

RBI PHASE 1 RECAP

18th JULY '18

REASONING - STATEMENT AND
ARGUMENTS

STATEMENT AND ARGUMENTS

In these questions, a proposal or statement followed by two or three arguments is given. One has to examine the arguments in the framework of the given proposal so as to determine their strength. The statements given in these questions usually are of interrogative nature.

Most of the questions are built on a “proposal”. A proposal here is nothing but a sequence of action to be taken up.

Types of Arguments:

Strong Argument- An argument is considered to be strong, if it provides a valid & directly related reason either in favour of or against the proposal made.

Weak Argument – A series of personal opinions that are not backed up by facts and examples, and may not be related to the topic.

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Things to be remember:

- You have to choose the strong argument which satisfies the Statement.
- Strong Arguments may contain the universal truth, decisions taken by the Government etc.,
- Weak Arguments may contain simple logic, superfluous (exceeding what is sufficient or necessary) and ambiguous (having or expressing more than one possible meaning.
- But we have to choose the strong argument which satisfies the statement.

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I.1) Direction: Each question below is followed by two arguments numbered (I) and (II). You have to decide which of the argument is a 'strong' argument and which is a 'weak' argument.

Q.1) Statement :

Should the tenure of the president be longer?

Arguments:

(I) No. the president of India is non-executive head. Therefore, there is no need to extend his tenure.

(II) Yes, it will provide an opportunity to president to guide the government to fulfil the long term objectives.

[a] If only argument I is strong

[b] If only argument II is strong

[c] if either I or II is strong

[d] If neither I nor II is strong

[e] If both I and II are strong

Solution (d)

Neither of the arguments is strong enough. The president of India is constitutional head of the state, yet he is an integral part of the parliament which decides policy matters. Therefore, argument I is not strong.

The argument II does not mention any specific reason.

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I.2) Direction: Each question below is followed by two arguments numbered (I) and (II). You have to decide which of the argument is a 'strong' argument and which is a 'weak' argument.

Q.2) Statement :

should there be concentration of foreign investment in only few states?

Arguments:

(I) No. It is against the policy of overall development of country.

(II) Yes. Because a large number of states lack infrastructure to attract foreign investment.

[a] If only argument I is strong

[b] If only argument II is strong

[c] if either I or II is strong

[d] If neither I nor II is strong

[e] If both I and II are strong

Solution (a)

Only argument (I) is strong. We cannot leave the backward region to remain backward.

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I.3) Direction: Each question below is followed by two arguments numbered (I) and (II). You have to decide which of the argument is a 'strong' argument and which is a 'weak' argument.

Q.3) Statement :

Should the salary and perquisites of public sector undertaking employees be made equivalent to those in the private sector?

Arguments:

(I) yes, this will help the public sector undertakings to attract and retain competent work force.

(II) No, public sector undertakings cannot afford to pay salaries to the level of private sectors.

(III) Yes, otherwise the public sector undertaking will not be able to compete with the private sector organizations.

[a] none is strong

[b] only III is strong

[c] only I is strong

[d] only II is strong

[e] only I and III are strong

Solution 3.(e)

Only arguments I and III are strong. It is not mentioned that why public sector undertakings cannot afford to pay salaries to the level of private sector. Therefore, argument II is not strong.

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I.4) Direction: Each question below is followed by two arguments numbered (I) and (II). You have to decide which of the argument is a 'strong' argument and which is a 'weak' argument.

Q.4) Statement :

Should personal tax be abolished in India?

Arguments:

(I) Yes, it will motivate people to earn more

(II) No, individuals must learn to share their wealth with other people.

[a] If only argument I is strong

[b] If only argument II is strong

[c] if either I or II is strong

[d] If neither I nor II is strong

[e] If both I and II are strong

Solution (b)

Fact that the income of people is increasing in India implies that people are encouraged to earn more in spite of personal tax. So, (I) is weak argument but II is strong as it is worthwhile ideal.

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I.5) Direction: Each question below is followed by two arguments numbered (I) and (II). You have to decide which of the argument is a 'strong' argument and which is a 'weak' argument.

Q.5) Statement :

Should open book system be introduced in examinations?

Arguments:

(I) Yes, because it will avoid mass copying.

(II) No, because then all students will get 100% marks.

[a] If only argument I is strong

[b] If only argument II is strong

[c] if either I or II is strong

[d] If neither I nor II is strong

[e] If both I and II are strong

Solution (c)

Neither argument I nor II is strong because open book system is itself a mass copying and all the students cannot get 100% marks.

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I.6) Direction: Each question below is followed by two arguments numbered (I) and (II). You have to decide which of the argument is a 'strong' argument and which is a 'weak' argument.

Q.6) Statement :

Should all those who have come in contact with the patients of infectious respiratory diseases be quarantined in their houses?

Arguments:

(I)) No, nobody should be quarantined unless they are tested and found to be infected by the virus causing the disease.

(II)) Yes, this is the only way to control the spread of the dreaded disease.

[a] If only argument I is strong

[b] If only argument II is strong

[c] if either I or II is strong

[d] If neither I nor II is strong

[e] If both I and II are strong

Solution (a)

Argument (I) is strong because nobody should be quarantined unless they are tested and found to be infected by the virus causing the disease.

Argument II is not strong because quarantine in home is not the only way to control the spread of the dreaded disease.

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I.7) Direction: Each question below is followed by three arguments numbered (I) and (II) and (III). You have to decide which of the argument is a 'strong' argument and which is a 'weak' argument.

Q.7) Statement :

Should there be a cap on drawing groundwater for irrigation purpose in India?

Arguments:

(I) No, irrigation is of the prime importance for food production in India and it is heavily dependent on groundwater in many parts in India.

(II) Yes, water tables have gone down to alarmingly low levels in some parts of the country where irrigation is primarily dependent on groundwater, which may lead to serious environmental consequences.

(III) Yes, India just cannot afford to draw groundwater any further as the international agencies have cautioned India against it.

[a] Only [I] and [II] are strong.

[b] only [II] and [III] are strong

[c] only [I] and [III] are strong

[d] all [I], [II] and [III] are strong.

[e] none of these

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Solution 7 (a)

Argument [III] is not strong. India should rely on its own findings and conclusions. It is true that the level of water table should be maintained for future use. But it is equally true that food production proper irrigation is required. Therefore, only arguments (I) and (II) are strong.

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I.8) Direction: Each question below is followed by three arguments numbered (I) and (II) and (III). You have to decide which of the argument is a 'strong' argument and which is a 'weak' argument.

Q.8) Statement:

Should there be complete ban on setting up of thermal power plants in India?

Arguments:

(I) Yes, this is the only way to arrest further addition to environmental pollution.

(II) no, there is a huge shortage of electricity in most parts of the country and hence generation of electricity needs to be augmented.

(III) No, many developed countries continue to set up thermal power plants in their countries.

[a] none is strong

[b] only (I) is strong

[c] only (II) is strong

[d] only (III) is strong

[e] only either (I) or (II) is strong

Solution (c)

Only argument (II) is strong. The use of term 'only' in the argument (I) makes it invalid. Argument (III) is based on an example. we know that citing example is bad argumentation.

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Q.9) Statement :

Should there be a restriction on the construction of high rise buildings in big cities in India?

Arguments:

(I) No, big cities in India do not have adequate open land plots to accommodate the growing population.

(II) Yes, only the builders and developers benefit from the construction of high rise buildings.

(III) Yes, the government should first provide adequate infrastructure facilities to existing buildings before allowing the construction of new high rise buildings.

[a] only (II) is strong.

[b] only (III) is strong

[c] only (I) and (III) are strong

[d] only (I) is strong

[e] none of these

Solution (d)

Only argument (I) is strong .in order to provide accommodation to vast population high rise buildings should be constructed wherever there are favourable conditions.

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I.10) Direction: Each question below is followed by three arguments numbered (I) and (II) and (II). You have to decide which of the argument is a 'strong' argument and which is a 'weak' argument.

Q.10) Statement :

Should road repair work in big cities be carried out only late at night?

Arguments:

(I) No, this way the work will never get completed.

(II) No, there will be unnecessary use of electricity.

(III) Yes, the commuters will face lot of problems due to repair work during the day.

[a] none is strong

[b] only [I] is strong

[c] only [III] is strong

[d] only [II] and [III] are strong

[e] only [I] and [II] are strong.

Solution (c)

Only (III) is strong as day time road repair work create lot of problems.

Argument (I) is not strong as at night also, work can be done efficiently.

Argument (II) is also not strong.