questions statement and assumptions are given. Identify the assumptions and mark the answer as per the options given below.

Options:

- (1) If only assumption I is implicit.
- (2) If only assumption II is implicit.
- (3) if either I or II is implicit.
- (4) if neither I or II is implicit.
- (5) if both I and II are implicit.

**1. Statement:** “Use Kajaria Ceramics tiles to decorate your house”, - An advertisement

**Assumptions:**

- I. People want to decorate their house.
- II. Only ceramic tiles can make a house decorative.

**Sol:** Option(1) Obviously assumption I is implicit in the statement. The fact which is highlighted or mentioned in the advertisement is liked or looked for by the people. The use of word “only” makes the second assumption invalid.



**2. Statement:** “Just step in! We are concerned about all your needs with wide range of articles”- An advertisement.

**Assumptions:**

- I. Such advertisements are neglected by the people.
- II. People wish to have selective marketing.

**Sol:** Option (2) We know that any advertisement attracts some people. Therefore, assumption I is not implicit in the statement. Assumption II seems to be valid as the advertisement mentions about variety of articles.

**3. Statement:** The new EXIM policy envisages major changes in the earlier policy.

**Assumptions:**

- I. EXIM Policy should not consistent with economic condition of the country and abroad.
- II. There has been some flaws in the earlier EXIM policy.

**Sol:** Option (1) Obviously assumption I is implicit in the statement. EXIM policy should take into account the prevalent market condition. It is not proper to assume that earlier Policy is faulty. It may be that it is suitable in the context of prevailing market condition.



**4. Statement:** Kumar Sanjeev Ranjan dissatisfied with present salary and perks, joins another company.

**Assumptions:**

- I. The new company gives to all their employees good salary.
- II. Present company runs in loss.

**Sol:** Option (4) Neither of the assumptions is implicit in the statement. It is quite possible that the new company gives good salary only to Kumar Sanjeev Ranjan.

**5. Statement:** It is futile to discuss corruption at any forum. Corruption is rampant everywhere in the country.

**Assumptions:**

- I. Corruption is inevitable in any system.
- II. Corruption is a serious concern.

**Sol:** Option (2) The first option is a negative viewpoint therefore it is incorrect. But the second answer option is generic in nature and can be an assumption.

**Conclusion:**

**Negating Method:** This method is really effective when it comes to solving assumption questions.





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All you have to do is negate the assumptions after reading them. The passage author gives statement only after assuming some things. These 'some things' are dimensions of the questions. That means some basic assumptions are what author, definitely, believes in. And, if some assumption contradicts that basic belief of author then that assumption can never follow.



## Chapter 4: Statement and Conclusion Questions

### 4.1 Introduction

#### Statement and Conclusions:

These questions are given to check the logical ability to arrive at a decision based on certain facts.

A **statement** is a group of words arranged to form a meaningful sentence. A statement is a formal account of certain facts, views, problems or situations expressed in words.

A **conclusion** is a judgment or decision reached after consideration about the given statement. A conclusion is a belief or an opinion that is the result of reasoning out a given statement. It can also be defined as a proposition in an argument to which other propositions in the argument given support.

A consequent effect has to be analyzed before reaching to the final result or conclusion of a given premise. This requires a very systematic and logical approach.

Example:

**Statement:** Some people say that good thought come in their mind in the morning.



**Conclusion:** Thoughts come in mind, in the morning only. Now, consider the statement, the word 'some' used in the statement does not mean 'all'. It means some people say not all. Hence, according to some people, good thoughts come in their mind in the morning but thought can come any time in the mind of other people, so, the conclusion that 'thoughts' come in mind, in the morning only is not valid. Also, the word used 'only' makes the conclusion totally invalid because it restricts that the thought can come only in the morning.

### 4.2 Format of Question

The question will have following components

**Statement:** A statement is a formal account of certain facts, views, problems or situations expressed in words.

**Conclusion:** A conclusion is a belief or an opinion that is the result of reasoning out a given statement. It can also be defined as a proposition in an argument to which other propositions in the argument give support.

#### **Evaluation of Conclusions:-**

A conclusion is said to follow the given statement if what is mentioned in the conclusion can be inferred from the given statement.



**Type 1:** One Statement with two conclusions based.

In these types of questions, a statement is given followed by two conclusions. You are required to find out which of conclusion follows the given statement and select the correct option accordingly.

## **Example**

**Directions (1 – 2):** In each of the following questions, a statement is followed by two Conclusions I and II.

Give answer

- (a) if only Conclusion I follows
- (b) if only Conclusion II follows
- (c) if either I or II follows
- (d) if neither I nor II follows

**1. Statement:** Parents are prepared to pay any price for an elite education to their children.

**Conclusion:**

- I. All parents these days are very well off.
- II. Parents have an obsessive passion for perfect development of their children through good schooling.



**Sol:** Option (b)

It may be conclusion from the statement that since parents want a perfect development of their children through good schooling therefore they are prepared to pay any price for a good education but the statement does not give sense of the parents being very well off. Hence, only Conclusion II follows.

2. **Statement:** Interview panel may select a student who is neither possessing the abilities of desired level nor any value and assumption.

**Conclusions:**

- I Inclusion of experts in interview panel does not ensure that the selection will be made properly.
- II. Interview procedure of admission has some limitations.

**Sol:** The statement clearly means that inclusion of experts does not ensure proper selection. It also indicates limitation of interview procedure for admission. Here, both the conclusions follow.



**Type 2:** More Than Two Statements and Conclusion Based. In these type of questions, a statement / statements is / are given followed by some conclusion. Choose the conclusion which follows the given statement.

**Directions (3 - 4):** Which of the conclusion can be drawn?

3. **Statement:** Many business offices located in buildings having two to eight floors. If a building has more than three floors, it has a lift.

**Conclusions:**

- (a) All floors may be reached by lifts
- (b) Only floors above the third floor have lifts
- (c) Fifth floor has lifts
- (d) Second floors do not have lifts

**Sol:** Option (c) It is clear from the given statement.

4. **Statements:**

Karan Johar is a good director.

Directors are intelligent.



## **Conclusions:**

- (a) All intelligent are directors
- (b) KaranJohar is intelligent
- (c) Both (a) and (b)
- (d) None of these

**Sol:** (b) As directors are intelligent and Karan Johar is a good director, so Karan Johar is intelligent.

## **4.3 Tips to Solve Statement and Conclusion Questions**

To reach to a conclusion think only about the information given in the statement. There is no need to use, assume anything else or add any further or extra information from outside but the established facts cannot be denied like the Sun always rises in the East, a day consists of 24h etc.

Statements and conclusion should not go against established facts and prevailing notions of truth.

If definitive words like all, always, at least, only, exactly and so on are used, then such words make the conclusion invalid or ambiguous.



Always read very carefully and try to find key words as key words play an important role in analyzing valid and invalid conclusions.

If the conclusion is provided with a stated example, then the conclusion is invalid.

**Keywords:** Words, such as all, no, few, most, must, had to, will be, always, never, should be, may, may not etc help in evaluating the given conclusions.

Let us consider the following example:

**Statement:** 'South Asia will remain unaffected by global crisis' – world bank.

**Conclusion:** Sri Lanka, a South-Asian country, may or may not face the problem caused by global crisis.

**Analysis:-**

Sri Lanka is a part of south-Asia; hence the statement made by the World Bank is applicable to Sri Lanka as well. The word 'will' is definitive in nature. It implies that every South-Asian country definitely remains unaffected.

The words 'may or may not' are not definitive in nature.

The effect of global crisis on Sri Lanka is uncertain, but the statement is certain. Hence, the conclusion does not follow the given statement.





## **Practise Questions:**

**Directions:** In each of the following questions, a statement is given, followed by two conclusions.

Give answer

- (A) If Only Conclusion I Follows,
- (B) If Only Conclusion II Follows,
- (C) If Either I Or II Follows,
- (D) If Neither I Nor II Follows,
- (E) If Both I And II Follow

### **1. Statements:**

Prime age school-going children in urban India have now become avid as well as more regular viewers of television, even in households without a TV. As a result there has been an alarming decline in the extent of readership of newspapers.

### **Conclusions:**

1. Method of increasing the readership of newspapers should be devised.
2. A team of experts should be sent to other countries to study the impact of TV. on the readership of newspapers.



**Sol:** Option D. The statement concentrates on the increasing viewership of TV and does not stress either on increasing the readership of newspapers or making studies regarding the same. So, neither I nor II follows.

2. **Statement:** Government has spoiled many top ranking financial institutions by appointing bureaucrats as Directors of these institutions.

**Conclusions:**

I. Government should appoint Directors of the financial institutes taking into consideration the expertise of the person in the area of finance.

II. The Director of the financial institute should have expertise commensurate with the financial work carried out by the institute.

**Sol:** Option E. According to the statement, Government has spoiled financial institutions by appointing bureaucrats as Directors. This means that only those persons should be appointed as Directors who are experts in finance and are acquainted with the financial work of the institute. So, both I and II follow.



3. **Statements:** Population increase coupled with depleting resources is going to be the scenario of many developing countries in days to come.

**Conclusions:**

I. The population of developing countries will not continue to increase in future.

II. It will be very difficult for the governments of developing countries to provide its people decent quality of life.

**Sol:** Option B. The fact given in I is quite contrary to the given statement. So, I does not follow. II mentions the direct implications of the state discussed in the statement. Thus, II follows.

4. **Statement:** Vegetable prices are soaring in the market.

**Conclusions:**

I. Vegetables are becoming a rare commodity.

II. People cannot eat vegetables.

**Sol:** Option D. The availability of vegetables is not mentioned in the given statement. So, I does not follow. Also, II is not directly related to the statement and so it also does not follow.



5. **Statement:** The best way to escape from a problem is to solve it.

**Conclusions:**

- I. Your life will be dull if you don't face a problem.
- II. To escape from problems, you should have some solutions with you.

**Sol:** Option (D). Clearly both I and II do not follow from the given statement.



## Chapter 5: Evaluating Inferences

It has become a regular trend in many papers to ask questions of this type. A passage is given which is usually a part of a report or an essay or any other similar thought-provoking subject. Some inferences are given followed by the passage (there are usually five inferences). The candidate is asked to decide whether a given inference follows or not in the light of the given passage.

**DIRECTIONS:** Given below is a passage followed by several inferences based upon it. You have to examine the passage carefully and then decide the validity of each of the inferences. Mark answer,

- A. if the inference is definitely true;
- B. if the inference is probably true;
- C. if the data are inadequate, i.e., in the light of the given passage. You cannot say whether the inference is likely to be true or false;
- D. if the inference is probably false; and
- E. if the inference is definitely false.



Now read the passage and the inferences and choose your answers.

### **Sample Passage**

The theory of Odgen and Williams is being taken seriously by the scientific community ever since photovoltaic cells with thirty per cent efficiency were produced under experimental conditions. Companies like Siemens are spending millions of dollars to produce more efficient solar cells. The American Department of Energy is confident that it will be able to produce 22-percent-efficient solar cells by the turn of the century. But anyway, to fulfil the needs of a country the size of America, an area equal to the state of Michigan would have to be blanketed by solar cells.

### **Inferences**

1. Odgen and Williams were respectable scientists of the late 19th century.
2. The theory of Odgen and Williams proposes that solar energy can be produced at a higher rate of efficiency than normally expected by following certain rules and norms.
3. In America research on solar power is undertaken by private as well as government enterprise.



4. The current efficiency of photovoltaic cells in America is far below 30%.
5. In terms of area America is not very big.

### Analysis

First of all, let us see what these questions seek to test. Examiners put these questions because they test your ability to **derive correct inference and your reasoning ability** is thus evaluated. Also, here the examiner can 'grade' the choices closely. Thus there are two positive choices instead of one: "probably true" and "definitely true" and two negative choices instead of one: "probably false" and "definitely false". This requires slightly deeper thinking. Further, syllogistic reasoning has a very set pattern; the inferences there are a fixed combination of four fixed types of propositions (A, E, I or O). Also, in those questions the given statements are hypothetical in nature - like "All boys are toys" or "Some cows are elephants".

In this respect, **passage-based inferences are different from syllogism-based inferences**, because in the former, passages are from a practical world, cover every day-life situations and are not hypothetical. Thus it gives the examiner a wider scope to examine your intelligence.



Having discussed the purpose of these questions, let us come to something really important: let us examine what difficult aspects of such questions are; or, in other words, what may make such questions difficult.

The most sensitive aspect of this question is its

### **Guardedness:**

- Some of the inferences can be easily and quickly judged because they can be easily compared with the facts given in the passage.
- But in some cases, an inference is indirect and may lead to confusion.
- You may vacillate between 'definitely true' and 'probably true' or between 'probably true' and 'data inadequate' or between 'data inadequate' and 'probably false' or between 'probably false' and 'definitely false'.

For example, look at inference (3) of the sample passage given above. This is straightforward and you shouldn't have any difficulty in seeing that the **correct answer** is 'definitely true', because the passage clearly mentions the involvement of a 'company' (Siemens) and a government body (Department of Energy). But now look



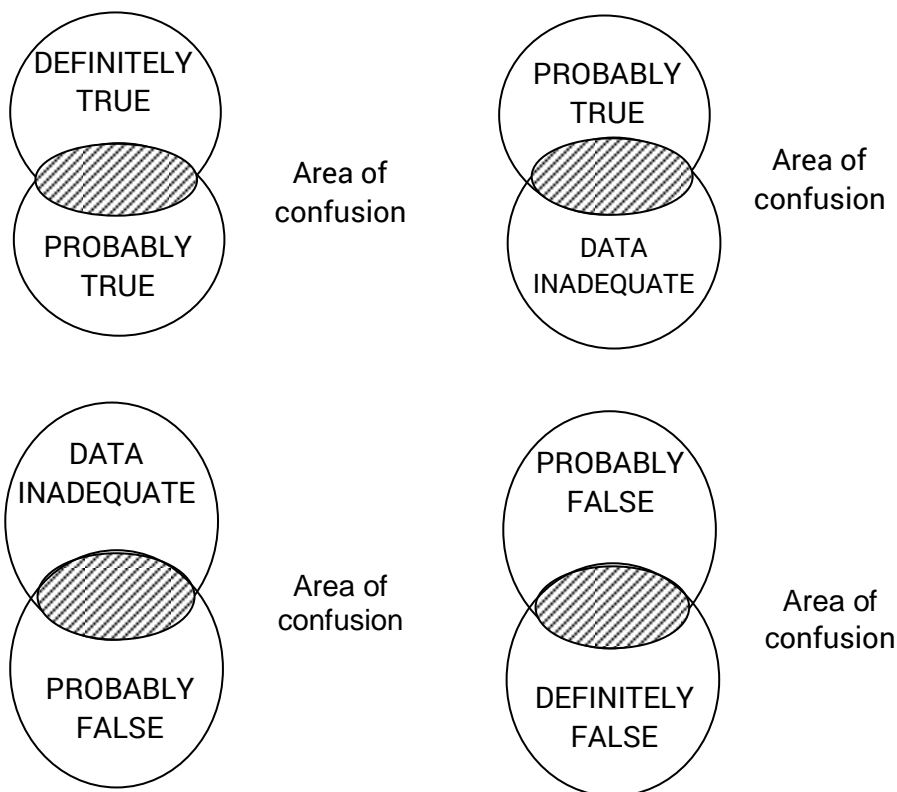


at inferences (2) and (5). In (2), one may vacillate between 'data inadequate' and 'probably true'.

- 'Data inadequate' will look correct because no mention has been made of what exactly is proposed in the theory of Odgen and Williams.
- 'Probably true' looks correct because the passage says that the theory of Odgen and Williams began to be taken seriously after photovoltaic cells with higher efficiency were made.
- This means that there was something in the theory, which got support from higher-efficiency photovoltaic cells.
- Thus it 'looks' true that the theory had proposed that higher-efficiency cells could be created, etc. On the other hand, in (5), you may vacillate between 'data inadequate' and 'probably false'.
- 'Data inadequate' may appear correct because no information is given about the 'comparative' size of America, whether it is big or small.
- 'Probably false' may appear correct because the 'tone' of the sentence - "of a country the size of America ...." - is such as if America were a big country.

The conclusion of our analysis, therefore, is that the main area of difficulty in solving such questions is the **possibility of confusion between two similar choices**.

These possibilities are depicted pictorially in the figure below. We shall have special emphasis upon these 'confusion areas' which will follow an overall study of the technique of solving such questions.





## The Technique

The best technique of evaluating a given inference is to subject it a three-pronged, graded test. This test consists of three steps:

- (i) Directly follows from the passage.
- (ii) Can be inferred from the passage.
- (iii) Can be inferred with the help of some key words.

In the first category lie the easy questions where an inference is more or less a restatement of something already stated in the passage. In the second category, we check if the inference can be derived from the facts mentioned the given inference.

## How to avoid confusion while deriving inferences?

- We have seen that a given inference can, sometimes, be very easily evaluated because it is almost explicitly stated in the passage.
- At other times, we may have to apply a little logic while evaluating a given inference because the inference may be only indirectly related to the passage. While doing this, we need to pay some special attention to some key words because they may provide the key to the answer.



- But we are likely to get confused sometimes, especially if the questions are tough.
- As already stated there are four main possibilities of confusion. We are giving some tips so that you overcome the confusion easily.

### **I. Definitely True or Probably True?**

This confusion may arise if the given inference is not directly stated in the passage and yet appears 'almost' definitely true to you. But since it is not directly or explicitly stated you hesitate and think that even 'probably true' could be correct.

To avoid this confusion recheck your reasoning. If the inference is 'extra' to come to this conclusion. Now ask yourself this question: "Is this extra assumption universally true?" or "Can it never be false?" If you get 'yes' for the first question and 'no, never' for the second, accept it as definitely true? Otherwise, choose 'probably true'.

### **II. Definitely False or Probably False?**

This confusion may arise if the given inference is not directly stated in the passage and yet appears 'almost' definitely false to you. But since the related thing is not explicitly mentioned, you



hesitate and think that even 'probably false' may be correct.

To avoid this confusion recheck your reasoning. If the opposite of the inference is not mentioned directly in the passage, then you must have assumed something 'extra' to come to this conclusion. Now ask yourself this question: "Is this assumption universally true?" or "Can it never be false?" If you get 'yes' for the first question, and 'no, never' for the second, then choose definitely false as your answer. Otherwise, pick probably false.

### **III. Data Inadequate or Probably True?**

This confusion arises when an inference is drawn indirectly from the passage. Since it is not explicitly mentioned, you think that the data are inadequate, and that sufficient information has not been provided to come to the conclusion. However, the inference appears to you in tune with the general 'tone' of the passage and, hence, you are tempted to opt for probably true.

To avoid this confusion recheck your reasoning. You can declare an inference probably true, if with the help of the given passage and some extra assumption, the inference appears likely to be true.



Thus you can somehow convince yourself that the inference is likely to be true.

On the other hand, you can declare that data are inadequate if no definite conclusion seems to be coming from the passage even with the help of some extra assumption. Thus, in this case, you cannot convince yourself that the inference is likely to be true or false.

[For instance, consider Q2 of previous passage. The passage never explicitly mentions what exactly the theories of Odgen and Williams were. Hence, you may choose 'data inadequate'. But the whole passage is about the possibilities of high-efficiency photovoltaic cells and the names of Odgen and Williams have been mentioned in the beginning. Thus the two scientists appear to be associated with the theory of high efficiency of photovoltaic cells. Hence, the inference looks probably true.

On a closer look, the inference is probably true. We can make a reasonable assumption that the mentioning of the names of the two scientists is not without reason, that it is not irrelevant. If this



be assumed, then the inference is likely to be true. Data inadequate would not be a correct choice.

#### **IV. Data Inadequate or Probably False?**

This confusion arises when the inference is drawn indirectly from the passage. Since it is not explicitly stated, you think that the data are inadequate, that insufficient information has been provided to come to a definite conclusion. However, the inference appears to you in contradiction with the general 'tone' of the passage and, hence, you are tempted to choose probably false as your answer.

To avoid this confusion, recheck your reasoning. You can declare an inference probably false only if you can find a reasonable assumption, combining which with what is stated in the passage the inference appears likely to be false. Thus you can somehow convince yourself that the inference is likely to be false. On the other hand, you should choose the choice 'data are inadequate' only if you cannot find any acceptable assumption which, combined with what is stated in the passage, may lead to some definite conclusion. In this case, you



cannot convince yourself whether the inference is likely to be true or false.

### **The Summary:-**

- In order to evaluate an inference, first of all check if it can be evaluated with the help of the passage directly. Check if this inference is directly supported or negated by something in the passage.
- If an inference cannot be directly related with the passage, check if you can justify or contradict it with the help of an additional assumption. The only condition is that the assumption you make should be justifiable and universally acceptable.
- You can also evaluate an inference with the help of some key words.
- To avoid confusion between “definitely true” and “probably true”, you should check if the extra assumption you have made to evaluate the inference is justified. The same strategy can be used to avoid the confusion between the choices “definitely false” and “probably false.”
- To avoid confusion between the choices “probably true” and “data inadequate”, check if it is possible





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to make an extra assumption to take the inference as “probably true”. If you can make a reasonable extra assumption, the answer would be probably true.” The same strategy could be used to avoid confusion between the choices “probably false” and “data inadequate.”



## Practice Exercise – 01 Implicit Assumption

**DIRECTIONS for questions 1-10:** In each of the questions below, a statement is followed by two assumptions numbered 1 and 2. An assumption is something supposed or taken for granted. You have to consider the statement and the following assumptions and decide which of the assumptions is implicit in the statement.

Mark 1 if the assumption I is implicit;

Mark 2 if only assumption II is implicit;

Mark 3 if either I or II is implicit;

Mark 4 if neither I nor II is implicit; and

Mark 5 if both I and II are implicit.

1. In case you cannot return from the office by 8 P.M., inform us on phone at home. — The parents tell their son.
  1. The son never informs about his late coming.
  2. Unless specified, the son may not inform his parents.



2. Government aided schools should have uniformity in charging various fees.
  1. The Government's subsidy comes from the money collected by way of taxes from people.
  2. The Government while giving subsidy may have stipulated certain uniform conditions regarding fees.
3. You know that your suit is excellent when people ask about the tailor who tailored your suit.
  1. People do not ask about your tailor if your suit is not good.
  2. People want to know the criterion of an excellent suit.
4. Sachin wrote to his brother at Bangalore to collect personally the application form from the University for the post-graduation course in Mathematics.
  1. The University may issue application forms to a person other than the prospective student.
  2. Sachin's brother may receive the letter well before the last date of collecting application forms.



5. A warning in a train compartment – "To stop train, pull chain. Penalty for improper use Rs. 500."
1. Some people misuse the alarm chain.
  2. On certain occasions, people may want to stop a running train.
6. The function will start at 3 P.M. You are requested to take your seats before 3 P.M. – Last sentence in an invitation card.
1. If the invitee is not in his seat before 3 P.M., the function will not start.
  2. Function will start as scheduled.
7. Over 1.4 lakh quintals of cotton has been procured in the state under Cotton Procurement Scheme, a press note said.
1. Cotton procurement has been successful.
  2. No cotton procurement should be done now.
8. If it is easy to become an engineer, I don't want to be an engineer.
1. An individual aspires to be professional.
  2. One desires to achieve a thing which is hard earned.



9. The present examination system needs overhauling thoroughly.
  1. The present examination system has many flaws.
  2. Overhauling results in improvement.
10. Ensure a good night's sleep for your family with safe and effective X mosquito coil. – An advertisement.
  1. X mosquito coil is better than any other mosquito coil.
  2. A good night's sleep is desirable.



## **Practice Exercise – 02 Strong and Weak Argument**

**DIRECTIONS for question 1-10:** Each question given below consists of a statement, followed by two arguments numbered I and II. You have to decide which of the arguments is a 'strong' argument and which is a 'weak' argument.

Mark answer

1. if only argument I is strong;
2. if only argument II is strong;
3. if either I or II is strong;
4. if neither I nor II is strong and
5. if both I and II are strong.

**1. Statement:**

Should agriculture in rural India be mechanized?

**Arguments:**

I. Yes. It would lead to higher production.

II. No. Many villagers would be left unemployed.



**2. Statement:**

Should girls learn arts like judo and karate?

**Arguments:**

I. Yes. It will enable them to defend themselves from rogues and ruffians.

II. No. They will lose their feminine grace.

**3. Statement:**

Should the political parties be banned?

**Arguments:**

I. Yes. It is necessary to teach a lesson to the politicians.

II. No. It will lead to an end of democracy.

**4. Statement:**

Should the educated unemployed youth be paid "unemployment allowance" by the Government?

**Arguments:**

I. Yes. It will provide them some monetary help to either seek employment or to kick start some 'self-employment' venture.



II. No. It will dampen their urge to do something to earn their livelihood and thus promote idleness among the unemployed youth.

**5. Statement:**

Should foreign films be banned in India?

**Arguments:**

I. Yes. They depict an alien culture which adversely affects our values.

II. No. Foreign films are of a high artistic standard.

**6. Statement:**

Should all the practicing doctors be brought under Government control?

**Arguments:**

I. No. How can any country do such an undemocratic thing?

II. Yes. Despite many problems, it will certainly help minimize if not eradicate, unethical medical practices.





**7. Statement:**

Should higher education be completely stopped for some time?

**Arguments:**

- I. No. It will hamper the country's future progress.
- II. Yes. It will reduce the educated unemployment.

**8. Statement:**

Should there be more than one High Courts in each state in India?

**Arguments:**

- I. No. This will be a sheer wastage of taxpayers' money.
- II. Yes. This will help reduce the backlog of cases pending for a very long time.

**9. Statement:**

Are nuclear families better than joint families?

**Arguments:**

- I. No. Joint families ensure security and also reduce the burden of work.
- II. Yes. Nuclear families ensure greater freedom.



**10. Statement:**

Should India give away Kashmir to Pakistan?

**Arguments:**

- I. No. Kashmir is a beautiful state. It earns a lot of foreign exchange for India.
- II. Yes. This would help settle conflicts.



## Practice Exercise – 03 Inference / Conclusion

**DIRECTIONS for question 1-10:** In each question below is given a statement followed by two conclusions, numbered I and II. You have to assume everything in the statement to be true, then consider the two conclusions together and decide which of them logically follows beyond reasonable doubt from the information given in the statement.

Give answer as:

- (1) if only conclusion I follows,
- (2) if only conclusion II follows;
- (3) if either I or II follows;
- (4) if neither I nor II follows; and
- (5) if both I and II follow.

**1. Statement:**

The distance of 900 km by road between Bombay and Jafra will be reduced to 280 km by sea.

This will lead to a saving of Rs. 7.92 crores per annum on fuel.



## **Conclusions:**

- I. Transportation by sea is cheaper than that by road.
- II. Fuel must be saved to the greatest extent.

## **2. Statement:**

Good voice is a natural gift but one has to keep practising to improve and excel well in the field of music.

## **Conclusions:**

- I. Natural gifts need nurturing and care.
- II. Even though your voice is not good, one can keep practising.

## **3. Statement:**

Domestic demand has been increasing faster than the production of indigenous crude oil.

## **Conclusions:**

- I. Crude oil must be imported.
- II. Domestic demand should be reduced.



**4. Statement:**

All the organised persons find time for rest.

Sunita, in spite of her very busy schedule, finds time for rest.

**Conclusions:**

I. Sunita is an organised person.

II. Sunita is an industrious person.

**5. Statement:**

This book 'Z' is the only book which focuses its attention to the problem of poverty in India between 1950 and 1980.

**Conclusions:**

I. There was no question of poverty before 1950.

II. No other book deals with poverty in India during 1950 to 1980.

**6. Statement:**

The secret of success is constancy of purpose.

**Conclusions:**

I. Constant dripping wears the stone.



II. Single-minded devotion is necessary for achieving success.

**7. Statement:**

The percentage of the national income shared by the top 10 per cent of households in India is 35.

**Conclusions:**

I. When an economy grows fast, concentration of wealth in certain pockets of population takes place.

II. The national income is unevenly distributed in India.

**8. Statement:** The Prime Minister emphatically stated that his government will make every possible effort for the upliftment of poor farmers and farmhands.

**Conclusions:**

I. Except poor farmers and farmhands, all others have got benefits of fruits of development.

II. No serious efforts have been made in the past for upliftment of any section of the society.



9. **Statement:** The Cabinet of State X took certain steps to tackle the milk glut in the state as the cooperatives and government dairies failed to use the available milk. — A news report.

**Conclusions:**

- I. The milk production of State X is more than its need.
- II. The Government and co-operative dairies in State X are not equipped in terms of resources and technology to handle such excess milk.

10. **Statement:**

The manager humiliated Sachin in the presence of his colleagues.

**Conclusions:**

- I. The manager did not like Sachin.
- II. Sachin was not popular.



## Practice Exercise – 04 Verbal Reasoning

**DIRECTIONS for questions 1 – 10:** In each question below is given a passage, followed by several inferences. You have to examine each inference separately in the context of the passage and decide upon its degree of truth or falsity.

### Mark your answer

1. if you think the inference is 'definitely true';
2. if you think the inference is 'probably true' though not definitely true in the light of the facts given;
3. if you think the 'data are inadequate', i.e., from the facts given you cannot say whether the inference is likely to be true or false;
4. if you think the inference is 'probably false' though not definitely false in the light of the facts given; and
5. if you think the inference is 'definitely false', i.e. it contradicts the given facts.





## PASSAGE -01

The Fifth Conference of Labour Ministers of Non-Aligned and other developing countries, which concluded in New Delhi on January 23, was not just another conference held under the auspices of International Labour Organisation to discuss labour welfare. For one, it was in the run-up to the world Summit on Social Development that the conference was held, and for another, it was under the shadow of the demand by the industrialized countries to link labour standards to international trade through a social clause. The Conference covered a large part of the agenda to be discussed at the Summit to be held at Copenhagen in March, i.e., employment creation, poverty reduction and eradication and social integration.

1. The Fourth Conference of Labour Ministers was not held at New Delhi.
2. International Labour Organisation took an active part in a Conference of Labour Ministers for the first time.
3. Linking labour standards to international trade would benefit the industrial countries.
4. The Copenhagen Summit did not discuss questions on poverty.
5. India sent no representative to the Conference.



## PASSAGE -02

The Country has taken a major initiative by introducing convertibility of the Rupee on the current account. It has also been declared that the ultimate goal is to make the Rupee fully convertible. These are signs of the country's achieving economic maturity. India is now ready to welcome foreign capital. It is preparing to reduce import tariffs to levels, which are currently the norm in other developing countries. All these measures show that India is today mature and strong enough to face international competition and to integrate itself successfully with the global economy. The country is ready to shed its ideological inhibitions and ready to evaluate the international economic environment in a pragmatic spirit.

6. Convertibility has not been introduced on the capital account.
7. Current account convertibility means full convertibility.
8. An economically immature country does not have any convertibility of currency.
9. Import tariffs in India are lower than those in other developing countries.



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10. Socialistic ideals prevented India from evaluating the international economic environment in a pragmatic spirit.



## Answer Key and Explanation

### Practice Exercise – 01

1.	2	We can say nothing about the first statement but the second is implicit.
2.	2	The first statement talks about subsidy which is directly related but the second statement is implied.
3.	1	Assumption 2 is out of track, therefore wrong. First is valid assumption.
4.	5	Both statements are implied as Sachin is writing to his brother to collect the form.
5.	5	Both statements are implied, that is why the notice is displayed.
6.	2	The 1st statement is irrelevant; the 2nd is implied.
7.	4	We cannot say anything about both statements from the given statement.
8.	2	The second is directly implied; the first has no significance to the given statement.
9.	5	Both statements are implicit in the given statement.
10.	2	We cannot say that X is the best, but the sleep is desirable that is why it is to be ensured.



## Practice Exercise – 02

1.	5	Clearly, mechanization would speed up the work and increase the production. So, argument I is strong enough. Argument II is strong because with mechanization a lot of people will be without jobs as a single machine can do the work of many persons.
2.	1	Learning martial arts is necessary for girls for self-defence. So, argument I holds. However, argument II is vague since a training in these arts has nothing to do with their feminine grace.
3.	4	Clearly, with the ban on political parties, candidates can independently contest elections. So, it will not end democracy. Thus, argument II does not hold. Argument 1 does not give a strong reason.
4.	1	Young people, who do not get employment due to the large number of applicants in all fields, must surely be given allowance so that they can support themselves. So, argument I is valid. However, such allowances would mar the spirit to work, in them and make them idle. So, argument II also holds.
5.	4	Clearly, foreign films depict the alien culture but this only helps in learning more” So, argument I does not hold. Also, the reason stated in argument II is not strong enough in contradicting the ban. So, it also does not hold.



6.	2	A doctor treating a patient individually can mislead the patient into wrong and unnecessary treatment for his personal gain. So, argument II holds strong. Also, a policy beneficial to common people cannot be termed 'undemocratic'. So, I is vague
7.	1	Clearly, higher education is not the cause of unemployment. In fact, it has created greater job opportunities. So, argument II is vague. Also, higher education promotes the country's development. So, argument I holds.
8.	2	Clearly, an increase in the number of High Courts will surely speed up the work and help to do away with the pending cases. So, argument II holds strong. In light of this the expenditure incurred would be 'utilization', not 'wastage' of money. So, argument I does not hold.
9.	5	Clearly, with so many people around in a joint family, there is more security. Also, work is shared. So, argument I holds. In nuclear families, there are lesser number of people and so lesser responsibilities and more freedom. Thus, II also holds
10.	1	Clearly, India cannot part with a state that is a major foreign exchange earner to it. So, argument I holds strong. Further, giving away a piece of land unconditionally and unreasonably is no solution to settle disputes. So, argument II is vague.



## Practice Exercise – 03

1.	2	According to the statement, sea transport is cheaper than road transport in the case of route from Bombay to Jafra, not in all the cases. So, conclusion I does not follow. The statement stresses on the saving of fuel. So, conclusion II follows.
2.	1	Clearly, I follows directly from the given statement. However, II is not related to the given statement and so does not follow.
3.	3	The statement mentions that demand for oil is increasing faster than the production. So, either the demand must be reduced or oil must be imported to cope with the increasing demand. Thus, either 1 or II follows.
4.	5	Sunita has a very busy schedule. This means that she is industrious. But still she finds time for rest. This means that she is an organised person. So, both I and II follow.
5.	2	The phrase 'only book' in the statement makes II implicit. However, nothing about the state of poverty before 1950 can be deduced from the statement. So, I does not follow.
6.	5	Both I and II directly follow from the given statement.
7.	2	Nothing about the growth of economy is mentioned in the statement. So, I does not follow.



		Also, it is given that 35 per cent of national income is shared by 10 per cent of households. This indicates unequal distribution. So, II follows.
8.	4	With respect to the given statement which talks about only up gradation of poor farmers so one cannot figure out the progress being made in other sectors except farmhands and farming. Also nor can conclude that no efforts have been made for other sections of society. Thus neither I nor II follows.
9.	5	The use of the term 'milk glut' makes I implicit. Also, the fact that the cooperatives and Government dairies failed to use the available milk indicates that they lack the proper infrastructure to handle such quantities of milk. So, II also follows.
10.	4	The manager might have humiliated Sachin not because of his dislike but on account of certain negligence or mistake on his part. So, I does not follow. Also, nothing about Sachin's rapport with his colleagues can be deduced from the statement. So, II also does not follow.

### Practice Exercise – 04

1.	3	Data inadequate. No information is given about the Fourth Conference. It may be argued that two consecutive Conferences are usually not held in the same
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		country but this is only a convention and not a rule
2.	2	Probably true. The passage gives a special importance to the role of ILO by giving it a special mention. Had the involvement of ILO been a routine affair, it would not have been given a special mention. Hence the given inference appears true.
3.	2	Probably true. This looks true; otherwise why would the industrial nations be making such demands?
4.	4	Probably false. The passage does not give any information about what happened in the Copenhagen Summit. It talks of Copenhagen Summit in future tense. It says that “poverty allocation” was one of the items on the agenda to be discussed in this Summit. Since this is an uncontroversial topic, it is unlikely that this topic would not have been actually discussed when the Summit took place in March
5.	4	Probably false. It is very unlikely that India would not sent a representative to a Conference that is being held in New Delhi
6.	1	Definitely true. The second sentence says: the aim is to make Rupee fully convertible. Conclusion: Rupee is still not fully convertible. We know: full convertibility means convertibility on capital account as well. Conclusion: convertibility



		on capital account has not materialised.
7.	5	Definitely false. The first sentence says: Rupee has been made convertible on current account. The second sentence means full convertibility is still due. Conclusion: Current account convertibility does not mean full convertibility
8.	2	Probably true. The passage says that steps towards convertibility are signs of growing economic maturity. In the wake of this, the given inference appears likely to be true.
9.	5	Definitely false. The passage says that India is preparing to lower its import tariffs to level existing in other developing countries. It means that, presently, the tariffs are actually more than those in developing countries
10.	2	Probably true. The last sentence says: India is ready to shed its ideological inhibitions and evaluate the international economic environment in a pragmatic spirit. We know that before the age of convertibility India was governed by socialistic ideals. So it is likely that the ideological inhibition referred to in the passage mean the socialistic ideals. Hence the given inference appears likely to be true.