

Critical Reasoning Based Questions

Type-I : Assumption

Passage-1

Professor Singh is a better teacher than Professor Bedi. This is because in a recent survey, at campus, their mutual students rated Professor Singh as the better teacher of the two.

Q. The given argument assumes that-

- (a) Students' rating is a valid indicator of the professor's performance in the class.
- (b) Students will rate a professor as better than the other, if they feel that the professor is more famous on campus.
- (c) The better teacher has to be the one whose teaching methods are more engaging and relevant to the course.
- (d) The better teacher is the one whose students perform the best in exams.

Passage-2

'Rajaram has ten years of typing experience behind him; therefore, if you are looking for an efficient typist to enter your data into the new system, you need look no further.'

Q. The speaker assumes that

- (a) Ten years of practice ensures typing efficiency
- (b) The type of typing required for the new system is identical to what Rajaram has been doing
- (c) Rajaram's job profile is the best that the new employer is going to get
- (d) Rajaram is an outstandingly fast and accurate typist

Passage-3

A survey conducted by the Safe Road Forum (SRF) indicates that women are potentially as good as men behind wheels. However, their driving skills are underdeveloped because societal pressure ensures that they concentrate on developing other skills to be used mainly in the immediate environs of the home.

Q. Which of the following is a basic assumption of the researchers?

- a) Duties of a woman include being a mother and wife.
- b) Women will one day become better drivers than men if they put in the efforts.
- c) Women tend to conform to societal pressure.
- d) The ability to drive is a basic skill that every man and woman must learn.

Passage-4

The Indian Cricket Team recently hired a new coach. Although he has several years' worth of coaching experience and is a diligent student of the game, he was never a member of the Indian team. For this reason, the new coach will be unable to build a successful program.

Q. The argument above is based on which of the following assumptions?

- (a) The Team should have hired a former Team player as its new coach.
- (b) Coaching experience is one of the most crucial factors of coaching success.
- (c) The previous coach at the Team was dismissed due to her lack of success.
- (d) To build a successful Cricket program as a coach, one must be a former member of Team.

Passage-5

Two genes, HA1 and HA2, are linked to hereditary breast cancer. Therefore, in order to decrease the annual number of mammogram tests administered across a population and to more accurately assess a women's individual risk of breast cancer, all women should be tested for these genes.

Q. Which of the following is an assumption on which the argument depends?

- (a) Some of the women who are tested for the two genes will subsequently undergo mammograms on a less frequent basis than they used to.

- (b) The majority of breast cancer patients have no family history of the disease.
- (c) Researchers may have identified a third breast cancer gene that is linked with hereditary breast cancer.
- (d) Women who have these genes have an 80 percent of getting breast cancer, while women who don't these genes have only a 10 percent chance of getting breast

Passage-6

Editorial: The IMF should reallocate the voting shares of its members in order to shape global economic policy more effectively. For example, China comprises about 15 percent of the world's gross domestic product but has only a 3 percent voting share, whereas Belgium, with less than 1 percent of the global economy, has a 2 percent share.

Q. Which of the following is an assumption upon which the editorial's authors depend in suggesting a way to more effectively shape global economic policy?

- (a) The United States has a larger voting share of the IMF than does China or Belgium.
- (b) The specific allocation of voting shares factors into the IMF's effectiveness in shaping global economic policy.
- (c) Only voting shares that are precisely proportional to each country's contribution to the global economy should be the benchmark.
- (d) The IMF is necessary to the maintenance of a prosperous global economy.

Passage-7

Advertisement: According to a recent research study, daily use of Morning Glow, new toothpaste, reduces the risk of developing dental cavities by over 20 percent. In addition, as a result of a new formula, the use of Morning Glow results in whiter, healthier-looking teeth. Clearly, Morning Glow not only gives your teeth a beautiful look but also provides the most reliable protection against dental cavities.

Q. Which of the following is an assumption in the argument above?

- (a) No other toothpaste provides more reliable protection against dental cavities.
- (b) Morning Glow's formula does a better job of whitening teeth than do competitors' formulas.
- (c) People are just as interested in having beautiful teeth as they are in having healthy teeth.
- (d) Morning Glow also prevents other dental disorders.

Passage-8

According to the new office smoking regulations, only employees who have enclosed office may smoke at their desks. Virtually all employees with enclosed offices are at the professional level, and virtually all secretarial employees lack enclosed offices. Therefore, secretaries who smoke should be offered enclosed offices.

Q. Which of the following is an assumption that enables the conclusion above to be properly drawn?

- (a) Employees at the professional level who do not smoke should keep their enclosed offices.
- (b) Employees with enclosed offices should not smoke at their desks, even though the new regulations permit them to do so.
- (c) Employees at the secretarial level should be allowed to smoke at their desks, even if they do not have enclosed offices.
- (d) The smoking regulations should allow all employees who smoke an equal opportunity to do so, regardless of an employee's job level.

Passage-9

The average working man takes about two minutes to shave every morning. If you add up all the time that he spends shaving in a whole year, then it comes to several hours. Just imagine how many working days are being lost every year to employers up and down the country, through the national work force shaving!

Q. The argument above depends on which of the following assumptions?

- (a) The national work force consists mostly of men who shave.
- (b) If men didn't have to shave every morning, they would spend more time working instead.
- (c) Men shave in the morning rather than in the evening.
- (d) Men don't shave at the weekend, when they probably wouldn't be at work anyway.

Passage -10

The Queen had better watch out. If the proponents of multiculturalism have their way, the most English of British heirs to the throne may have to swerve the bloodline to warmer climes. If the report on "multi-ethnic Britain" by Lord Rodrix is to be believed, the Lord conclude that the word 'British' itself has racial connotations and the ex-empire in its twilight years should now be on the lookout for a more inclusive image than the one that it had when the sun never set.

Q. Which of the following assumptions is being made by the author?

- a) Lord Rodrix is an authority on the history of the British Empire.
- b) The Queen represents an image of Britain that is at odds with Lord Rodrix' report.
- c) Prince's and princess' marriage to a non-British can dilute the 'English-bloodline' and initiate multiculturalism.
- d) Lord Rodrix' observations of multiculturalism in Britain are echoed in the reality of today's Britain.

Passage-11

Although there has been great scientific debate for decades over global warming, most scientists now agree that human activity is causing the Earth's temperature to rise. Though predictions vary, many global warming experts believe that average global temperatures will rise between three and eight degrees Fahrenheit during the next century. Such an increase would cause an alarming rise in sea levels, displacing millions of people by destroying major population centres along the world's coastlines.

Q. Which of the following is the most logical assumption that can be made from the passage?

- a. Scientific recommendation is authentic.
- b. Individuals will not become more aware of the steps they can take to reduce the emission of greenhouse gases.
- c. Some global warming experts predict a greater than eight degree Fahrenheit increase in global temperatures during the next century.
- d. Human activity is the sole cause of increasing global temperatures.

Passage-12

Emissions from automobiles that burn gasoline and automobiles that burn diesel fuel are threatening the quality of life on our planet, contaminating both urban air and global atmosphere. Therefore, the only effective way to reduce such emissions is to replace the conventional diesel fuel and gasoline used in automobiles with cleaner-burning fuels, such as methanol, that create fewer emissions.

Q. Which one of the followings is a valid assumption on which the argument depends?

- a. Reducing the use of automobiles would not be a more effective means to reduce automobile emissions than the use of methanol.
- b. There is no fuel other than methanol that is cleaner in burning than both diesel fuel and gasoline.
- c. If given a choice of automobile fuels, automobile owners would not select gasoline over methanol.
- d. Automobile emissions constitute the most serious threat to the global environment.

Assumptions Based Questions Asked in CSAT

Passage-1

A male tiger was removed from Pench Tiger Reserve and was relocated in Panna National Park. Later, this tiger trekked toward his home 250 miles away. The trek of this solitary tiger highlights a crisis. Many wildlife reserves exist as islands of fragile habitat in a vast sea of humanity, yet tigers can range over a hundred miles, seeking prey, mates and territory. Nearly a third of India's tigers live outside tiger-reserves, a situation that is dangerous for both human and animal. Prey and tigers can only disperse if there are recognized corridors of land between protected areas to allow unmolested passage.

Q. With reference to the above passage, the following assumptions have been made:

1. The strategy of conservation of wildlife by relocating them from one protected area to another is not often successful.
2. India does not have suitable legislation to save the tigers, and its conservation efforts have failed which forced the tigers to live outside protected areas.

Which of the above assumptions is/are valid?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Passage-2

India's educational system is modelled on the mass education system that developed in the 19th century in Europe and later spread around the world. The goal of the system is to condition children as 'good' citizens and productive workers. This suited the industrial age that needed the constant supply of a compliant workforce with a narrow set of capabilities. Our educational institutes resemble factories with bells, uniforms and batch -processing of learners, designed to get learners to conform. But, from an economic point of view, the environment today is very different. It is a complex, volatile and globally interconnected world.

Q. With reference to the above passage, the following assumptions have been made:

1. India continues to be a developing country essentially due to its faulty education system.
2. Today's learners need to acquire new age skill-sets.
3. A good number of Indians go to some developed countries for education because the educational systems there are a perfect reflection of the societies in which they function.

Which of the above assumptions is/are valid?

- (a) 1 and 3 only (b) 2 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

Passage-3

All actions to address climate change ultimately involve costs. Funding is vital in order for countries like India to design and implement adaptation and mitigation plans and projects. The problem is more severe for developing countries like India, which would be one of the hardest hit by climate change, given its need to finance developments. Most countries do indeed treat climate change as real threat and are striving to address it in a more comprehensive and integrated manner with the limited resources at their disposal.

Q. With reference to the above passage, the following assumptions have been made:

1. Climate change is not a challenge for developed countries.
2. Climate change is a complex policy issue and also a development issue for many countries.
3. Ways and means of finance must be found to enable developing countries to enhance their adaptive capacity. Which of the above assumptions is/are valid?

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

Passage - 4

Diarrhoeal deaths among Indian children are mostly due to food and water contamination. Use of contaminated groundwater and unsafe chemicals in agriculture, poor hygiene in storage and handling of food items to food cooked and distributed in unhygienic surroundings; there are myriad factors that need regulation and monitoring. People need to have awareness of adulteration and ways of complaining to the relevant authorities. Surveillance of food-borne diseases involves a number of government agencies and entails good training of inspection staff. Considering the proportion of the urban population that depends on street food for its daily meals, investing in training and education of street vendors is of great significance.

Q. On the basis of the above passage, the following assumptions have been made:

1. Food safety is a complex issue that calls for a multipronged solution.
2. Great investments need to be made in developing the manpower for surveillance and training.
3. India needs to make sufficient legislation for governing food processing industry.

Which of the above assumptions is/are valid?

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

Passage – 5

Soil, in which nearly all our food grows, is a living resource that takes years to form. Yet it can vanish in minutes. Each year 75 billion tonnes of fertile soil is lost to erosion. That is alarming — and not just for food producers. Soil can trap huge quantities of carbon dioxide in the form of organic carbon and prevent it from escaping into the atmosphere.

Q. On the basis of the above passage, the following assumptions have been made:

1. Large scale soil erosion is a major reason for widespread food insecurity in the world.
2. Soil erosion is mainly anthropogenic.
3. Sustainable management of soils helps in combating climate change.

Which of the above assumptions is/are valid?

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

Passage -6

Inequality is visible, even statistically measurable in many instances, but the economic power that drives it, is invisible and not measurable... Like the force of gravity, power is the organising principle of inequality, be it of income, or wealth, gender, race, religion and region. Its effects are seen in a pervasive manner in all spheres, but the ways in which economic power pulls and tilts visible economic variables remain invisibly obscure.

Q. On the basis of the above passage, the following assumptions have been made:

1. Economic power is the only reason for the existence of inequality in a society.
2. Inequality of different kinds, income, wealth, etc, reinforces power.
3. Economic power can be analysed more through its effects than by direct empirical methods.

Which of thy above assumptions is/are valid?

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

Passage – 7

The richer States have a responsibility to cut down carbon emissions and promote clean energy investments. These are the States that got electricity, grew faster and now have high per capita income, making them capable of sharing India's burden of becoming eco-friendly. Delhi, for example, can help by generating its own clean electricity using solar rooftop panels or even help poor States finance their clean energy projects. It is no secret that State Electricity Boards, which control 95% of the distribution network, are neck-deep in losses. These losses further discourage State utilities from adopting renewable energy as it is more expensive than fossil fuels. **(2015)**

Q. Which among the following is the **most logical and rational assumption** that can be made from the above passage?

- (a) The richer States must lead in the production and adoption of renewable energy.
- (b) The poor States always have to depend on rich States for electricity.
- (c) The State Electricity Boards can improve their finances by undertaking clean energy projects.
- (d) The high economic disparity between the rich and poor States is the major cause of high carbon emissions in India.

Passage -8

What stands in the way of the widespread and careful adoption of 'Genetic Modification (GM)' technology is an 'Intellectual Property Rights' regime that seeks to create private monopolies for such technologies. If GM technology is largely corporate driven, it seeks to maximize profits and that too in the short run. That is why corporations make major investments for herbicide-tolerant and pest-resistant crops. Such properties have only a short window, as soon enough, pests and weeds will evolve to overcome such resistance. This suits the corporations. The National Farmers Commission pointed out that priority must be given in genetic modification to the incorporation of genes that can help impart resistance to drought, salinity and other stresses.

Q. On the basis of the above passage, the following assumptions have been made:

1. The issue of effects of natural calamities on agriculture is not given due consideration by GM technology companies.
2. In the long run, GM technology will not be able to solve agricultural problems arising due to global warming.

Which of the above assumptions is/are valid?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Passage - 9

The rural poor across the world, including India, have contributed little to human-induced climate change, yet they are on the frontline in coping with its effects. Farmers can no longer rely on historical averages for rainfall and temperature, and the more frequent and extreme weather events, such as droughts and floods, can spell disaster. And there are new threats, such as sea level rise and the impact of melting glaciers on water supply. How significant are small farms? As many as two billion people worldwide depend on them for their food and livelihood. Small-holder farmers in India produce 41 percent of the country's food grains, and other food items that contribute to local and national food security.

Q. The above passage implies that

1. There is a potential problem of food insecurity in India.
2. India will have to strengthen its disaster management capabilities.

Which of the above assumptions is/are valid?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Passage — 10

Food varieties extinction is happening all over the world --- and it is happening fast. For example, of the 7,000 apple varieties that were grown during the nineteenth century, fewer than a hundred remain. In the Philippines, thousands of varieties of rice once thrived; now only up to a hundred are grown there. In China, 90 percent of the wheat varieties cultivated just a century ago have disappeared. Farmers in the past painstakingly bred and developed crops well suited to the peculiarities of their local climate and environment. In the recent past, our heavy dependence on a few high yielding varieties and technology-driven production and distribution of food is causing the dwindling of diversity in food crops. If some mutating crop disease or future climate change decimates the few crop plants we have come to depend on to feed our growing population, we might desperately need some of those varieties we have let go extinct.

Q. On the basis of the above passage, the following assumptions have been made:

1. Humans have been the main reason for the large scale extinction of plant species.
2. Consumption of food mainly from locally cultivated crops ensures crop diversity.
3. The present style of production and distribution of food will finally lead to the problem of food scarcity in the near future.
4. Our food security may depend on our ability to preserve the locally cultivated varieties of crops.

Which of the above assumptions are valid ?

- (a) 1 and 3 (b) 2 and 4 (c) 2 and 3 (d) 1 and 4