

CHAPTER – 15

CAUSE AND EFFECT & ASSERTIONS AND REASONS

Introduction

Cause and Effect

Questions based on cause and effect test the ability of the candidate to determine the relation between two events and examine how they are dependent on each other i.e., which of them is the cause for the other one. The directions for different types of these questions are given below.

Type – I Directions:

Directions for questions: Each of these questions contains a pair of events marked as 'I' and 'II'. You have to read both the events and decide their nature of relationship. You have to assume that the information given in 'I' and 'II' is true and you will not assume anything beyond the given information in deciding the answer.

Mark answer

- (A) if 'I' is the effect and 'II' is its immediate and principal cause.
- (B) if 'I' is the immediate and principal cause and 'II' is its effect.
- (C) if 'I' is an effect but 'II' is not its immediate and principal cause.
- (D) if 'II' is an effect but 'I' is not its immediate and principal cause.
- (E) None of these.

Type – II Directions:

Directions for questions: Below in each question are given two statements (I) and (II). These statements may be either independent causes or may be effects of independent causes. One of these statements may be the effect of the other statement. Read both the statements and decide which of the following answer choices correctly depict the relationship between these two statements.

Mark answer (A) if statement (I) is the cause and statement (II) is its effect.

Mark answer (B) if statement (II) is the cause and statement (I) is its effect.

Mark answer (C) if both the statements (I) and (II) are independent causes.

Mark answer (D) if both the statements (I) and (II) are effects of independent causes.

Mark answer (E) if both the statements are effects of some common cause.

Type – I:

Example (1):

Event (I): Mr. Amitab Bachchan received the best actor award.

Event (II): Mr. Amitab Bachchan is a good actor.

From the directions given for these questions, it is clear that, first one has to find out whether the given events

are related or not. Here, one event talks about award to an actor, and the second statement talks about what kind of an actor that person is. Hence, the events are related events. Now, answer choice (E) is eliminated. The possibility of choice (E) being the answer arises even when the given events are related. That will be discussed ahead. Once it is found out that the events are related, one should check the chronological order in which they occur. Because in a cause and effect relation the cause occurs before the effect.

If event (I) occurs before event (II), it implies that 'I' is the cause and 'II' is its effect. In this case choices (B) and (D) are the possible answers. On the other hand if event (II) occurs before event (I), then choices (A) and (C) prevail.

After identifying the possible answer choices, the task is to identify whether the cause is a principal and immediate one or not. Here, we have to understand the terms 'immediate' and 'principal'.

If a camel cannot live at the poles, it is because the weather conditions there do not suit its anatomy. If non-availability of grass is shown as a cause, it is of course a cause, but it is a trivial one.

Similarly, an object has to be combustible for it to get burnt. Being combustible is a principal cause for a heap of paper to burn but it is not an immediate one. Some one throwing lighted match stick onto the heap would be the immediate cause. For a cause to be an immediate one, the time frame is irrelevant. If no other intermediary cause is required, then it is said to be the immediate one. Increase in vehicular traffic is an immediate cause for widening the roads. But the increase in vehicular traffic does not occur overnight or in a day, still it is an immediate cause.

Choice (A) or (B) can be selected, only if both the conditions, principal and immediate, are satisfied. If any one or both condition(s) is/are not satisfied then one should go for choice (C) or (D).

When it is found that the events are related, but any one of them can be a cause for the other, as it cannot be determined as to which is the cause and which is the effect, choice (E) should be marked as the answer. Observe the following events.

Event (I): Ram threw a stone at Shyam.

Event (II): Ram and Shyam quarrelled with each other.

Solution: Here, event (I) could be the cause for event (II) and vice-versa. The answer for this question is choice (E).

Choice (E)

Type – II:

If the given statements are related and they can be arranged in a chronological order, one should go for choice (A) or choice (B) depending on which of the two causes the other one.

If the two statements are independent of each other, but rather than being the effects of some cause they are basic events, then one should go for choice (C). Choice (C)

Example (2):

Event (I): Indonesia suffered a major earth quake today.

Event (II): The term of the Indonesian prime Minister ends by December.

Solution:

The two statements given above are independent of each other, but they lead to certain major consequences. Hence, they are independent causes i.e., choice (C) is the answer.

Example (3):

Event (I): Many high-rise buildings, bridges and dams collapsed.

Event (II): Farmers claimed heavy losses as lakhs of acres of agricultural land along the bank of river Ganga got immersed.

Solution:

It is clear that statement (I) is an effect of an earth quake and statement (II) is an effect of floods. As these two are effects of independent causes, the answer is choice (D).
Choice (D)

Example (4):

Event (I): Farmers suffered heavy losses as lakhs of acres of agricultural land along the bank of the river Ganga were inundated.

Event (II): Many villagers living along the bank of the river Ganga were left homeless as their houses have been washed away.

Solution:

The given statements represent the effects of a common cause, i.e., floods in the river Ganga. Hence the answer is choice (E).

Assertions and Reasons

Introduction

The questions based on "Reasons and Assertions" are more or less similar to statements and assumptions. Assertion is nothing but a statement of facts, stating something with force. In other words, a statement made with a strong belief or basing on a strong reason is called an assertion. In these kinds of statements, whatever is mentioned in the statement is backed or supported by a strong reason. Hence, the statement is termed as an 'Assertion'. In each question, an 'Assertion' is followed by one or more "Reasons", which form the basis for such an assertion. The exercise is to find out which, out of the stated reasons, would be the basis for the given assertion. The reasons given in the question should be treated independent of each other. One has to find out whether each of them could be a reason for the given assertion, but not a comparative or a combined assessment. Reasons given should be directly related to the assertion.

Format of the question:

Directions: In each of the following questions, an assertion is followed by two reasons RI and RII. Read the assertion carefully and decide which of the given reasons follows.

Mark your answer as

- (A) if only RI is a possible reason.
(B) if only RII is a possible reason.

- (C) if either RI nor RII is a possible reason.
(D) neither RI nor RII is a possible reason.
(E) if both RI and RII are possible reasons.

Examples :

1. Assertion :
Raj's father is admitted to hospital.
RI : Raj's father suddenly collapsed in his office.
RII: Raj's father is 80 years old.

Sol: RI could be one of the possible reasons.
RII is not a possible reason because a person is not get admitted to hospital only because of old age.
Choice (A)

2. Assertion:
Ravi, a dangerous criminal, is in police custody now.
RI : Ravi was injured by the police in yesterday's encounter and was caught finally.
RII Ravi surrendered himself to the police.

Sol: A criminal comes into police custody when he gets caught by the police or when he surrenders himself. Both the given reasons are possible, but not at the same time. If RI is a possible person, then RII is not, and vice versa.
Choice (C)

3. Assertion :
The students of class X were given grace marks in the board exam.
RI : Students did not attempt all the questions.
RII: Some questions in the exam did not come from the prescribed syllabus.

Sol: RI cannot be a possible reason for giving grace marks. Board does not take responsibility when students do not prepare for the exam or do not attempt questions.
RII is a possible reason, because only then will the board be constrained to give grace marks.
Choice (B)

4. Assertion :
Mother scolded the son and warned him not to repeat the mistake.
RI : The son had stolen money.
RII: The son lied to his mother.

Sol: Each of them is a valid reason. Also, both could be reasons at the same time. Hence, both are possible reasons.
Choice (E)

5. Assertion :
The I.C.S.E 10th class result is very poor in ABC High School this year.
RI : The number of students in the 10th class I.C.S.E has increased considerably.
RII: The students in I.C.S.E 10th class belong to different sections of society.

Sol: Neither the number nor the composition of students could be a reason for poor result. Hence, neither of them is a possible reason.
Choice (D)

Exercise – 15

Directions for questions 1 to 5: In each of these questions a pair of events 'I' and 'II' is given. You have to read both the events 'I' and 'II' and decide their nature of relationship. You have to assume that the information given in 'I' and 'II' is true and you should not assume anything beyond the given information in deciding the answer.

Mark answer

- (A) If 'I' is the effect and 'II' is its immediate and principle cause.
- (B) If 'II' is the effect and 'I' is its immediate and principle cause.
- (C) If 'I' is the effect but 'II' is not its immediate and principle cause.
- (D) If 'II' is the effect but 'I' is not its immediate and principle cause.
- (E) None of these

1. Event (I): Mr. X was killed in the floods.
Event (II): It was raining heavily.
2. Event (I): India's national game, Hockey, is now India's shame.
Event (II): India's national hockey team finished 11th among the 12 countries that played in the recent hockey world cup.
3. Event (I): Company X is opening an office in city Y for marketing the company's products.
Event (II): Company X has chalked out an expansion plan, involving raising production capacity at its existing plants.
4. Event (I): Senior students ragged junior students.
Event (II): Senior students were suspended.
5. Event (I): Indian cricket team won the match.
Event (II): The bowlers of the Indian cricket team performed excellently.

Directions for questions 6 to 10: Below in each question are given two events I and II. These events may be either independent causes or may be the effects of independent causes. One of the event may be the effect of the other event. Read both the events and decide which of the following answer choices correctly depict the relationship between these two events.

Mark answer (A): If event (I) is the cause and event (II) is its effect.

Mark answer (B): If event (II) is the cause and event (I) is its effect.

Mark answer (C): If both the events (I) and (II) are independent causes.

Mark answer (D): If both the events (I) and (II) are effects of independent causes.

Mark answer (E): If both the events are effects of some common causes.

6. Event (I): The opposition parties staged a protest at the entrance of the parliament house on September 4.
Event (II): A naval exercise in which India, Australia, Japan, Singapore and the United States participated, started in the Bay of Bengal on September 4. The opposition parties are not in favour of this.

7. Event (I): An earthquake of magnitude 8.2 rocked the islands of Maldives.
Event (II): A devastating Tsunami struck the coastal belt of Maldives.
8. Event (I): A disease called conjunctivitis (also called Madras eye) prevailed in the state of Andhra Pradesh where one in every five people was effected.
Event (II): A large number of people from Madras migrated to Andhra Pradesh.
9. Event (I): The Greenland ice cap is melting so quickly that pieces of ice which are several cubic kilometers in size are breaking off.
Event (II): Greenland is prone to earth quakes.
10. Event (I): The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) announced the launch of the Indian Premier league.
Event (II): The Indian Cricket league which was formed recently (in opposition to the BCCI) was the first to launch a premier league.

Directions for questions 11 to 15: In each question below is given an Assertion followed by two reasons numbered RI and RII. Apply reasons to the assertion and give your answers as follows.

- (A) Only RI and not RII is a possible reason for the assertion.
- (B) Only RII and not RI is a possible reason for the assertion.
- (C) Either RI or RII, but not both, is a possible reason for the assertion.
- (D) Neither RI nor RII is a possible reason for the assertion.
- (E) Both RI and RII are possible reasons for the assertion.

11. Assertion:
Some people in India are indifferent to the existing reservations in the education and the recruitment fields.

RI. Because these people do not fall under reservation category.

RII. Sometimes reservations cause damage to the merit.

12. Assertion:
Every year, "Booker prize" is given by the English government to the best work in English literature.
RI. The English government has enough money with it to spend on such prizes.
RII. The English government is interested in encouraging the authors of these literary works.

13. Assertion:
India and America have increased the number of strategic dialogues between the two countries.
RI. America and India want to improve bilateral relations.
RII. America and India are scheming against Russia.

- 14. Assertion:**
Though the law warns that demanding and giving dowry are both crimes, dowry deaths are increasing in number.

RI. Demanding dowry and giving dowry is a custom in our society.

RII. The law is not a strong enough deterrent to the people who commit this crime.

- 15. Assertion:**
People, these days, are doing a lot of tele-shopping.
RI. People are watching TV a lot.
RII. People, these days, are not finding time to shop in markets.

Directions for questions 16 to 20: In each of these questions an Assertion (A) and a Reason (R) are given. Read the given Assertion (A) and Reason (R) carefully and select an appropriate answer choice:

- (A) If both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
(B) If both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A)
(C) If (A) is true but (R) is false
(D) If (A) is false but (R) is true.
(E) If both (A) and (R) are false.

- 16. Assertion (A):** We feel colder on mountains than on plains.

Reason (R): Temperature decreases with altitude.

- 17. Assertion (A):** Silver is not used to make electric wires.

Reason (R) : Silver is a bad conductor.

- 18. Assertion (A):** Nuclear fusion is used to generate electricity.

Reason (R) : Nuclear reaction is to be controlled for power generation.

- 19. Assertion (A):** 26th January is celebrated as "Republic Day".

Reason (R): The Indian Constitution came into force with effect from 26th Jan, 1950.

- 20. Assertion (A):** Hindi is the second most spoken language in India.

Reason (R) : Hindi is written in Devnagri script.

Key

1. E
2. A
3. C
4. B
5. C

6. B
7. A
8. D
9. A
10. B

11. D
12. B
13. D
14. B
15. B

16. A
17. C
18. D
19. A
20. D