

## STATEMENTS AND ARGUMENTS - 2

Each question given below consists of a statement, followed by three or four arguments numbered I, II, III and IV. You have to decide which of the arguments is/are 'strong' arguments) and which is/are 'weak' arguments) and accordingly choose your answer from the alternatives given below each question.

1. **Statement:** Should people with educational qualification higher than the optimum requirements be debarred from seeking jobs?

**Arguments:**

No. It will further aggravate the problem of educated unemployment.

Yes. It creates complexes among employees and affects the work adversely.

No. This goes against the basic rights of the individuals.

Yes. This will increase productivity.

A. Only I and III are strong

B. All are strong

C. Only II and IV are strong

D. Only III is strong

E. None of these

**Answer:** Option D

**Explanation:**

The issue discussed in the statement is nowhere related to increase in unemployment, as the number of vacancies filled in will remain the same. Also, in a working place, it is the performance of the individual that matters and that makes him more or less wanted, and not his educational qualifications. So, neither I nor II holds strong. Besides, the needs of a job are laid down in the desired qualifications for the job. So, recruitment of more qualified people cannot augment productivity. Thus, IV also does not hold strong. However, it is the right of an individual to get the post for which he fulfils the eligibility criteria, whatever be his extra merits. Hence, argument III holds strong.

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2. **Statement:** Should India go in for computerization in all possible sectors?

**Arguments:**

Yes. It will bring efficiency and accuracy in the work.

No. It will be an injustice to the monumental human resources which are at present underutilized.

No. Computerization demands a lot of money. We should not waste money on it.

Yes. When advanced countries are introducing computers in every field, how can India afford to lag behind?

A. Only I is strong

- B. Only I and II are strong
- C. Only I and III are strong
- D. Only II and III are strong
- E. All are strong

**Answer:** Option A

**Explanation:**

Clearly, the need of today is to put to better use the underutilized human resources. Computers with better and speedy efficiency can accomplish this. So, argument I holds, while II does not. Computerization is a much beneficial project and investment in it is not at all a waste. So, III is not strong. Further, development in a new field is not a matter of merely following up other countries. So, IV also does not hold strong.

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3. **Statement:** Should all the school teachers be debarred from giving private tuitions?

**Arguments:**

No. The needy students will be deprived of the expertise of these teachers.

Yes. This is an injustice to the unemployed educated people who can earn their living by giving tuitions.

Yes. Only then the quality of teaching in schools will improve.

Yes. Now salary of these teachers is reasonable.

- A. Only I and III are strong
- B. Only I, II and III are strong
- C. Only III and IV are strong
- D. Only II, III and IV are strong
- E. None of these

**Answer:** Option E

**Explanation:**

Only III is strong. The lure of earning private tuitions reduces the efforts and devotion of the teachers towards the students in schools. So, if tuitions are banned, students can benefit from their teachers' knowledge in the school itself. So, argument III holds strong while I does not. However, a person cannot be barred from earning more just because he already has a good salary. So, argument IV is vague. Further, the unemployed people thriving on tuitions can survive with the school teachers holding tuitions too, if they are capable enough to guide the students well. So, argument II also does not hold strong.

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4. **Statement:** Should education be made compulsory for all children up to the age of 14?

**Arguments:**

Yes. This will help to eradicate the system of forced employment of these children.

Yes. This is an effective way to make the entire population educated.

No. We do not have adequate infrastructure to educate the entire population.

Yes. This would increase the standard of living.

- A. All are strong
- B. Only I, II and III are strong
- C. Only I, II and IV are strong
- D. Only II is strong
- E. Only II and III are strong

**Answer:** Option D

**Explanation:**

Clearly, today's children are to make up future citizens of the country and so it is absolutely essential to make them learned, more responsible, more innovative and self-dependent by imparting them education. So, argument II holds strong while I and IV do not. Besides, the goal of literacy cannot be denied for want of infrastructure. So, argument III also does not hold.

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5. **Statement:** Should trade unions be banned completely?

**Arguments:**

Yes. Workers can concentrate on production.

No. This is the only way through which employees can put their demands before the management.

Yes. Employees get their illegal demands fulfilled through these unions.

No. Trade unions are not banned in other economically advanced countries.

- A. Only I is strong
- B. Only II is strong
- C. Only I and II are strong
- D. Only I, II and III are strong
- E. None of these

**Answer:** Option B

**Explanation:**

Clearly, trade unions provide a common platform for the workers to voice their demands and protests and thus ensure that they are not subdued or exploited. So, argument II holds strong, while I and III do not. Besides, the idea of imitation of other countries in the implementation of a certain policy holds no relevance. So, argument IV also does not hold strong.

6. **Statement:** Should the public sector undertakings be allowed to adopt hire and fire policy?

**Arguments:**

Yes. This will help the public sector undertakings to get rid of non-performing employees and reward the performing employees.

No. This will give an unjust handle to the management and they may use it indiscriminately.

Yes. This will help increase the level of efficiency of these organizations and these will become profitable establishments.

- A. None is strong
- B. Only I and II are strong
- C. Only II and III are strong
- D. Only I and III are strong
- E. All are strong

**Answer:** Option D

**Explanation:**

'Hire and fire policy' implies 'taking up the performing employees and discarding the non-performing ones'. Clearly, such a policy would stand out to encourage employees to work hard and devotedly to retain their jobs and thus enhance productivity and profitability of the organizations. So, both arguments I and III hold strong. Argument II seems to be vague in the light of this.

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7. **Statement:** Is caste-based reservation policy in professional colleges justified?

**Arguments:**

Yes. The step is a must to bring the underprivileged at par with the privileged ones.

No. It obstructs the establishment of a classless society.

Yes. This will help the backward castes and classes of people to come out of the oppression of upper caste people.

- A. Only I and II are strong
- B. Only II is strong
- C. Only II and III are strong
- D. Only I and III are strong
- E. All are strong

**Answer:** Option B

**Explanation:**

Clearly, capability is an essential criteria for a profession and reservation cannot ensure capable workers. So, neither I nor III holds strong. However, making one caste more privileged than the other through reservations would hinder the objectives of a classless society. So, argument II holds strong.

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8. **Statement:** Should there be a complete ban on genetically modified imported seeds?

**Arguments:**

Yes. This will boost the demand of domestically developed seeds.

No. This is the only way to increase production substantially.

Yes. Genetically modified products will adversely affect the health of those who consume these products.

- A. Only I and II are strong
- B. Only II is strong
- C. Only II and III are strong
- D. Only I and III are strong
- E. All are strong

**Answer:** Option B

**Explanation:**

Genetically modified imported seeds have been specially formulated to increase the yield and quality of produce. So, argument II is strong. Besides, increase in production holds much more significance than the sale of domestically produced seeds. Thus, argument I does not hold. Also, the genetically modified seeds result in a producer of finer quality which is no way harmful to the consumer. So, III also does not hold strong.

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9. **Statement:** Should the income generated out of agricultural activities be taxed?

**Arguments:**

No. Farmers are otherwise suffering from natural calamities and low yield coupled with low procurement price and their income should not be taxed.

Yes. Majority of the population is dependent on agriculture and hence their income should be taxed to augment the resources.

Yes. Many big farmers earn much more than the majority of the service earners and they should be taxed to remove the disparity.

- A. Only I is strong
- B. Only I and II are strong
- C. Only II and III are strong
- D. All are strong
- E. None of these

**Answer:** Option C

**Explanation:**

Clearly, if the income of farmers is not adequate, they cannot be brought under the net of taxation as per rules governing the Income Tax Act. So, I is not strong. Besides, a major part of the population is dependent on agriculture and such a large section, if taxed even with certain concessions, would draw in huge funds, into the government coffers. Also, many big landlords with substantially high incomes from agriculture are taking undue advantage of this benefit. So, both arguments II and III hold strong.

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10. **Statement:** Should all the management institutes in the country be brought under government

control?

**Arguments:**

No. The government does not have adequate resources to run such institutes effectively.

No. Each institute should be given freedom to function on its own.

Yes. This will enable to have standardized education for all the students.

Yes. Only then the quality of education would be improved.

- A. None is strong
- B. Only I, II and III are strong
- C. Only I and III are strong
- D. All are strong
- E. Only III is strong

**Answer:** Option A

**Explanation:**

Clearly, the government can pool up resources to run such institutes, if that can benefit the citizens. So, I does not hold strong. II does not provide any convincing reason. Also, it is not obligatory that government control over the institutes would ensure better education than that at present. So, both III and IV also do not hold.

11. **Statement:** Should the system of Lok Adalats and mobile courts be encouraged in India?

**Arguments:**

Yes. It helps to grant speedy justice to the masses.

Yes. The dispensing of minor cases at this level would reduce the burden on the higher courts.

No. These courts are usually partial in justice.

- A. Only I and II are strong
- B. Only II and III are strong
- C. Only I and III are strong
- D. All are strong
- E. Only I is strong

**Answer:** Option A

**Explanation:**

Courts are meant to judge impartially. So, argument III is vague. The system of local courts shall speed up justice by providing easy approach and simplified procedures, and thus ease the burden of the higher courts. So, I as well as II holds strong.

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12. **Statement:** Should India acquire/manufacture the latest nuclear weapons?

**Arguments:**

Yes. The enemies of India are improving their weapons continuously and it becomes imperative

to protect the sovereignty and integrity of the country.

No. Instead the money should be diverted to development activities.

No. The international community will isolate Indians and this will bring a setback to Indian economy.

No. It will be against our policy of maintaining world peace.

- A. Only I is strong
- B. Only I and IV are strong
- C. Only I, II and IV are strong
- D. All are strong
- E. None of these

**Answer:** Option A

**Explanation:**

Clearly, in the blind race for attaining nuclear powers, acquiring nuclear weapons is an inevitability to protect the country from the threat of nuclear powers. So, argument I holds strong. Also, defence of the country is as important as internal development. So, II does not hold. Argument III seems to be vague. Also, India intends to acquire nuclear weapons for self-defence and not aggression. So, argument IV also does not hold.

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13. **Statement:** Should there be a complete ban on manufacture and use of firecrackers?

**Arguments:**

No. This will render thousands of workers jobless.

Yes. The firecracker manufacturers use child labour to a large extent.

Yes. This will be a concrete step to reduce noise and air pollution.

No. Use of firecrackers makes certain special occasions more lively and joyful.

- A. Only I and II are strong
- B. Only I and III are strong
- C. Only III and IV are strong
- D. Only I, II and III are strong
- E. Only I, III and IV are strong

**Answer:** Option B

**Explanation:**

Clearly, banning a product would surely render jobless the large number of workers involved in manufacturing it. Besides, firecrackers on burning produce explosive sounds and immense poisonous fumes, which cause both air and noise pollution. So, both arguments I and III hold. However, to stop child labour, it is not necessary to close down the industry but strict laws against child abuse should be enforced and legal actions taken. Similarly, there are many other ways to make parties boisterous and special events enjoyable. Hence, II as well as IV does not hold strong.

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14. **Statement:** Should "literacy" be the minimum criterion for becoming a voter in India?

**Arguments:**

No. Mere literacy is no guarantee of political maturity of an individual.

Yes. Illiterate people are less likely to make politically wiser decisions of voting for a right candidate or party.

No. Voting is the constitutional right of every citizen.

- A. None is strong
- B. Only I and II are strong
- C. Only III is strong
- D. Only II and III are strong
- E. All are strong

**Answer:** Option E

**Explanation:**

Clearly, illiterate people lack will power and maturity in thoughts. They may easily be misled into false convictions or lured into temptations to vote for a particular group. So, argument II holds. However, a person is literate does not mean that he is conscious of all political movements, which requires practical awareness of everyday events. Thus, I also holds strong. Besides, Constitution has extended the right to vote equally to all its citizens. Hence, III also holds.

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15. **Statement:** Should there be only few banks in place of numerous smaller banks in India?

**Arguments:**

Yes. This will help secure the investor's money as these big banks will be able to withstand intermittent market related shocks.

No. A large number of people will lose their jobs as after the merger many employees will be redundant.

Yes. This will help consolidate the entire banking industry and will lead to healthy competition.

- A. None is strong
- B. Only I and II are strong
- C. Only II and III are strong
- D. Only I and III are strong
- E. All are strong

**Answer:** Option A

**Explanation:**

The security of the investor's money is not related to the size of the bank. Besides even after consolidation, the number of investors, their amounts and hence the duties shall remain the same and so no employees will be redundant. Reducing the number of smaller banks will also not affect the mutual competition among the banks. Thus, none of the arguments holds strong.



16. **Statement:** Should religion be taught in our schools?

**Arguments:**

No. Ours is a secular state.

Yes. Teaching religion helps inculcate moral values among children.

No. How can one dream of such a step when we want the young generation to fulfil its role in the 21st century.

- A. All are strong
- B. None is strong
- C. Only I is strong
- D. Only II is strong
- E. Only I and III are strong

**Answer:** Option D

**Explanation:**

Ours is a secular state does not mean that religion and religious values should be eradicated. In fact, these inculcate moral values. So, argument I is vague while argument II is strong. Also, teaching religion can in no way hinder the student's capability to face the challenges of the 21st century.

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17. **Statement:** Should the parliamentary elections in India be held every three years as against five years at present?

**Arguments:**

No. This will enhance wastage of money and resources.

Yes. This will help the voters to change non-performing representatives without much delay.

No. The elected representatives will not have enough time to settle and concentrate on developmental activities.

- A. None is strong
- B. Only I and II are strong
- C. Only II and III are strong
- D. Only I and III are strong
- E. All are strong

**Answer:** Option D

**Explanation:**

The election process entails exorbitant expenditure. So, holding elections very often will surely lead to wastage of money and resources. Thus, I holds strong. Also, the elected representatives need a considerable period of time to implement their policies and also convince the voters of their working. So, III holds strong while II does not.

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18. **Statement:** Should the number of holidays of government employees be reduced?

**Arguments:**

Yes. Our government employees are having the maximum number of holidays among the countries of the world.

Yes. It is a sign of British legacy, why should we carry it further?

Yes. It will speed up work and all the pending jobs can be completed well in time.

No. Employees must be given ample spare time to spend with their family.

- A. Only I and III are strong
- B. Only III is strong
- C. Only I, III and IV are strong
- D. None is strong
- E. None of these

**Answer:** Option B

**Explanation:**

Reducing the number of holidays just because no other country gives so many holidays or it is a feature of a certain system which we have renounced, does not seem convincing. So, neither I nor II holds strong. However, this step would surely help to reduce the backlog of pending cases and dispense with the new cases much more quickly than before. So, III holds strong. Even if the holidays are reduced, only the avoidable or seemingly unnecessary ones shall be cut short and the national holidays shall still remain to enjoy. So, IV also does not hold.

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19. **Statement:** Should class IV children have Board examination?

**Arguments:**

Yes. This will motivate the children to study and get higher marks, and thus more knowledge can be imbibed at a younger age.

No. The children will be forced to study and won't enjoy the process.

Yes. In today's competitive world the children need to be prepared right from the beginning to face such difficult examinations.

No. This will add pressure on tender aged children and leave very little time for them to play.

- A. All are strong
- B. Only I, II and IV are strong
- C. Only II, III and IV are strong
- D. Only I and III are strong
- E. Only I and IV are strong

**Answer:** Option C

**Explanation:**

Young children of class IV ought to be taught the basic fundamentals of subjects in a gradual process via practical examples and practice in a playful manner. They need not be made to study through compulsion and their age is not such as to bear the tension and burden of examinations. So, both II and IV hold strong. However, facing examinations at this stage shall prepare them to tackle the competitions in later life. So, III also holds. However, holding examinations cannot motivate such young and immature students, neither is it a way to make them learn more. So, I does not hold strong.

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20. **Statement:** Should the rule of wearing helmet for both driver and pillion rider while driving a motor bike be enforced strictly?

**Arguments:**

Yes. It is a rule and rules should be followed strictly by all.

No. Each individual knows how to protect his own life and it should be left to his discretion.

No. It does not ensure safety as only the head is protected and rest of the body is not.

Yes. It is a necessity as head, being the most sensitive organ, is protected by the helmet.

- A. None is strong
- B. Only I and III are strong
- C. Only I and IV are strong
- D. Only II and IV are strong
- E. All are strong

**Answer:** Option C

**Explanation:**

Clearly, the rule has been devised for the safety of two-wheeler riders, as majority of two wheeler accidents result in direct fall of the rider, leading to head injury and finally death. And the objective of a rule cannot be fulfilled until it is followed by all and this requires strict enforcement. Thus, both I and IV hold strong, while III does not. Besides, it is the basic duty of the Government to look after the safety of the citizens and it ought not leave it to the discretion of the individuals. So, argument II does not hold strong.

21. **Statement:** Should all the students graduating in any discipline desirous of pursuing post-graduation of the subjects of their choice be allowed to enrol in the post-graduate courses?

**Arguments:**

Yes. The students are the best judge of their capabilities and there should not be restrictions for joining post-graduate courses.

No. The students need to study relevant subjects in graduate courses to enrol in post-graduate courses and the students must fulfil such conditions.

No. There are not enough institutes offering post-graduate courses which can accommodate all the graduates desirous of seeking post-graduate education of their own choice.

- A. None is strong

- B. Only I and II are strong
- C. All are strong
- D. Only I and III are strong
- E. None of these

**Answer:** Option E

**Explanation:**

Only argument II is strong. The students cannot be enrolled in the courses just on the basis of their interests, but their compatibility with the same also matters. So, I does not hold. Besides, lack of institutes is no criteria to deny post-graduate courses to students. So, argument III also does not hold. II provides a genuine reason and thus holds strong.

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22. **Statement:** Should we impart sex education in schools?

**Arguments:**

Yes. All the progressive nations do so.

No. We cannot impart it in co-educational schools.

Yes. It would certainly help in eradicating the existing misunderstanding and make the younger generation physically and mentally healthier.

It will destroy the moral fibre and the highly esteemed value system which we have inherited from our forefathers.

- A. None is strong
- B. Only I, III and IV are strong
- C. Only II, III and IV are strong
- D. Only II and IV are strong
- E. None of these

**Answer:** Option E

**Explanation:**

Only II and III are strong. Clearly, the pursuance of a policy in India cannot be based on the pretext that it is followed in other countries because every country has its own environment and situations. So, argument I is vague. Also, imparting sex education in co-educational schools where boys and girls study together, could spoil the atmosphere there and hinder the studies. So, argument II is strong. However, sex education in schools can help students remove their misconceptions and doubts at a stage, when they would otherwise hesitate to discuss the same with others. Also, sex forms an integral part of the future life of the students and knowledge regarding the same, is nothing degenerative and shameful. So, argument III holds strong, while IV does not.

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23. **Statement:** Should coal engines be replaced by electric engines in trains?

**Arguments:**

Yes. Coal engines cause a lot of pollution.

Yes. Electric engines are good on performance, easy to operate and low on maintenance.

No. India does not produce enough electricity to fulfil its domestic needs also.

- A. All are strong
- B. Only I and II are strong
- C. Only II and III are strong
- D. Only I and III are strong
- E. Only I is strong

**Answer:** Option B

**Explanation:**

Clearly, electric engines shall be smoke-free and thus not cause pollution as the coal engines. They also run at higher speeds and perform better. Thus, both I and II hold strong. Argument III does not provide a convincing reason and hence does not hold strong.

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24. **Statement:** Should all those who are convicted for heinous crimes like murder or rape, beyond all reasonable doubts be given capital punishment or death penalty?

**Arguments:**

No. The death penalty should be given only in very rare and exceptional cases.

Yes. This is the only way to punish such people who take others' lives or indulge in inhuman activities.

Yes. Such severe punishments only will make people refrain from such heinous acts and the society will be safer.

No. Those who are repentant for the crime they committed should be given a chance to improve and lead a normal life.

- A. Only II and IV are strong
- B. All are strong
- C. Only III is strong
- D. Only II and III are strong
- E. Only I, II and III are strong

**Answer:** Option C

**Explanation:**

Clearly, a person committing a heinous crime like murder or rape should be so punished as to set an example for others not to attempt such acts in future. So, argument III holds strong. Argument I is vague while the use of the word 'only' in argument II makes it weak. Also, it cannot be assured whether a criminal is really repentant of his acts or not, he may also exhibit so just to get rid of punishment. So, argument IV also does not hold.

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25. **Statement:** Should all the profit making public sector units be sold to private companies?

**Arguments:**

Yes. This will help the government to augment its resources for implementing the development programmes.

No. The private companies will not be able to run these units effectively.

Yes. There will be a significant improvement in the quality of services.

No. There would not be job security for the employees at all the levels.

- A. Only II and III are strong
- B. All are strong
- C. Only III and IV are strong
- D. Only I, II and III are strong
- E. Only II, III and IV are strong

**Answer:** Option C

**Explanation:**

The government cannot sell off public sector units just to pool up funds for development. Besides, if it does so, these units shall be handed over to private companies which are fully equipped to run these units effectively. So, neither I nor II holds strong. Privatization shall surely ensure better services, but private companies adopt hire and fire policy and they are free to terminate the services of any employee as and when they wish to. Thus, both III and IV hold strong.

26. **Statement:** Should all the youngsters below 21 years of age be disallowed from going to a beer bar?

**Arguments:**

No. It is not correct to prevent matured youngsters above 18 years of age who can vote, from having fun.

Yes. The entry fee to such pubs should also be hiked.

No. There is no such curb in western countries.

Yes. This will help in preventing youngsters from getting into bad company and imbibing bad habits.

- A. Only I is strong
- B. Only I and III are strong
- C. Only III and IV are strong
- D. Only I and IV are strong
- E. None is strong

**Answer:** Option D

**Explanation:**

Clearly, our Constitution considers youngsters above 18 years of age, mature enough to exercise their decisive power in Government by voting. This implies that such individuals can also judge what is good or bad for them. Thus, argument I holds strong. However, at such

places, youngsters may be lead astray by certain indecent guys and swayed from the right path into bad indulgences. So, IV also holds strong. Hiking the entry fees is no way to disallow them, and also the idea of imitating the western countries holds no relevance. So, neither II nor III holds strong.

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27. **Statement:** Should the government ban all forms of protests including strikes and processions?

**Arguments:**

Yes. This is the only way to teach discipline to the employees.

No. Government cannot deprive its citizens of their basic rights.

Yes. This is the only way to ensure maximum productivity without disruption of work.

- A. None is strong
- B. Only I and II are strong
- C. Only II and III are strong
- D. Only I and III are strong
- E. All are strong

**Answer:** Option C

**Explanation:**

Clearly, strike is not a means of indiscipline but only a practice in which the workers exercise their fundamental right to voice their protest against the atrocities of the management. So, argument I is vague while II holds. Also, the option of resorting to strikes often aggravates petty issues and disrupts work for long periods, thus affecting productivity. So, III also holds strong.

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28. **Statement:** Should children be prevented completely from watching television?

**Arguments:**

No. We get vital information regarding education through television.

Yes. It hampers the study of children.

Yes. Young children are misguided by certain programmes featuring sex and violence.

No. This is the only way to educate the masses.

- A. Only I, II and III are strong
- B. Only I is strong
- C. Only I, II and IV are strong
- D. Only I and II are strong
- E. Only I, III and IV are strong

**Answer:** Option B

**Explanation:**

Clearly, television offers various educational programmes which are of great practical value to the students. So, it serves as a means (but it is not the 'only' means) to educate the masses.

Thus, I holds strong while IV does not. Besides, the demerits of watching television, mentioned in II and III, may be done away with by allowing children to watch selected programmes on television, according to a set schedule. So, neither II nor III holds strong.

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29. **Statement:** Should mercy death be legalized, i.e., all those who are suffering from terminal diseases be allowed to end their lives if they so desire?

**Arguments:**

No. Nobody should be allowed to end his/her life at his/her will as this goes against the basic tenets of humanity.

Yes. Patients undergoing terrible suffering and having absolutely no chance of recovery should be liberated from suffering through mercy death.

No. Even mercy death is a sort of killing and killing can never be legalized.

- A. None is strong
- B. Only I and II are strong
- C. Only II and III are strong
- D. Only I and III are strong
- E. All are strong

**Answer:** Option E

**Explanation:**

Clearly, mercy death will serve as a liberation to those to whom living is more difficult and painful. But then, it is an inhuman act and does not appeal. So, both arguments II and III hold strong. Besides, it becomes our moral duty to encourage such people to live their lives to the fullest and support them through the crisis/and not demoralize them by allowing them to die if they wish to. Hence, argument I also holds strong.

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30. **Statement:** Should seniority be the only criterion for the promotion?

**Arguments:**

No. It would be an injustice to those juniors who are more deserving and suitable for higher positions than their senior counterparts.

Yes. Otherwise senior employees do feel humiliated.

Yes. Senior employees are more experienced and must be rewarded for the same.

- A. None is strong
- B. Only I is strong
- C. Only I and III are strong
- D. Only I and II are strong
- E. All are strong

**Answer:** Option B

**Explanation:**



In an organization, what matters most is productivity and to ensure productivity, the organization needs to have effective managers and innovative, devoted and hard-working employees. Thus, the capability of the individual should be the only criterion for promotion. So, only argument I holds strong, while II and III do not.

31. **Statement:** Should admission to all professional courses be made on the basis of past academic performance rather than through entrance tests?

**Arguments:**

Yes. It will be beneficial for those candidates who are unable to bear the expenses of entrance tests.

Yes. Many deserving candidates securing high marks in their qualifying academic examinations do not perform well on such entrance tests.

No. The standard of examinations and assessment conducted by different Boards and universities are not comparable and hence there is a need to conduct entrance tests to calibrate them on a common yardstick.

- A. Only I and II are strong
- B. Only II and III are strong
- C. Only I and III are strong
- D. Only III is strong
- E. All are strong

**Answer:** Option D

**Explanation:**

Clearly, a policy to select deserving candidates cannot be abolished just because of the expenditure it entails. So, argument I does not hold. Also, students who are intelligent enough to secure good marks in academic exams have no reason not to perform well in entrance tests. So, II also does not hold. Further, the students passed out from different universities are assessed on different patterns and hence a common entrance test would put the candidates to uniform test and assessment. So, only III holds strong.

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32. **Statement:** Should there be reservation of jobs in the organizations in the private sector also as in the public sector undertakings in India?

**Arguments:**

Yes. This would give more opportunities of development to the weaker sections of the society and thus help reduce the gap between the affluent and the downtrodden in India.

No. The private sector does not get any government assistance and therefore they should not be saddled with such policies.

No. Nowhere else in the world such a practice is being followed.

No. The management of the private sector undertaking would not agree to such compulsions.

- A. Only I is strong
- B. Only I and II are strong

C. Only I, II and IV are strong

D. Only I and IV are strong

E. All are strong

**Answer:** Option A

**Explanation:**

The reservation of jobs in the private sector too would surely increase opportunities for weaker sections to improve their economic plight. Thus, argument I is strong enough. Also, private sector companies work on a good profit margin and they can and will have to accommodate such a policy if implemented. So, neither II nor IV holds strong. Further, just imitating other countries holds no relevance. So, argument III also does not hold.

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33. **Statement:** Should workers/employees be allowed to participate in the management of factories in India?

**Arguments:**

Yes. It is the present management theory.

No. Many workers are illiterate and so their contributions will not be of any value.

Yes. Employees-owned companies generally have higher productivity.

No. Employee-union ownership drives up salaries and wages.

A. Only I and II are strong

B. None is strong

C. Only II and III are strong

D. All are strong

E. None of these

**Answer:** Option C

**Explanation:**

Argument I in support does not provide a valid reason for the pursuance of the policy. So, it is vague. Argument II provides a valid reason, as literacy is an essential criteria to take proper decisions on policy matters regarding management of factories. Besides, workers, if involved in management, would surely be motivated to work more devotedly, thus enhancing productivity. So, both II and III follow. IV provides a reason too feeble in the light of facts given in II and III. So, IV also does not hold strong.

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34. **Statement:** Should women be given equal opportunity in the matter of employment in every field?

**Arguments:**

Yes. They are equally capable.

No. They have to shoulder household responsibilities.

Yes. They should also go into the outside world.

- A. Only I is strong
- B. Only I and II are strong
- C. Only II and III are strong
- D. Only I and III are strong
- E. All are strong

**Answer:** Option D

**Explanation:**

In present times, women are being imparted education at par with the men and are capable of competing with them in all professions and fields. So, argument I holds. Also, women cannot be confined to the household and kept away from the challenges of the outside world against their will. They too have the right to be self-dependent. Besides, present-day women are well looking to outside jobs together with the household jobs. So, argument III holds while II does not.

35. **Statement:** Should government established higher level Institutes of Technology (IIT's) be privatized?

**Arguments:**

Yes. Privatization will make these institutes financially healthy, competitive and quality conscious.

Yes. Privatization is the key of the new era - can we survive without it?

No. Standard of education of these institutes will fall.

- A. None is strong
- B. All are strong
- C. Only I is strong
- D. Only I and III are strong
- E. Only II and III are strong

**Answer:** Option C

**Explanation:**

Clearly, privatization leads to betterment in a bid to win over the others in the field and earn both good reputation and money. So, argument I holds strong. Besides, privatization cannot be opted for just because it is the present trend. Also, privatization would, in no way, deteriorate the educational standards. So, neither II nor III holds.

36. **Statement:** Should there be only one university throughout India?

**Arguments:**

Yes. This is the only way to bring about uniformity in the educational standards.

No. This is administratively impossible.

Yes. This will make the degrees procured by students, comparable for offering jobs.

- A. None is strong
- B. Only I and II are strong
- C. Only II and III are strong
- D. Only I and III are strong
- E. All are strong

**Answer:** Option C

**Explanation:**

The use of the word 'only' in argument I makes it weak. To bring uniformity in educational standards, we can have many universities all following same curricular and policies under one Board. Also, having one university will make the management of education throughout the country almost impossible. So, argument II holds. Besides, it is the variation in the syllabi and assessment of different universities that makes their degrees incomparable, when the students from these universities come together to compete for a job on a common platform. This problem can be eradicated by implementing this scheme. So, argument III also holds strong.

37. **Statement:** Should India immediately stop digging coal from its mines?

**Arguments:**

Yes. The present stock of coal will not last long if we continue mining at the present rate.

No. We do not have alternate energy source of sufficient quantity.

No. This will put millions of people at a disadvantage and their lives will get adversely affected and also the industry.

- A. Only I and II are strong
- B. Only II and III are strong
- C. Only I and III are strong
- D. All are strong
- E. None is strong

**Answer:** Option B

**Explanation:**

Though the reserves of coal are limited, yet stopping its use till alternate sources of energy have been discovered, is no solution to conserve it. So, I is not strong. It is true that we haven't till date found a renewable source of energy which is available in plenty and can substitute coal. So, II holds strong. Further, stopping coal mining would surely throw the engaged workers out of employment. So, III also holds strong.

38. **Statement:** Should all the indirect taxes in India be combined into a single tax on all commodities?

**Arguments:**

Yes. This will considerably simplify the tax collection mechanism and the cost of collecting tax will also reduce.

Yes. The manufacturers and traders will be benefited by this which in turn will boost tax collection.

No. No other country has adopted such system.

- A. None is strong
- B. Only I and III are strong
- C. Only II is strong
- D. Only II and III are strong
- E. None of these

**Answer:** Option E

**Explanation:**

Only I and II are strong. Clearly, both I and II hold strong, as they provide very convincing reasons, for a single tax system would help get rid of multifarious taxes on a product. Besides, the idea of imitation of other countries in the implementation of a certain policy holds no relevance. So, argument III does not hold strong.

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39. **Statement:** Should there be complete ban on Indian professionals seeking jobs elsewhere after getting their education in India?

**Arguments:**

Yes. This is the only way to sustain present rate of technological development in India.

No. The Indians settled abroad send huge amount of foreign exchange and this constitutes a significant part of foreign exchange reserve.

No. The practical knowledge gained by Indians by working in other countries help India develop its economy.

- A. None is strong
- B. All are strong
- C. Only I and II are strong
- D. Only III is strong
- E. Only II and III are strong

**Answer:** Option A

**Explanation:**

Clearly, none of the arguments provides a substantial reason either for or against the given statements. So, none of the arguments holds strong.

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40. **Statement:** Should there be a total ban on tobacco products and smoking in India?

**Arguments:**

Yes. It is wrong to smoke away millions of money.

No. It will throw thousands of workers in the tobacco industry out of employment.

No. The government will lose huge amount of money as it will not earn by way of taxes on these products.

- A. None is strong
- B. Only I and II are strong
- C. Only II is strong
- D. Only II and III are strong
- E. All are strong

**Answer:** Option D

**Explanation:**

Clearly, smoking needs to be abolished because it is injurious to health and not only to save money. So, argument I is vague. Banning a product would surely render jobless the large number of workers involved in manufacturing it. So, argument II holds strong. Also, tobacco products are a source of big revenue for the government. So, argument III also holds.

41. **Statement:** Should administrative officers be transferred after one or two years?

**Arguments:**

Yes. They get friendly with local people and are manipulated by them.

No. By the time their policies and schemes start taking shape, they have to leave.

No. This will create a lot of administrative hassles and cause a lot of inconvenience to the officers.

- A. Only II is strong
- B. Only I and II are strong
- C. Only II and III are strong
- D. Only I and III are strong
- E. All are strong

**Answer:** Option C

**Explanation:**

Clearly, the acquaintance of administrative officers with the local people poses no harm. So, argument I is vague. However, both II and III hold strong, because making transfers too often would neither give them enough time to settle down comfortably in a new place, nor enable them to formulate and implement their policies in toto. This would also be administratively impossible.

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42. **Statement:** Should the consumption of aerated drinks be banned in India?

**Arguments:**

Yes. This is the only way to reduce the risk of exposing people to some diseases.

No. Each individual should have right to choose what he wants.

No. There is no confirmed evidence that such products have adverse effects on human body.

Yes. It is banned in many other countries also.

- A. Only I is strong
- B. Only I and II are strong
- C. Only III is strong
- D. Only I and IV are strong
- E. All are strong

**Answer:** Option C

**Explanation:**

The use of 'only' in I makes it invalid. Also, it is the duty of the government to save its citizens from intake of any harmful products, even if they like them. So, II does not hold strong. Besides, a product must not be banned unless its harmful effects have been proved. So, III holds strong. Lastly, we cannot blindly follow the decisions taken by other countries. So, IV also does not hold.