



Verbal Reasoning

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Verbal Reasoning

Verbal reasoning is understanding the logic or the main idea using concepts framed in words. In this type of question, you are usually provided with a passage of text followed by one or more statements.

Verbal reasoning is majorly divided into three categories –

1. Statement and Assumption
2. Statement and conclusion
3. Statement and course of action

Statement and Assumption: An assumption is something which is assumed, supposed and taken for granted. When somebody says something he does not put everything, every aspect of his idea into words. There is a lot which he leaves unsaid. That which he left unsaid, that which he takes for granted, may be defined as an assumption.

E.g. – Mansi can get the promotion only if she does the smart work.

Assumption –

- a. Smart work can bring promotion to Mansi.
- b. Except for Smartwork, there is no other method of getting the promotion.

Explanation –

It is clearly mentioned in the statement that there is only a means to get the promotion.

Thus, the statement is based on the fact that smart work can bring freedom. Hence, the assumption I is valid. Assumption II is only valid for Mansi not for the other people. Hence it is not valid.

1. "Vidhya University – We offer the best courses and placement support in the field of Engineering" – A newspaper advertisement.

Assumptions:

I. Students are very much interested in getting into the engineering field and get jobs in companies through campus recruitment.

II. Students want the best college for their higher studies.

- a. If only assumption I is implicit
- b. If only assumption II is implicit
- c. If neither I nor II is implicit
- d. If both I and II are implicit

Ans. D

Solution –

The advertisement is meant to cater to the needs of a student looking for engineering higher studies and placements. So I is implicit. The college's offer of being the best in engineering college and best placement support makes II implicit.

Statement and conclusion: This type of questions, some statements are followed by some conclusions which can be derived from given statements.

We need to select the correct conclusions framed from the statements. Some of them can be easily detected and in some cases, they are indirectly related to the main idea of the statement.

e.g. – Incidence estimates for India are considered interim, pending a national TB prevalence survey scheduled for 2017-2018.

Conclusion –

- I. India is free from TB.
- II. TB is not a national issue.

Explanation - Both the possible conclusion needs facts to be proved but the statement lacks facts thus, factual comment on a non-factual statement is incorrect. Hence, option D is the correct option.

1. Statement:

An unacceptable number of children die during the first year of their lives. The high incidence of infant deaths is a major cause of concern for the health ministry.

Courses of Actions:

I. All government hospitals should be privatised to improve health conditions.

II. Governments should increase high levels of their budgets to health services.

a. Only course of action I follows

b. Only course of action II follows

c. Either I or II follows

d. Neither I nor II follows

Ans. B

Solution –

There is no evidence in the statement to suggest that privatisation will help in the reduction of infant deaths. II course of actions is valid as the increment in the budget will enhance the health services in India. Hence, only Action II follows.

Statement and Course of action: A course of action is a part of verbal reasoning. In these questions, a statement based on the particular situation is given, along with two or more possible course of actions. We have to choose the one among them, which is practically or logically supports the given statement. Statements given are based on different facts, judgments, conclusion and practical vision.

A course of action is asked to test the analytical decision making skill at the point of time. In the course of action, one must need a logical concept in mind. One can answer the question correctly with an unbiased and neutral mind. Individual perception and impractical concepts obstruct the one to judge the right course of action. To solve the problem one should identify the root cause of the statement. A right course of action always seems to be lessened, reduce or minimise the problem given in the statement, this can help you to choose the right option.

The level of these type of questions is moderate to difficult, in different competitive exams. Sometimes you can find it difficult or complex to select the appropriate course of action. But with practice and logical mind-frame, you can do it easily.

e.g.- Statement: Hike in the international oil prices is going to drain foreign exchange reserves.

Courses of action:

I. Increase in costs should be passed on to the Consumers

II. Usage of alternative fuels should be encouraged.

Explanation - The import cost of oil is going to increase as a result of hike in international oil prices. According to the statement, the concern is for foreign exchange reserves. Passing on the cost to consumers is going to reduce government burden but does not contain foreign exchange reserves Hence, I do not follow When alternate fuel usage is encouraged, the demand for oil and hence the quantity of oil import would reduce, thus saving foreign exchange Hence, II follows.

1. Statement: State police of Bihar came under the cloud with the recent news that 9 lakh litres of liquor has been missing from the police station after the declaration of Bihar a dry state. The police department claimed that the whole of the liquor had been drunk by rats.

Course of Actions:

I. A thorough investigation should be ordered and those who are liable if any then they must have to be punished.

II. Suspension of those police officers who claim that rats drunk the liquor.

- a. If only course of action I follow
- b. If only course of action II follows
- c. If both the course of action follows
- d. If neither course of action follows

Ans. A

Solution –

The given situation presents a situation, a solid conclusion for which cannot be drawn without a proper investigation. Thus, only I follows. Though the statement by the police sounds far-fetched, a fair judgment can only be made after a sound investigation. Thus, option A is the correct answer.
