

4

Statement and Conclusions

Conclusions are inferences that can be drawn on the basis of the information contained in a paragraph/statement. A conclusion in other words is also an inference that follows the given information. Drawing conclusions is something we all do regularly. The main difference between a conclusion which we saw in the last chapter and an assumption is that while an assumption precedes the information, a conclusion follows it.

The following solved examples will help you better understand conclusions:

Directions: In each of the following questions, a statement is given followed by two conclusions. Give answer

- (a) If only conclusion I follows.
- (b) If only conclusion II follows.
- (c) If both conclusions I and II follow.
- (d) If neither I nor II follows.

Example 1

Statement

Ahmedabad has a lower population and hence is a safer place to live.

Conclusions

- I. A city which has less population is a better place to live.
- II. Ahmedabad has lower number of crimes than Bombay.

Solution

Both the conclusions do not follow. The first conclusion statement is in fact an assumption on which the argument statement is based. It is not a conclusion which can be derived from the statement. Similarly, we have no information about crime rates in Bombay in the statement and hence conclusion II also does not follow. Hence, option (d) is correct.

Example 2

Statement

All students of my class have a bright chance in their examination.

Conclusions

- I. I teach them the whole syllabus thoroughly.
- II. All the students are intelligent.

Solution

A teacher can claim that his students have a bright chance in the examination only if he teaches the syllabus thoroughly. However this is an assumption that must be valid for the statement to be made (and is not a conclusion). Hence conclusion I is valid. Conclusion II is also invalid because the 'students' who are being referred to are not defined clearly. Hence, option (d) is correct.

Example 3

Statement

Anyone who manages an engineering organisation like Tata Motors can only be successful if he has the knowledge of the professional work that is carried on in the organisation.

Conclusions

- I. If you want to run any company, it is essential that you should know the professional work associated with it.
- II. In order to manage an engineering organisation like Tata Motors, it is essential to have an engineering education background.

Solution

The statement particularly talks about engineering organisations like Tata Motors. The first conclusion is generalising the statement and is hence not valid as a conclusion. The second conclusion follows. Hence option (b) is correct.

Example 4

Statement

According to Baba Ramdev "Values, integrity and peace of mind are essential for a beautiful life."

Conclusions

- I. Baba Ramdev believes that each of values, integrity and peace of mind are essential for a beautiful life.
- II. Baba Ramdev believes that materialistic persons can not have a beautiful life.

Solution

Conclusion I follows since that is what is meant by the statement. Materialism is generally anti values and integrity and hence we can draw the second conclusion. Hence option (c) is correct.

Example 5

Statement

India won the second test match against Pakistan by one innings and two hundred and three runs. The greatest contribution was from the bowlers.

Conclusions

- I. Most of the Indian players are bowlers.
- II. It was India's biggest win against Pakistan.

Solution

Both conclusions are invalid. Hence, option (d) is correct.

EXERCISE

Directions for Questions 1 to 16: In the following questions there is a statement followed by two conclusions. You have to choose:

- (a) If only conclusion I follows.
- (b) If only conclusion II follows.
- (c) If conclusions I and II both follow.
- (d) If neither I nor II follows.

1. **Statement** A degree in law is one of the most wanted degrees by youth in India.

- Conclusions** I. A degree in law guarantees a good profession.
II. A degree in law is the first choice for youth in India.

2. **Statement** Protinex is beneficial for a muscular body.

- Conclusions** I. All athletes take Protinex.
II. We should take Protinex for muscular body.

3. **Statement** Most students of the LU BMS program are bright.

- Conclusions** I. Many companies visit the LU BMS program for campus placements.
II. Some of the students of LU BMS are not bright.

4. **Statement** India is the largest exporter of Lichi.

- Conclusions** I. India only exports Lichi.
II. China and Japan are the most important customers of Lichi from India.

5. **Statement** SRK is a famous filmstar. SRK earns handsome amounts every year through advertisements of products he endorses.

- Conclusions** I. All famous filmstars earn handsome amount through advertisements.
II. SRK, being famous, endorses only famous brands.

6. **Statement** Reputed management institutes focus on both quality and advertisement.

- Conclusions** I. There are only two important factors for a reputed management institute: quality and advertising.
II. Small management institutes focus on only one of quality and advertising.

7. **Statement** The Australian Cricket team scored 300 runs out of which Andrew Symonds scored 151 runs.

- Conclusions** I. Andrew Symonds was the highest run scorer of the match.
II. Symonds scored 66 runs in singles only.
8. **Statement** Due to the onset of monsoon there is a sharp hike in the price of alphonso mangoes.
- Conclusions** I. Alphonso mangoes are in demand at any price.
II. The onset of monsoons affects the market for alphonso mangoes.
9. **Statement** What is an RDX explosive? From the outside it looks like a simple harmless object, but its real contents are so deadly that they are sufficient to blast off an entire compartment of a train or even a plane.
- Conclusions** I. The RDX explosive can cause massive destruction by killing a number of persons with a single explosion.
II. The RDX explosive is only used to blast planes/trains as it is difficult to recognise in such settings.
10. **Statement** Don't park here. If you violate this no-parking sign, a penalty of Rs 5000 will be charged.
- Conclusions** I. The same penalty is charged for every wrong parking offence.
II. This warning is written outside all non-parking zones.
11. **Statement** Whenever there is a match between India and Pakistan, Mr. Sahai takes leave from his office. Mr. Sahai is in office today.
- Conclusions** I. Today there is no match between India and Pakistan.
II. Mr. Sharma always goes to his office except on India–Pakistan match days.
12. **Statement** All the male members of my family are either software engineers or MBAs.
- Conclusions** I. Mrs. Meena is a member of my family. She is either a software engineer or an MBA.
II. Mr. Prakash is a member of my family. He is either a software engineer or an MBA.
13. **Statement** All politicians are honest. Radha Devi is an honest lady.
- Conclusions** I. She is a politician.
II. She is not interested in politics.
14. **Statement** If the temperature remains constant the wind speeds will be below 100 kmph. Wind speeds were above 100 kmph.
- Conclusions** I. Temperature was not constant.
II. Temperature was fluctuating.
15. **Statement** Without abundant rains, there will be a decline in the water level beneath the earth. This year, the rains were deficient.

- Conclusions** I. The water level must have declined.
II. Millions of people were in trouble because of shortage of water.

16. **Statement** Any student who is caught red-handed using unfair means discredits his parents and teachers.

- Conclusions** I. Such students try to show that their teachers don't teach properly in the class.
II. Stringent actions must be taken against such students.

Directions for Questions 17 to 20: Choose the correct conclusion for the given statement/s.

17. **Statement** Laughter is the best medicine.

- Conclusions** (a) All medicines have Benzene enzymes.
(b) Laughter is good for health.
(c) All medicines that make you laugh are good.
(d) Stand up comedy shows on television are a good source of laughter.

18. **Statement** 1. Private companies employees work for five working days with 9 working hours every day.
2. IOC's employees work for 6 working days a week and 8 working hours a day.

- Conclusions** (a) IOC's employees are better than private companies employees.
(b) IOC's employees work more than Private companies employees.
(c) Private companies employees work more than IOC's employees.
(d) IOC's employees are more efficient than that of private companies.

19. **Statement** 1. All athletes in the Asian athletics teams are talented.
2. All Indian athletes are now in the Asian athletics team.

- Conclusions** (a) Some Indian athletes are talented.
(b) All Indian athletes are talented.
(c) India does not have any athletics team.
(d) India has more cricketers than athletes.

20. **Statement** 1. Next year, salary of all people working in the Bata Hindicom will increase by Rs 1 lac per year.
2. The current income difference between two employees of Bata Hindicom, Arun and Subhash is Rs 2 lacs.

- Conclusions** (a) Arun's salary will be higher after the increment in salary.
(b) Subhash's salary will be higher than Arun's from the next year.
(c) The difference between Arun and Subhash's salary will remain constant.
(d) None conclusion follows.

Directions for Questions 21 to 25: In the following questions there are given some statements followed by conclusions that can be drawn from them. Choose the answer for each question independently.

21. Bombay is more expensive than Delhi. Delhi is more expensive than Calcutta. Bombay is more expensive than Calcutta.

- (a) true (b) probably true
(c) false (d) can't say

22. Basket ball players are generally tall. Jeevan is a basketball player. So Jeevan is tall.

- (a) false (b) probably false
(c) true (d) can't say

23. **Statement** 1. Some actors are dancers.
2. All those, who are dancers, are paid well.

Conclusions Some actors are paid well.

- (a) true (b) probably true
(c) false (d) can't say

24. **Statement** Teachers punish students when they do not complete their homework. Ravi (a teacher) punished Soni in school today.

Conclusions Soni did not do her homework.

- (a) definitely true
(b) definitely false
(c) can't say
(d) conclusion is irrelevant

25. **Statement** Smart managers are those who hire smart employees.

Conclusions To be a smart manager, I just have to hire smart employees.

- (a) true
(b) false
(c) either probably true or probably false
(d) can't say

Answer Key

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|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1. (d) | 2. (b) | 3. (b) | 4. (d) |
| 5. (d) | 6. (d) | 7. (d) | 8. (b) |
| 9. (a) | 10. (d) | 11. (a) | 12. (b) |

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|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 13. (d) | 14. (c) | 15. (d) | 16. (b) |
| 17. (b) | 18. (b) | 19. (b) | 20. (c) |
| 21. (a) | 22. (d) | 23. (a) | 24. (c) |
| 25. (d) | | | |
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Solutions

1. The first conclusion is not necessarily true. Similarly we cannot comment definitely about the first choice of youth. Hence, option (d) is correct as neither conclusion follows.
2. The second conclusion is what is hinted at by the statement. Hence, option (b) is correct.
3. Conclusion II follows. Hence, option (b) is correct.
4. Neither conclusion can be drawn from the statement. Hence, option (d) is correct.
5. Neither conclusion can be drawn from the statement. Hence, option (d) is correct.
6. We cannot say that there are only 2 important factors for reputed management institutes as there could be more factors present too. Similarly, we cannot draw any conclusion about small management institutes. Thus, neither conclusion can be drawn from the statement. Hence, option (d) is correct.
7. Neither conclusion can be drawn. Hence, option (d) is correct.
8. Conclusion I is irrelevant to the argument while conclusion II follows. Hence, option (b) is correct.
9. Only the first conclusion can be drawn. It is clear from the statement that the RDX explosive can cause massive destruction and can kill a number of persons with one explosion. The second conclusion cannot be drawn since we have no indication to conclude that RDX is used only to blast planes or trains. Hence, option (a) is correct.
10. Neither conclusion is valid. Hence, option (d) is correct.
11. Conclusion I follows while the second one does not. Hence, option (a) is correct.
12. Conclusion II can be drawn. Hence, option (b) is correct.
13. Just because all politicians are honest and Radha Devi is also honest does not mean that Radha Devi is a politician—she might not be a politician and still be honest. Conclusion I would have followed if it had been mentioned that only politicians are honest. Similarly, we cannot draw any conclusion about her interest in politics. Hence, option (d) is correct.
14. Both the conclusions are correct. Hence, option (c) is correct.
15. We cannot conclude either conclusion I or conclusion II since we cannot comment on the decline of water level we do not know whether water level declines immediately if the rains are deficient. Thus just because the rains were deficient in this year we cannot conclude that the water level must have already fallen—for all you know it could fall later. Similarly, conclusion II is not valid because we do not know anything about the trouble-deficient rain causes to millions of people. Hence, option (d) is correct.

16. Conclusion II follows while the first one does not—we cannot be certain that such students are trying to show that their teachers do not teach properly. Hence, option (b) is correct.
17. A medicine is something that is beneficial for health. Hence, we can conclude that conclusion (b) follows from the statement. Options (a), (c) and (d) are irrelevant conclusions.
18. Options (a) and (d) do not follow as we do not know anything about who is better. From the two statements it is easy to conclude that IOC's employees work more than Private company employees. Hence, option (b) is correct.
19. Obviously conclusion (b) follows.
20. Obviously conclusion (c) is correct. We cannot say anything about whose salary is higher.
21. Clearly the conclusion holds true. Hence, option (a) is correct.
22. Clearly we cannot claim that every basket ball player is tall. However, we cannot also say for sure that Jeevan is not tall. Hence, option (d) is correct.
23. Definitely true. Option (a) is correct.
24. From the given statement it is not clear as to why Ravi punished Soni. While her not doing her homework could have been a reason it could equally well not have been the reason too. Hence, we cannot say anything about this. Option (c) is correct.
25. We cannot say for sure whether this conclusion is true or false. It might be true and at the same time might be false if there are more things that are needed to be done for being a smart manager. Hence, option (d) is correct.