

Statement and Assumption

Introduction to Statement and Assumption

In a statement and assumption question, a statement is given in the question followed by a few assumptions made on the basis of them. Candidates need to pick the assumption which most appropriate and logically is correct.

Understanding the terms

The first step to solve questions based on Statement, Assumption is to acquaint yourself with terms associated with such questions.

Statement Anything one says is a statement. But, in logic, a statement is either a meaningful declarative sentence that is either true or false or that which a true or false declarative sentence asserts. There may be several ways of framing the same statement. For instance, 'It is desirable to put a child in school around 3 or so.'

Assumption An assumption is an unstated premise that we take for valid or granted or that supports the conclusion. The assumption is stated implicitly and needs to be identified. For example, in the above statement, that 'it is desirable to put a child in school around 3 or so', the assumption is that 'At that age, the child reaches appropriate level of growth and development and is ready to learn.'

How to solve Statement and assumption problems

Given below is a list of tips to solve the statement and assumption questions:

- Read the statement with an approach that the assumptions would be true with regard to the statement
 - Do not go too logical with the statements. Analyze the information given and the assumption must only be made based on the information in the statement. Do not overcomplicate it
 - Common assumptions can always be followed but other than that do not align the statement with General Knowledge or other facts
 - Use the elimination method if you are unable to apprehend the answer. Read the statement and then the assumptions given in the options, you shall notice that a few of them will most definitely not follow. Eliminate them and then choosing from lesser options may prove to be more convenient
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- One thing to make a note of is that the assumption is something that the Author believes to be true so while choosing the correct option, keep this thought in mind as well. If any option contradicts the statement, then that assumption will not follow

Example 1: Statement: Food poisoning due to the consumption of liquor is very common in rural areas

Assumption I: There are more illegal and unauthorised shops selling liquor in villages and rural areas

Assumption II: The ratio of people drinking liquor in villages is much more than that in towns

1. Both assumptions I and II follow
2. Neither assumption I nor II follows
3. Only assumption I follows
4. Assumptions II follows but assumption I does not follow
5. Either assumption I or assumption II follows

Answer: Only assumption I follows

Solution: The statement is talking about food poisoning due to liquor so the number of people consuming liquor in towns or villages is not the main concern here. Which is why the only assumption I follow

Example 2: Statement: In an election conducted in Village X, only 20% of the total number of women in the village came to vote.

Assumption I: The number of men in the village is more than the number of women in the village X

Assumption II: Women had to cook food and could not come to vote

1. Both assumptions I and II follow
2. Neither assumption I nor II follows
3. Only assumption I follow
4. Only assumption II follows
5. Either assumption I or assumption II follows

Answer: Neither assumption I nor II follows

Solution: The statement clearly indicates that out of the total number of women in the village only 20% came around to vote so the ratio between the number of men and women is not applicable here and the second assumption is not applicable as well.

Example 3: 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.

Assumption 1: The performance of an individual generally is not known at the time of

appointment offer.

Assumption 2: Generally an individual tries to prove his worth in the probation period.

1. Only assumption I is implicit
2. Only assumption II is implicit
3. Either I or II is implicit
4. Neither I nor II is implicit
5. Both I and II are implicit

Answer: 5. Both I and II are implicit

Solution: 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 the probation period) before confirmation. So, II is also implicit.