

# Statement & Arguments

In this chapter, we are going to study arguments. In fact, this is the study what we call the basics of all logic. Do you know what do we do in logic? In logic, we advocate certain point of view with the help of some evidences and certain assumptions and that is called argumentation. This is a fact that almost all segments of analytical reasoning are somehow associated with argumentation and this is the reason why study of argumentation is so important for the examinees preparing for various competitive examinations.

## Concept of Argument

A sequence of two or more sentences (or statements)/phrases/clauses that includes a conclusion (or claims), is called an argument. This conclusion of the argument is based on one or more than one statement and these statements may be called premises (propositions). Apart from this, arguments may also have some hidden premises, which may be called assumptions. Let us see the following example:

### Example:

Mr. Sharma bought a large quantity of sweets, he must have celebrated some occasion.

**Explanation:** The foregoing example has two parts:

**Part I:** “Mr. Sharma bought a large quantity of sweets.”

**Part II:** “He must have celebrated some occasion.”

Here, ‘Part II’ is the conclusion part of the given argument. How has this conclusion (part II) been arrived at? In fact, this conclusion has come out with the help of supporting evidence or premise that is part I of the argument. Did you notice that in this argument part I and part II (Premise and conclusion) are connected by a hidden premise which is not explicitly stated. That hidden premise is “A Large quantity of sweets is bought only on occasions” and this premise may be called an assumption. Hence, in reality the given argument has three parts.

**Part I: (Premise)** Mr. Sharma bought a large quantity of sweets.

**Part II: (Conclusion)** He must have celebrated some occasion.

**Part III: (Assumption or hidden premise)** a Large quantity of sweets is bought only on occasions.

Point to be noted is that part III is an assumption (a hidden premise) that connects part I (premise) and part II (conclusion) and hence, it is a missing link between part I and part II of the given argument.

No doubt that above mentioned example brings to us the basic characteristics of argumentation but it also leaves some questions before us like:

- (i) Is this assumption or hidden premise always present in an argument?

- (ii) Is the number of premise only one is an argument?

Our answer for both the questions will be a big ‘No’. Why so? Let us see the explanations for both the questions given below:

- (i) **Explanation for question:** Just consider an argument given as “Mr. Sharma bought a large quantity of sweets. A large quantity of sweets is bought on occasions only. Hence, he must have celebrated an occasion”.

Here, we see that this argument has no assumption (hidden premise) because the premise or supporting evidence (Mr. Sharma bought a large quantity of sweets) and conclusion (Hence, he must have celebrated an occasion) are connected by an explicit statement (A large quantity of sweets is bought on occasions only). Remember, an assumption is a hidden premise. It does mean assumption is a missing link in the chain of logic. Therefore, if an argument is complete in itself and does not have any missing link, then it will not have any assumption. In the given argument, the explicit statement (A large quantity of sweets is bought on occasions only) connects premise or supporting evidence and conclusion to make the argument assumptionless.

- (ii) **Explanation for question:** Just consider the argument given as “Vandana is tall. She is slim and has beautiful eyes. She has long hair and charming face as well. So, Vandana is a beautiful girl.”

Here,

1st premise: Vandana is tall.

2nd premise: She is slim and has beautiful eyes.

3rd premise: She has long hair and charming face as well.

Conclusion: So, Vandana is a beautiful girl.

This proves that an argument can have more than one premises. Further this explanation is also a reply for question(i) as the given argument has no missing link. This argument is complete in itself and hence, it is free of hidden premise or assumption.

**Ways of Argumentation:** So far, you must have understood the basic concept of argumentation and come to the conclusion that an argument is usually made to make strong a particular point of view in order to convince someone about something.

- (i) **Argument based on Analogy:** Analogy based arguments are often used to make strong a particular point of view. In fact analogy is an inference drawn out of a resemblance between particular things, occasion or events (that are known) to a further (unknown) resemblance. For example, if we find a fat-woman eating very much and meet in another woman who is also fat then, by analogy, we expect that

another fat woman would also be eating very much. We can say it in another way that if  $x, y, z, q$  are any entities and  $u, v, w$  are any attributes then the analogical argument may be represented in the following form :

$x, y, z, q$  all have the attributes ' $u$  and  $v$ '

$x, y, z$  have the attribute ' $w$ '

$\therefore q$  probably has the attribute ' $w$ '

**EXAMPLE** 1. Sachin scored a century in the 1st test against Australia and so did Dhoni; Sachin scored more than 150 runs in the 2nd test against Australia and so did Dhoni; Sachin has scored a double century in the 3rd test against Australia. So, Dhoni will also hit a double century in this 3rd test match against Australia.

**EXAMPLE** 2. Australia and England have both lost to India in football and hockey. So, India should defeat both the countries in cricket.

**Findings:** In Example 1, Sachin and Dhoni performed very well in the 1st two matches against Australia. In fact, it seems that Dhoni did the same thing what Sachin did in the 1st and 2nd test. As Sachin has played a great inning scoring a double century in the 3rd test match, hence on the basis of similar situation the conclusion has been made that Dhoni will also make a double century. But we also know that performing good or bad is a matter of chance. It is also a matter of chance that two player (Sachin and Dhoni) performed equally good in the last two test matches. Therefore, we cannot say definitely that Dhoni will make a double century because Sachin has done so. In fact, we can say that he may or may not hit a double century. It can also be said that future performance can not be predicted on the basis of past performances. Thus, it is clear that this analogical argument does not seem strong. Similarly, in case of example (2) we can say that India should defeat Australia and England in the game of cricket only because India has defeated both the countries in two different games (Football and Hockey). Hence, the argument given in example (2) also seems weak argument.

**Final comment:** Analogy based arguments are weak arguments.

(ii) **Argument based on cause:** Such arguments relate a cause with a result. Let us see the examples given below:

**EXAMPLE** 1. India will win the world cup 2011 because it is the most balanced one day team in the world in present day cricket.

**EXAMPLE** 2. He came back home late night. He must have gone to watch a movie.

**Findings:** We see in the foregoing examples that effects have been related with causes. In example (1), the cause (the most balanced one day team) well supports the effect (India will win the world cup) and hence, it is a good argument. But in Example (2) it is argued that since the effect (coming home late night) has taken place, the cause (watching movie) must have occurred. But point to be noted that effect may occur (he may come home late night) because of the other reason as well. Hence, the argument given in the Example (2) is not a good argument or it may be called a weak argument.

**Final Comment:** Arguments based on causes may be strong or weak or fallacious.

(iii) **Argument based on example:** Sometimes an argument is given by citing some example/examples as premise/premises. Let us see the following examples that will illustrate the concept:

**EXAMPLE** 1. We should use  $X$  brand of cold cream because  $X$  brand is used by 'Madhuri Dixit' the famous bollywood actress.

**EXAMPLE** 2. We must like Roses because Chacha Nehru loved Roses.

**Findings:** In example (1) we have arrived at the conclusion (we should use  $X$  brand of cold cream) by using the premise as example ( $X$  brand is used by Madhuri Dixit). In example (2) the conclusion (we must like roses) has come out by using the premise as example (because Chacha Nehru loved it). Here, we can say in case of Example-1 that using certain brand by a particular actress, does not mean that  $X$  brand will be liked by all people as likes and dislikes are the personal choices. In example (2), the case is also the same. Everyone cannot like the roses only because Chacha Nehru loved roses.

**Final comment:** Example based arguments are either weak or fallacious.

**Note:** In Example-1 and 2, conclusion part is the start of the arguments. Sometimes you can also see that conclusion is given in the middle. It does mean that conclusion part is not always in the last. But it depends on the style of writing of different writers/authors.

(iv) **Argument based on blind advocacy:** Such argument is like a salesman's argument who argues only for the purpose of selling a particular product. He speaks of the advantages and the benefits of his product. Hence, a salesman argument is one where a conclusion comes out because of the positive points and the benefits that it leads to. Such types of arguments are very common in day to day life.

**EXAMPLE** 1. Exercise is good for health and students need good health to put hard labour in their studies. This is the reason why every educational institution must have a gym.

**EXAMPLE** 2. There should be a ban on strikes as they disrupt the normal life of the common people.

**Findings:** In example-1, the conclusion is that every educational institution must have a gym because exercise is good for health and students need good health. No doubt the good health ensures good mind but it is not practically feasible for every educational institution to have a gym. Hence, Example-1 will be a weak argument. In example-2, ban on strikes is being demanded and this demand is reasonable as argument has negative feature of strike. Hence, example-2 is a strong argument.

**Final comment:** Such arguments can be both weak or strong.

(v) **Argument based on chronology:** Very often we see that a conclusion is drawn only on the basis of chronological order of some events. Let us see the examples given below:

**EXAMPLE** 1. Computer was invented later than television. Therefore, television has a technology inferior to that of a computer.

**EXAMPLE** 2. Song 'B' was released two months earlier than song 'C'. So the former could not be the copy of the latter.

**Findings:** In example-1, it is assumed that a technologically inferior object always comes before the superior objects. This may be true most of the time but this is not true in 100% cases. Hence, the conclusion given in example 1 is questionable making the given argument a weak one. In 2nd case, it is the possibility that song 'C' was recorded earlier although released later than the song 'B'. Hence, in such a situation the possibility of copying can not be denied and this makes argument given in Example-2 a weak argument.

**Final comment:** This type of arguments are usually weak and unconvincing.

By now, all the standard ways of argumentation have been discussed in detail. We will now take a look at the key words so that you could easily take out the conclusion part from the given argument. The key words are given below:

<b>So,</b>	<b>Hence,</b>
<b>Therefore,</b>	<b>Consequently</b>
<b>Thus,</b>	

Apart from above given key words, the conclusion part can also be identified by the certain phrases given below:

**As a result**  
**It can be inferred that**  
**Which means that**  
**Which suggests that**  
**Which proves that**  
**Which shows that**  
**It follows that**

If you find one of these key words/phrases before any sentence then take that sentence as your conclusion. If the key words/phrases are absent, then apply your common sense and take out the sentences that can follow one of these key words/phrases and that sentence will be your conclusion.

After having concept of argument we can easily move on to the problems of reasoning which are asked in various exams wherein examinee is required to evaluate the forcefulness of the arguments. On the basis of a statement, arguments are given in the questions and the candidate is required to find out:-

- (a) Which argument is strong.
- (b) Which argument is weak.

We know that "strong" arguments are those which are both important and directly related to the question. "Weak" arguments are those which are of minor importance and also may not be directly related to the question or may be related to a trivial aspect of the question. To find out if a given argument is strong or not we will move according to the solution steps given below:

#### Solution steps

- Step I:** Do the preliminary screening of the given arguments.
- Step II:** Find out if the given arguments are really follow or not.

**Step III:** Find out if the given arguments are really desirable (in case of positive argument) / harmful (in case of negative arguments)

**Step IV:** Find out if the argument and suggested course of action are properly related.

Now, we will discuss all the steps one by one.

#### Step I: Preliminary screening of the given arguments

At the very 1st level we test how weak an argument is. If at the very 1st level we find the argument weak, then there is no need to go for further steps. In many cases the weak arguments are very clearly visible and we do not need to think much before arriving at the conclusion that they are weak. Such type of arguments come under the following category:

- (i) **Doubtful/Ambiguous arguments:** Such type of arguments leave a confused and doubtful impression on our mind. In fact, these arguments do not make it clear that how they are related to a course of action. They also do not give the clear idea about what exactly the author or writer wants to say.

#### EXAMPLE 1

**Statement:** One should enjoy every second of one's life because everyone has to die one day.

**Argument:** No, because one must think about fulfilling one's ambition in life and should not think about death as one's goal.

**Comment:** Here, statement and argument are not properly related. Statement suggests to enjoy every second of life. Enjoying life does not mean that one should not follow the path of fulfilling one's ambition. In fact a person can enjoy his/her life in the course of fulfilling his/her ambition. Suppose ambition of a person is to be a cricketer and to achieve something extraordinary in this field. It does mean he will enjoy the every moment he spends in the process of being a cricketer and also the moments he spends after being an established cricketer. In fact, we can say without enjoying work of our own choice, we can not fulfill our ambition. Further the given statement does not give any indication that one should see death as one's goal. Hence, in this case statement and argument leave doubtful and confusing impression on our mind making the given argument very weak.

- (ii) **Useless/superfluous arguments:** Such arguments do not do a deep analysis of the given statement. They simply 'glance' at the statement and put them under the category of weak arguments.

#### EXAMPLE 2

**Statement:** Cricket must be banned in India.

**Argument:** Yes, it has no use.

**Comment:** Here, the argument does not go deep down into the matter making itself a weak argument.

- (iii) **Arguments in the form of question:** Such arguments are very weak in nature as the arguments given in the question form are without any substance and have no technique of argumentation. In fact, in such arguments arguers throw back the question.

**EXAMPLE 3**

**Statement:** Should import be banned in India?

**Argument:** Yes, why not?

**Comment:** Here, statement is given in the form of question and arguer throws back the question without giving any convincing statement in the form of argument. Hence, the given argument is very weak.

- (iv) **Very simple arguments:** Such arguments are very simple in nature. They are given in small sentences but do not get any support by facts or established notions. Further, such arguments are not ambiguous and they are properly related with the statement but because of their simple nature they come under the category of weak arguments.

**EXAMPLE 4**

**Statement:** Enjoying life should be the principle of our life.

**Argument:** No this thinking hardly enable us to do anything.

**Comment:** Here, the given argument is only a simple assertion which contains no substance. Here, it will come under the category of weak arguments.

**Step II: Finding out if the given arguments really follow or not.**

If the arguments are rejected at the preliminary step then we do not need to test them further. But, if the preliminary step has been cleared, then we move on to step II.

**Case I: When the result follows**

At the step II, the result will follow in the cases given below:

- (i) **Established fact:** An established fact does mean that it must be universally acknowledged/scientifically established. A result will follow a course of action if it is an established fact that this particular result follows this particular course of action.

**EXAMPLE 1.**

**Statement:** Should drinking be avoided?

**Argument:** Yes, it contributes to bad health.

**EXAMPLE 2.**

**Statement:** Should Tendulkar be selected in the team even after 10 years from now?

**Argument:** Yes, Tendulkar is one of the greatest cricketers in the world.

**EXAMPLE 3.**

**Statement:** Married people should live separate from their parents.

**Argument:** Yes, living separate will give married people a greater freedom.

**EXAMPLE 4.**

**Statement:** Should smoking be promoted?

**Argument:** No, smoking is injurious to health.

**Comment:** In the foregoing examples, all the given arguments are expected to follow as they all are established facts. No doubt it is an established fact that drinking badly affects our health (Argument in Example 1)

Further, no one can deny the fact that through his great performances Tendulkar has been recognised by the world cricket as one of the greatest cricketers in the world (Argument: Example 2) and it is now an established fact.

Similarly, living separate from parents ensures greater freedom for married people (Argument: Example 3) and it is an established fact. Its also a truth or established fact that smoking is injurious to health (Argument: Example 4). Therefore, all the arguments presented can be said to pass the test of step II.

**NOTE :** Point to be noted that arguments given under Example 1, Example 2, Example 3 & Example 4 have passed the step II only so far but it has not yet been determined whether these arguments are forceful or not (strong or not). They will be called strong only when they will pass step III and step IV.

- (ii) **Prediction on the basis of experience:** Such arguments are very near to established facts type of arguments. But, in reality, they are not established facts as they are not yet so universally acknowledged as to be treated as established fact. In fact, such arguments are given on the basis of experiences. Just see the following example:

**EXAMPLE 5.**

**Statement:** Captains should not have given their say in selection of national sports teams.

**Argument:** Yes, it discourages favouritism towards some particular players.

**Comment:** The result or consequences given in the foregoing example will be a probable result as our experiences suggest this. Hence, this will go for further test.

- (iii) **Logically given arguments:** Such arguments are given on the basis of logic. It does mean that the emphasis here is on the logic and not on the established fact or experience. If we see such type of arguments we can easily predict that such cases have occurred in practice. But when we think over such situations with proper logic and reasoning then we arrive at the conclusion that such an argument may be true. Let us see the example given below:

**EXAMPLE 6.**

**Statement:** World leader must try for complete disarmament.

**Argument:** Yes, complete disarmament will make a war free world.

**Comment:** The foregoing example gives an argument that is logically convincing: The argument is probable as the logic behind it is that if there will be armless world then there will be a war free world. Hence, the argument passes the step II test and will go for further test.

- (iv) **Notions of truth:** Such arguments are unquestionable truth because of the simple reason of universal acceptance. It does mean that they are the ideas or thoughts already acknowledged by society. This is the reason why they are very similar to established facts in many ways. The following example illustrates this point:

**EXAMPLE 7.**

**Statement:** Should marriages between blood relatives be promoted?



**Argument:** No, it will promote incest which is a sin.

**Comment:** No, doubt, the given argument seems strong as it is based on prevailing notion of truth that our society does not allow marriages between blood relatives and consider such marriages as a sin. As, the given argument is likely to be strong it will go for next step test.

**Case II (When the result does not follow argument will be rejected).**

Following are the cases when results do not follow and arguments are rejected at 2nd level test in step II only.

- (i) **Established fact:** If it is an established fact that a particular result will not follow a particular course of action, then the argument will be rejected at step II. Let us see the example given below:

**EXAMPLE 8.**

**Statement:** Should smoking be discouraged in the country?

**Argument:** No, it give relaxation when one get tired and this way contributes to health.

**Comment:** It is an established fact that smoking is injurious to health and thus, we can say that this argument is incorrect and weak enough to be rejected at step II.

- (ii) **Prediction on the basis of experiences:** If the experiences say that the result will not follow then the given argument will be rejected at the step II. Let us see the example given below:

**Statement:** Should cricketer A be appointed the next captain of the Indian cricket team?

**Argument:** Yes, it will end the favouritism in selection of team as cricketer A has made allegations of favouritism against the current captain.

**Comment:** In the foregoing example, the argument suggests that cricketer A should be appointed captain of the Indian cricket team because it will end the favouritism in the team selection. This suggestion has been given on the basis that A has made allegation of favouritism against the current captain. But the experiences say that there have been so many cases when people did the things what they opposed. Hence, saying one thing and doing other is very common. This is the reason why it can not be made sure that A will not do favouritism in team selection only because he has criticised the current captain for this. It is clear that the given argument is weak enough to be rejected in step II.

**Note :** This is the exactly opposite to point (ii) in step II (Case I).

- (iii) **Argument with faulty logic:** This is exactly opposite to the point (iii) in step II (case I). Let us see the following example:

**Statement:** Should the culprits behind the fodder scam in Bihar be punished?

**Argument:** No, a political vaccum will be created if the culprits get punishment.

**Comment:** As per the logic, punishing culprits behind the fodder scam in Bihar would please the public and improve the image of the Bihar government. How can it create a political vaccum? This argument has been given with a faulty logic and hence will be rejected in step II only.

- (iv) **Argument violating prevailing notions of truth:** Argument that violates unquestionable notions (Ideas that are universally accepted and acknowledged by society) will be rejected in step II. Let us see the example given below:

**Statement:** Should marriage in blood relations be promoted in India?

**Argument:** Yes, if the two mature blood relatives are willing to do so, then they can not be prohibited from doing it.

**Comment:** In our society, it is widely accepted truth (or universally accepted truth) that the marriages between blood relatives are considered to be a sin as it promotes incest. The given argument violates this prevailing notion of truth and is weak enough to be rejected in step II.

- (v) **Arguments based on examples/analogies:** Very often it is seen that an example or a precedent is made the basis of an argument. But point to be noted that analogy or example based arguments come under the category of bad arguments. It must be cleared that just because someone did something in the past, the same can not be said as pursuable. Let us see the example given below:

**Statement:** Should everyone be optimistic in Life?

**Argument:** Yes, Indira Gandhi was optimistic and this is the reason why she became the prime minister of India.

**Comment:** Here, the example of Indira Gandhi is given that makes the argument very weak. Thus, such type of arguments are rejected in step II.

- (vi) **Arguments based on individual perceptions (or assumptions):** In some cases it is seen that an assumption or view of the author is the substance of an argument. Such arguments neither have proper logic nor substance of established fact. These arguments are called bad arguments and they can be rejected in step II.

**Statement:** Should India be declared a Hindu Rastra?

**Argument:** No, it will lead to chaos.

**Comment:** What message author gives through the argument is view of the author. In fact, declaring India a Hindu Rastra may or may not lead to the result given in the argument. It means that assertion made by argument may or may not follow in actual practice and if the author has a rigid stand on this assertion, it is his/her individual perception or assumption which makes the argument weak enough to be rejected in step II.

**Step III: Given arguments are really desirable/harmful**

In step II, we come to the conclusion that Example 1, Example 2, Example 3, Example 4, Example 5, Example 6 and Example 7 have passed the 2nd level test and qualified for the step III (3rd level test). Hence, we will take the examples to be qualified for step III one by one:

**EXAMPLE 1.** Here, the argument is positive and therefore, we have to check the desirability. As, it is a established fact that drinking contributes to bad health and thus it is desirable to avoid it. It is clear how that Example 1 passed the 3rd level test.

**EXAMPLE 2.** No doubt that at present Tendulkar is one of the greatest cricketers in the world. He will also remain in the list of great ones in the history of the game of cricket. But it is also a truth that he has spent more than 20 years in this game and in three four years he will be a retired cricketer. This is the reason that after 10 years he will definitely not be in team as his selection is impossible. Hence, despite being an established fact the argument is not desirable and is rejected in step III. (Example 2 is a weak argument)

**EXAMPLE 3.** Here, it is true that living separate from parents gives married people more freedom but at the same time getting freedom at cost of separation from parents is undesirable. Further, separating from parents does mean avoiding duty of taking care of parents. Hence, argument given in example 3 is not desirable and is weak enough to be rejected in step III.

**EXAMPLE 4.** Marriages in blood relatives promote incest which is a sin and hence harmful for the established norm of society. On the basis of this logic argument given in Example 7 is strong enough to pass the 3rd level test step III.

Now, we have,

Examples qualified for step IV test: Example-1, and Example-4. Rejected examples in step III: Example-2, Example-3.

**Note :** How to decide a positive argument is really desirable or a negative argument is really harmful, is only the matter of common sense. Just apply your common sense, think over the argument, try to go by proper logic and general norms of society.

**Step IV:** Finding proper relation between argument and suggested course of action.

What does proper relation between statement and argument mean? In fact, it does mean that argument must be pinpointed on the main issue involved and it should not focus on any irrelevant, insignificant or minor issues. Now, we move on to step IV or final test. As Example-1 and Example-4 have qualified for this test, let us check the three examples one by one:

**EXAMPLE 1.** Drinking and bad health are properly and directly related. Hence, the given argument “Yes, it contributes to bad health” is a strong argument and this is the final conclusion.

**EXAMPLE 2.** Smoking and bad health (injurious to health) are directly and properly related. Hence, the given argument “No smoking is injurious to health” is a strong argument and this is the final conclusion.

**EXAMPLE 3.** Marriages in blood relatives and promotion of incest is directly and properly related. Hence, the given argument “No, it will promote incest which is a sin” is a strong argument and this is the final conclusion.

Now, we have come to the end of this chapter. For the understanding of students, below is given a question format for the examination.

### Question format:

**Direction:** Each question given below is followed by two arguments numbered I and II. You have to decide which one of the arguments is a ‘strong’ argument and which is a weak argument.

Give answer (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 strong.

**Statement:** Should smoking be promoted?

**Argument:** I: No, smoking is injurious to health.

II: Yes, why not?

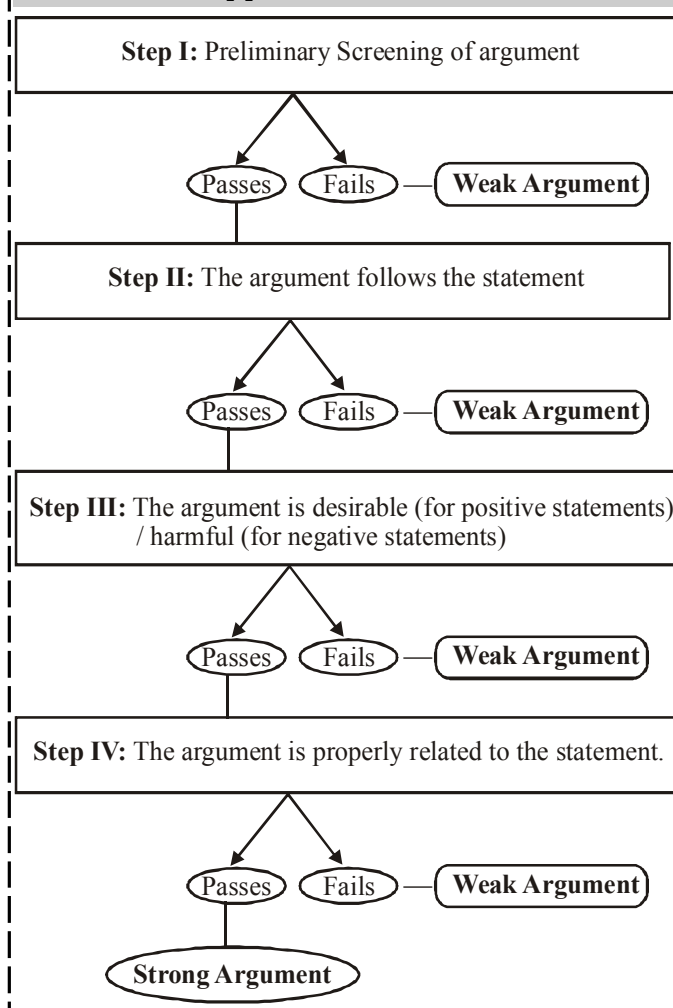
### Solution:

I will follow (the reason already given see Example 4)

II will not follow as it is a question back type of argument and such type of arguments are very weak.

Hence, option (A) is the correct answer.

### Shortcut Approach



# EXERCISE

## Directions (Qs. 1-73):

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

**Give answer (a)** if only argument I is strong.

**Give answer (b)** if only argument II is strong.

**Give answer (c)** if either argument I or II is strong.

**Give answer (d)** if neither argument I nor II is strong.

**Give answer (e)** if both argument I and II are strong.

1. Should all beggars on the roads in the big cities in India be forcibly sent to villages?

### Arguments:

**I** No, this is grossly unfair and these people may die of hunger if they are sent to villages.

**II** Yes, these people create a bad impression of our country in the eyes of the foreigners who visit our country and hence, should be removed.

2. Should all the criminals convicted for committing murder be awarded capital punishment?

### Arguments:

**I** Yes, this will be a significant step towards reducing cases of murder in future.

**II** No, nobody has the right to take any person's life irrespective of the acts of such individuals.

3. Should all the professional colleges in India be encouraged to run their own courses without affiliation to any university?

### Arguments:

**I** Yes, this is only way to create more opportunities for those who seek professional training.

**II** No, this will dilute the quality of professional training as all such colleges may not be equipped to conduct such courses.

4. Should there be a maximum ceiling imposed on the earnings of an individual in an organisation?

### Arguments:

**I** Yes, this will help equitable distribution of earnings to all the employees.

**II** No, the organization should have free hand to decide the pay packets of its employees.

5. Should there be a compulsory military training for each college student in India?

### Arguments:

**I** No, this goes against the basic democratic right of an individual to choose his/her own programs.

**II** Yes, this is the only way to build a strong and powerful nation.

6. Should all such political parties which have less than ten elected members of parliament be derecognised and be debarred from contesting Lok Sabha seats?

### Arguments:

**I** No, this is against the very basic tenet of our constitution.

**II** Yes, this will make the elections more meaningful as there will be fewer competing candidates in a constituency.

7. Should more smaller states be formed from the remaining bigger states?

### Arguments:

**I** No, a lot of public money will be wasted in the whole process.

**II** Yes, this will help in better governance and maximising production in both industrial and agricultural sectors.

8. Should the subsidy on petroleum products be further reduced?

### Arguments:

**I** Yes, the present subsidy is a drain on national resources; let the consumer share the burden.

**II** No, this will have a cascading effect and the prices of all the commodities will sharply increase, creating higher rate of inflation.

9. Should the term of the elected members of parliament be reduced to two years in India?

### Arguments:

**I** Yes, even otherwise the elections are generally held every alternate year in India.

**II** No, every round of parliament election needs huge amount of money and it's a national waste.

10. Should the course fees of all post-graduate courses run by the universities be increased to the level of IITs and IIMs?

### Arguments:

**I** Yes, this will weed out non-serious students out of higher education.

**II** No, the poor brilliant students will not be able to join post-graduate courses.

11. Should all students passing out from the government run colleges and desirous of settling abroad be asked to pay back the cost of their education to the government?

### Arguments:

**I** Yes, such students who study on the resources of the exchequer should be discouraged to leave the country.

**II** No, every citizen has the right to select their place of further study or work and therefore, such a condition is unjustified.

12. Should India support all the international policies of United States of America?

### Arguments:

**I** No, many other powerful countries do not support the same.

**II** Yes, this is the only way to gain access to USA developmental funds.

13. Should there be a complete ban on use of pesticides in agricultural sector?

### Arguments:

**I** Yes, this the only way to save the underground water from getting polluted with such dangerous chemicals.

**II** No this will adversely affect the agricultural production and the pests will damage the crops.

14. Should labour reforms be immediately introduced in India?

### Arguments:

**I** Yes, this will help increase the productivity in all the sectors in general and in the public sector in particular.

- II.** No, many other countries have not implemented this so far.
15. Should the subsidy on kerosene be immediately increased further?  
**Arguments:**  
**I.** Yes, this will bring considerable relief to the poorer section of the society as they will be the major beneficiary.  
**II.** No, our economy is otherwise in a difficult stage and it will not be able to withstand any further burden on it.
16. Should all those who have come in contact with the patients suffering from the dreaded infectious respiratory disease be quarantined in their house?  
**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.
17. Should there be only one rate of interest for term deposits of varying durations in banks?  
**Arguments:**  
**I.** No, people will refrain from keeping money for longer duration resulting into reduction of liquidity level of banks.  
**II.** Yes, this will be much simple for the common people and they may be encouraged to keep more money in banks.
18. Should there be a cap on maximum number of contestants for parliamentary elections in any constituency?  
**Arguments:**  
**I.** Yes, this will make the parliamentary elections more meaningful as the voters can make a considered judgment for casting their vote.  
**II.** No, in a democracy any person fulfilling the eligibility criteria can contest parliamentary elections and there should be no such restrictions.
19. Should all those who are found guilty of committing homicide or abetting homicide be either given capital punishment or kept in jail for the entire life?  
**Arguments:**  
**I.** Yes, only such severe punishments will make people refrain from committing such heinous acts and the society will be more safe.  
**II.** No, those who are repentant for the crime they committed should be given a chance to lead a normal life outside the jail.
20. Should there be a restriction on the migration of people from one state to another in India?  
**Arguments:**  
**I.** No, any Indian citizen has a basic right to stay at any place of their choice and hence they cannot be stopped.  
**II.** Yes, this is the way to effect an equitable distribution of resources across the states in India.
21. Should the school teachers be necessarily involved in the census activities?  
**Arguments:**  
**I.** No, this will adversely affect the quality of teaching programme.  
**II.** Yes, the teachers are the best fit for this job.
22. Should India engage into a dialogue with neighbouring countries to stop cross-border terrorism?  
**Arguments:**  
**I.** Yes, this is the only way to reduce cross-border terrorism and stop loss of innocent lives.  
**II.** No, neighbouring countries cannot be relied upon in such matters; they may still engage in subversive activities.
23. Should all the utility services be immediately brought under essential services to avoid frequent agitation and strikes by the employees?  
**Arguments:**  
**I.** No, otherwise how the employees may voice their grievances and demands?  
**II.** Yes, the employees are becoming more and more greedy and they take the general public for ride by striking.
24. Should all the unauthorised structures in the city be immediately demolished?  
**Arguments :**  
**I.** No, where will the people residing in such houses live?  
**II.** Yes, this will give a clear message to general public and they will refrain from constructing unauthorised buildings.
25. Should the railways in India be privatised in a phased manner like other public sector enterprises?  
**Arguments :**  
**I.** Yes, this is the only way to bring in competitiveness and provide better service to the public.  
**II.** No, this will pose a threat to national security of our country as multinationals will enter into the fray.
26. Should the TV channels depicting sex and violence be banned?  
**I.** No. Any ban is against the fundamental right of citizens of a democratic set-up.  
**II.** Yes. Parents feel awkward while watching such serials along with their children.
27. Should promotions in the armed forces be made on the basis of seniority?  
**I.** No. Patriotism is the most important attribute for such promotions.  
**II.** No. It would be an injustice to those juniors who are more deserving and suitable for higher positions.
28. Should automation be restricted only to industrial sector in our country?  
**I.** Yes. In other labour-intensive sectors, our vast unemployed population can be beneficially deployed.  
**II.** No. The automation in other sectors will also yield commendable result to boost our country's economy which will, in turn, take care of unemployment.
29. Should the freedom of press be curbed in a democratic country?  
**I.** Yes. Press, if not curbed, may go to any extent to lead the public astray.  
**II.** No. Why should we do that?
30. Should sex education be included in the syllabus of junior college as a compulsory subject?  
**I.** Yes. It would certainly help in eradicating the existing misunderstanding and make the younger generation physically and mentally healthier.



- II.** No. It will destroy the moral fibre and the highly esteemed value system which we have inherited from our forefathers.
31. **Statement:** Should one close relative of a retiring government employee be given a job in government in India?  
**Arguments:**  
**I.** Yes, where else will the relative get a job like this?  
**II.** No, it will close doors of government service to competent and needy youth.
32. **Statement:** Should purchase of gold by individuals be restricted in India to improve its foreign exchange position?  
**Arguments:**  
**I.** Yes, interference on customers' right and freedom is desirable.  
**II.** No, business interest has to be guarded first.
33. **Statement:** Should teaching of 'Sanskrit' be made compulsory at school level in India?  
**Arguments:**  
**I.** No, where are the trained teachers to teach this language?  
**II.** Yes, we should be proud of our ancient language.
34. **Statement:** Should all education be made free for girls and women of all ages in India?  
**Arguments:**  
**I.** No, this will weaken our present social structure.  
**II.** Yes, this is the only way to bring back glory to Indian womanhood.
35. **Statement:** Should private colleges offering professional courses like Engineering, Medical, Management be banned in India?  
**Arguments:**  
**I.** Yes, such courses should be run by Government Colleges only.  
**II.** Yes, no other country allows private colleges to run professional courses.
36. **Statement:** Should slum-dwellers be provided free houses in big cities and metropolises?  
**Arguments:**  
**I.** No, most of the slum dwellers are poor and illiterate.  
**II.** Yes, providing food and shelter to every citizen is the responsibility of any welfare state.
37. **Statement:** Should polythene bags be banned in India?  
**Arguments:**  
**I.** No, the polythene bags are very cheap and are very convenient.  
**II.** Yes, that is what many countries are doing.
38. **Statement:** Should military service for short duration be made compulsory to all eligible youth in India?  
**Arguments:**  
**I.** Yes, Indian defence forces are badly in need of jawans and officers.  
**II.** Yes, it will inculcate discipline and national pride in youth.
39. **Statement:** Should India switch over to capitalist economy from the present mixed one?  
**Arguments:**  
**I.** No, for this to happen there will be a need of constitutional amendments and our prestige will lower.  
**II.** Yes, this is the only way out adopted by developing countries.
40. **Statements:** Should admission in schools be controlled by the state government concerned?  
**Arguments:**  
**I.** Yes, it will reduce the importance of the members of the school management.  
**II.** No, this will result in delays, compromise with the quality of schools, and give rise to corruption.
41. **Statements:** Should corporal punishment be fully restricted in schools?  
**Arguments:**  
**I.** No, in low age and formative years punishment helps develop the standard of discipline and values.  
**II.** Yes, physical punishment hurts the self-respect of an individual and such person turns to violent ways of life.
42. **Statements:** Should metropolitan corporations be changed to public limited companies to enhance their efficiency and reduce expenditure?  
**Arguments:**  
**I.** Yes, it will bring in commercial management and citizens would expect good service at reasonable rates.  
**II.** No, it will end the local elections because there will be no elected corporator.
43. **Statements:** Should the joining of college students in National Cadet Corps (NCC) be made mandatory?  
**Arguments:**  
**I.** Yes, it is in vogue in many countries.  
**II.** No, it will distract attention and those who are weak in studies will fail.
44. **Statement:** Should government-established higher level Institutes of Technology (IITs) be privatised?  
**Arguments:**  
**I.** Yes, privatisation will make these institutes financially healthy, competitive and quality-conscious.  
**II.** Yes, privatisation is the key of the new era - can we survive without it?
45. **Statement:** Should vacations of court judges be reduced?  
**Arguments:**  
**I.** Yes, it will speed up judicial process and many people are likely to get justice in reasonable time.  
**II.** Yes, it is a sign of British legacy, why should we carry it further?
46. **Statement:** Should the practice of transfers of clerical cadre employees from one city to another government office be stopped?  
**Arguments:**  
**I.** No, transfer of employees is a routine administrative matter and we must continue it.  
**II.** Yes, it involves lot of governmental expenditure and inconvenience to many compared to the benefits it yields.
47. **Statement:** Should higher qualification be the only criteria for internal promotions in any organisation?  
**Arguments:**  
**I.** Yes, why not? In fact only higher qualification is more important than other factors.  
**II.** No, quality of performance and other factors are more important than mere higher qualification in case of internal promotion.

48. **Statement:** Should Indian scientists working abroad be called back to India?  
**Arguments:**  
**I** Yes, they must serve the motherland first and forget about discoveries, honours, facilities and all.  
**II** No, we have enough talent, let them stay where they want.
49. **Statement:** Should getting primary education be incorporated as a fundamental right in India?  
**Arguments:**  
**I** No, what is the use? Have we fulfilled our duties regarding other fundamental rights?  
**II** Yes, this is what all the developed countries have done.
50. **Statement:** Should scheme of lotteries be completely stopped in India?  
**Arguments:**  
**I** No, many state governments will have to stop some of their developmental activities which they fund from surplus generated by their lottery scheme.  
**II** No, many unemployed youth who sell lottery tickets to earn their livelihood will face hardship.
51. **Statement:** Should dependents of India's freedom fighters be given benefits of reservation in jobs?  
**Arguments:**  
**I** Yes. We should keep the dependents happy as the freedom fighters have fought for a noble cause.  
**II** No. We already have too many reservations; let us not add to it.
52. **Statement:** With the opening of the economy in India, should all workers unions be banned?  
**Arguments:**  
**I** No, workers unions are not banned in other economically advanced countries.  
**II** No, a level-headed workers union can really do wonders both for workers and economy.
53. **Statement:** Should we grant permission to reputed private companies to construct civil air ports for general use in India?  
**Arguments:**  
**I** Yes, why not? It would be both economical and effective.  
**II** No, it may pose danger to security and safety of India.
54. **Statement:** Should 'computer knowledge' be made a compulsory subject for all students at secondary school certificate (S.S.C.) examination in India?  
**Arguments:**  
**I** No, our need is 'bread' for everyone, we cannot follow western models.  
**II** Yes, we cannot go ahead without equipping our children with computers.
55. **Statement:** Should 'literacy' be the minimum criterion for becoming a voter in India?  
**Arguments:**  
**I** No, mere literacy is no guarantee of political maturity of an individual.  
**II** Yes, illiterate people are less likely to make politically wiser decision of voting for a right candidate or party.
56. **Statement:** Should schemes of voluntary retirement be introduced in all sick public sector units in India?
- Arguments:**  
**I** Yes, excess and inefficient staff is one of the reasons of sickness of public sector organisations.  
**II** Yes, this is what private and multinational companies do in developed countries.
57. **Statement:** Should postal services be privatised in India?  
**Arguments:**  
**I** Yes, it will make life easy for the citizens of India.  
**II** No, privatisation is not a panacea for all the problems, even private service can be equally bad.
58. **Statement:** Should system of offering jobs only to wards of government employees be introduced in all governments offices in India?  
**Arguments:**  
**I** No, it denies opportunity to many deserving individuals and government may stand to loose in the long run.  
**II** No, it is against the principle of equality and does government not owe responsibility to all its citizens?
59. A supplement of Vitamin A and Zinc may boost children's resistance to Malaria (Observation from one experiment conducted last year in a village 'X'). Which of the following, if true, would weaken the statement?  
 (a) No adult in village 'X' has fallen sick because of Malaria.  
 (b) For the last three years, there has hardly been any case of a child being affected by Malaria from village 'X'.  
 (c) The experiment with Vitamin A and Zinc is being duplicated in other nearby cities adjacent to village 'X'.  
 (d) Vitamin A and Zinc are readily available in village 'X'.  
 (e) Villages adjacent to 'X' have reported substantial cases of Malaria affecting mostly children.?
60. After establishment of industrial estate 5 years ago at village 'D' the economic condition of its villagers has improved considerably. Which of the following, if true, contradicts the statement?  
 (a) A branch of a bank has been opened at village 'D' during last three years.  
 (b) The shops of village 'D' report increase in the sale of entertainment items during last two years.  
 (c) Very recently hotels with beer bars have come up in village 'D'.  
 (d) Money-lenders and the branches of banks report demand for second loan to return earlier loan.  
 (e) Number of buses run by private and state government agencies halt at village 'D'.
61. If statements 'Wealthy persons are not necessarily happy' and 'Dashrath is not happy' are assumed to be true then which of the following is definitely **True**?  
 (a) Dashrath is not wealthy  
 (b) Dashrath is wealthy but not happy  
 (c) Dashrath is not wealthy and therefore not happy  
 (d) Other wealthy persons are not as unhappy as Dashrath  
 (e) None of these
62. "Forty per cent of our products are sold in rural area, fifty-three per cent are sold in semi-urban area, sixty per cent of employees are from rural area." Which of the following statements is **definitely true**?  
 (a) The company's products are purchased only by its employees and their family.

- (b) The company does not desire to recruit urban employees.
- (c) The company's products are required in big urban cities and metro areas.
- (d) The company holds approximately 90% of the market share in its product line.
- (e) None of these
63. "We do not advertise, our product speaks for itself." - Statement of manufacturer of two-wheeler 'BJA'. Which of the following, if true, would support and strengthen this statement?
- (i) The prices of BJA two-wheelers are on higher side.
- (ii) 'BJA' has won award for Quality Control Systems.
- (iii) The BJA two-wheeler is sleek-looking and has good colours.
- (iv) The salaries of BJA employees are better than government services.
- (a) Only (i) and (ii)                      (b) Only (ii) and (iii)
- (c) Only (iii) and (iv)                  (d) Only (i), (ii) and (iii)
- (e) None of these
64. 'All trees bear fruits'. 'Fruits of some trees are not good for human health'. If the two statements are assumed to be true, then which of the following statements is definitely TRUE?
- (a) All fruits are not sweet and tasty.
- (b) Some fruits are healthy for some human beings.
- (c) Some trees do not bear fruits.
- (d) Human beings should eat fruits for remaining healthy.
- (e) None of these
65. Nikhil remembers that his sister Kranti had certainly been in Pune for one day after 16th February but before 21st February. While his mother remembers that Kranti had certainly visited Pune before 20th February but after 17th February. If both of them are correct, then on which day in February had Kranti visited Pune?
- (a) Either 18th or 19th                  (b) 19th
- (c) 18th                                      (d) Data inadequate
- (e) None of these
66. "Cases of food poisoning have been reported from village 'X'. After a dinner party arranged for 100 people, 68 have been admitted to the hospital, 36 cases are reported to be out of danger. The food, which was cooked and stored in open space for almost 12 hours earlier was served after reheating it. Investigation is going on." A news report. Which of the following can be **hypothesized** for the above information?
- (a) Late night dinner parties for large number of people result in food poisoning.
- (b) Stale food is likely to be the cause of food poisoning.
- (c) Cases of food poisoning need to be handled carefully.
- (d) Cases of food poisoning are not reported in urban dinner parties.
- (e) Food poisoning is a matter of chance and no preventive measure can be suggested.
67. A study reveals that families where parents cannot give sufficient time for their children report disturbed behaviour of children and poor performance of the child at school. Which of the following, if true, would **weaken** the statement?
- (a) Studies regarding behaviour of children of single parents have reported similar findings.
- (b) A good and healthy child-parent relationship helps the child adjust at home and school.
- (c) A high correlation has been found between good adjustment of the child with his peers/ friends and good performance in the school.
- (d) Schools have now started counselling parents to spend happy and meaningful time with their children.
- (e) Well adjusted children show lot of love and respect for their parents.
68. "If you want hassle-free holiday package for city 'M' then join only our tour. Hurry up, only few seats available." An advertisement of 'XYZ' Tourist Company. If the above statement is **true** then which of the following has been **assumed** while making the statement?
- (a) Travel packages offered by other tour operators are neither cheap nor comfortable.
- (b) Now-a-days people have lot of money to spend for their comforts.
- (c) No seats may be available with other tour operators for city 'M'.
- (d) Many people desire convenience and comfort while going for a holiday.
- (e) The XYZ Company strictly follows the concept of 'first come first serve'.
69. The state government's agency 'HOUSEWELL' has constructed 500 flats for middle class but in spite of shortage of houses it has not even received hundred applications. Each of the following, if true, could explain this **except**:
- (a) The quality of construction of 'HOUSEWELL' is reported to be very poor.
- (b) The location of the flats is not convenient either by bus or from railway station.
- (c) A private builders scheme which has come up on the adjacent plot is overbooked inspite of higher cost and 100% advance payment.
- (d) The cost and conditions of payment are quite demanding and are slightly higher than usual government housing schemes.
- (e) School and market facilities are yet to come up.
70. In order to qualify in an examination having six subjects, one has to get at least 50% and above marks separately in any four subjects and minimum 35% and above in each of the six subjects. If the total of 25% candidates have qualified in the examination, then which of the following is definitely **true**?
- (a) 25% of the students have secured 50% and above in all the six subjects.
- (b) 75% of the students could not get at least 35% marks in all the six subjects taken together.
- (c) 50% of the students got 50% and above in four subjects but only half of them could get 35% and above in all the subjects.
- (d) Only 25% of the students could get at least 35% and above marks in each of the subjects.
- (e) None of these
71. "A non-resident Indian trust of the US has finalised a project to provide training for the new techniques on the basis of 'no profit no loss' to Indian doctors." — A statement by trustees. If this statement is true, then which of the following expresses truly the above statement?
- (a) It is not possible even for rich doctors of India to go to the US for training.
- (b) Indian doctors are capable but they do not want to learn new techniques.

- (c) The non-resident Indian trust is being run by renowned Indian doctors settled abroad who have acquired skills in the US.
- (d) To save the life of patients, new medical knowledge and skills are required.
- (e) It is necessary for the trust to do social work in order to earn repute.
72. The government of state *G* has banned spitting and smoking at public places from Jan 1, 2016. In case of violation the guilty will be either fined a sum of ₹ 1000 or jailed. — Notification of the government of state *G* on Dec 31, 2015. Which of the following, **if true**, would weaken the statement?
- (a) State *G* is known as an important tourist destination among all states of India.
- (b) Legal implementation machinery is neither aware of this notification nor it has adequate manpower and resources to implement it.
- (c) There is a possibility of increase in the number of tourists coming to this state.
- (d) Many foreigners and tourists have expressed their unhappiness and surprise at the lack of cleanliness at public places of state *G*.
- (e) Public cooperation is possible for the measures initiated by the government of state *G*.
73. The government of state *B* has now decided to form a department for information and technology so that coordination between information and technology is made easier. — A news
- If the above statement **is true**, then which of the following has been **assumed** in the statement?
- (a) State *B* is regarded as lax in implementing public welfare measures.
- (b) Compared to other states, state *B* has achieved tremendous success in information and technology.
- (c) There is a need to coordinate and regularise the work of information and technology of all states.
- (d) State *B* has enough money to spend for such purposes.
- (e) It is necessary for state *B* to demonstrate its anxiety over information and technology.

### ANSWER KEY

1	(e)	9	(b)	17	(a)	25	(d)	33	(b)	41	(e)	49	(d)	57	(b)	65	(a)	73	(d)
2	(b)	10	(e)	18	(e)	26	(d)	34	(d)	42	(a)	50	(e)	58	(e)	66	(b)		
3	(b)	11	(e)	19	(e)	27	(b)	35	(d)	43	(b)	51	(a)	59	(b)	67	(c)		
4	(d)	12	(d)	20	(a)	28	(e)	36	(d)	44	(a)	52	(d)	60	(d)	68	(d)		
5	(a)	13	(b)	21	(a)	29	(a)	37	(a)	45	(a)	53	(b)	61	(e)	69	(c)		
6	(b)	14	(a)	22	(b)	30	(a)	38	(a)	46	(b)	54	(b)	62	(e)	70	(e)		
7	(e)	15	(e)	23	(e)	31	(b)	39	(d)	47	(d)	55	(e)	63	(b)	71	(d)		
8	(e)	16	(a)	24	(e)	32	(d)	40	(b)	48	(d)	56	(a)	64	(b)	72	(b)		

## Hints & Explanations

- (e) I is strong on humanitarian grounds. II is strong because it is not desirable to compromise on the picture of ourselves that we project to the world.
- (b) I is weak because it advocates an extreme action. It does not take into account the cost incurred. II is strong on humanitarian grounds.
- (b) Argument I is not strong because of two reasons: (i) it is not the only way to create more opportunities for those who seek professional training; (ii) opportunity to get professional training is not enough, quality of the training is equally important. Argument II is strong because chances of degrading of the standard of training can't be ruled out.
- (d) In reality, a maximum ceiling will reduce the scope of getting higher salary for those who work hard and contribute very much in an organisation's profit. Hence, I is not true. Therefore, I is not strong. II is not strong because it does not add sufficient reasons to imposing maximum ceiling on the earnings of an individual in an organisation.
- (a) I is strong on the basis of Constitutional provisions. II is a weak argument because it is not true that only compulsory military training for each college student of a country will make it strong and powerful.
- (b) If I were strong then the provision to amend the constitution would not have been there. Hence, I is not strong. Certainly, the number of candidates will be reduced and it will be easier for the electorate to decide about them. Hence, II is a strong argument.
- (e) Here both arguments are strong.
- (e) I is strong because it does not make sense to penalise the rest of the country for something I uses. II is strong because it will lead to inflation.
- (b) Reducing the term is not a good alternative. Suppose the parliament gets dissolved every six months, will you then say the term be reduced to six months? Clearly, I is bad logic. II is strong in a country where fiscal deficit is of paramount concern.
- (b) I is not strong because there are other ways to weed out non-serious students. II is strong because merit should not be allowed to rot for want of money.

11. (e) Both the arguments I and II are strong. Argument I is strong because optimum use of the resources of the exchequer is desirable. Discouraging such people will lessen the problem of brain drain. Argument II is strong on the basis of the powers equipped by the Constitution to the citizens.
12. (d) Argument I is not strong because India should take its stand according to *its* needs. Argument II is not correct because of the word 'only'. Hence, argument II is not strong.
13. (b) Argument I is not correct because of the word 'only' used in the argument. Hence, argument I is not strong. Argument II is strong because adverse impact on agriculture will debilitate the backbone of the economy.
14. (a) Argument I is strong. No doubt, labour reforms will encourage the labour to work more efficiently, which will be helpful in increasing the productivity. Argument II is not strong because it is not a right way of arguing. Basic needs of India may be different from those of other countries.
15. (e) Both the arguments I and II are strong. Argument I is strong on the basis of its benefit to the real beneficiary. Argument II is strong because of the adverse impact of subsidy on the economy of the country.
16. (a) I is strong because it will save people from unnecessary inconvenience. II is not strong because it is not true. There are other ways also to control the dreaded disease.
17. (a) I is strong because higher rates attract people to deposit money for longer duration. If there be only one rate of interest for term deposits for varying durations, this will adversely affect deposit of money in bank for longer duration and also the liquidity levels of banks. II is not strong because only one rate of interest does not imply an encouragement for more savings.
18. (e) I is strong because it will make the election process more meaningful and purposeful. II is strong on account of the tenets of democracy.
19. (e) I is strong because mass murderers must be treated with stringent punishment. II is also strong because it is judicious to eliminate evils, not evildoers, from the society.
20. (a) I is strong on the basis of Constitutional rights. II is not true. Hence, it is a weak argument.
21. (a) When a single person is given so many responsibilities, it is possible that he may not concentrate 100 per cent on all of them. Hence I is strong. II is weak because "Best fit" does not specify a cause.
22. (b) Argument I does not go into the reason while argument II does.
23. (b) I is not strong because it throws a question back. II is strong because the employees are abusing their rights sometimes.
24. (e) Both arguments are strong - I on humanitarian grounds and II on legal grounds.
25. (d) I is strong because "competitiveness" and "better service" are desirable. II is weak because the argument has a flawed assumption that MNCs are a threat to national security.
26. (d) I is not strong because "any ban" covers too wide an area. II is also not strong because it assumes the serials (depicting sex and violence) are necessary to be watched.
27. (b) I is not strong because promotion should be based on different factors which evaluate the efficiency of an individual. Patriotism may be one of the factors but one's efficiency can't depend only on this factor. II is strong because it advocates for efficient persons who must not be ignored.
28. (e) Both I and II are strong arguments and promote employment in their own ways.
29. (a) I is strong because it pinpoints the possible negative effect. II is weak as there is no logic
30. (a) I is strong because education leads to abolition of malpractices carried in a hush-hush manner. II is not strong because the argument confuses education with titillation.
31. (b) I is weak because we can't vitiate the system for one individual. II is strong as the seats will be filled by close relatives of government employees, competent and other needy youths won't get entry for govt. services.
32. (d) I is weak because such interference cannot be desirable in a democracy. II is weak because it gives priority to business interest on foreign exchange position, which would not be in the interest of the country.
33. (b) Argument I is weak because it presupposes the absence of trained teachers which is not true. II is strong because cultural ground can't be neglected.
34. (d) I is weak because of the term social structure in that argument. Free education may weaken the economic condition of a country. Talking about weakening of social structure by giving free education to women and girl is senseless. II is weak as there is no logic.
35. (d) II is an example. Example is generally a weak argument. All countries may have different constitutions, different financial status, difference in population etc. Hence I is weak argument. I suggests only alternate arrangement. The reasons of ban are not given. Hence I, too, is weak argument.
36. (d) I is weak. On the contrary, poverty and illiteracy should induce us to bestow favour upon slum-dwellers. II is weak because the question here is not only providing shelter but providing it *free*.
37. (a) Economic advantage and user-friendliness are strong reasons. Hence I is strong. II is weak because it is tantamount to following other countries blindly.
38. (a) I is strong. Such a binding will definitely compensate for the lack of regulars in our armed forces. II is weak. Discipline and pride can be *inculcated* through other, less expensive, less rigorous means, such as NCC, Scouts, etc.
39. (d) Whenever it has been required, we have amended our constitution. It is illogical and foolish to relate it to our prestige. Hence, I is a weak argument. Every developing country is the product of its own circumstances. Hence, it is not necessary that India also go on the path of other developing countries. So, II is also a weak argument.



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| <p>40. (b) The main purpose of decentralisation of power is to run all units properly. You can't concentrate on all units if you have so many departments to watch over. Hence, II is strong. I is weak because it does relate to the statement.</p> <p>41. (e) I is strong because discipline forms the basis of one's life. II is also strong because the society needs to be protected from violence.</p> <p>42. (a) Since, public limited companies are established to run government organisations on business lines, I is strong. Good service is more important than elections. Hence, II is weak.</p> <p>43. (b) Since, cadets have to devote a fair degree of time on learning physical and moral disciplines, argument II is strong. Every thing can not be imitated from others' experience. Hence, I is not strong.</p> <p>44. (a) Argument I is advantageous. Argument II has lack of any theme.</p> <p>45. (a) I is a strong argument. If we have more working days, it is natural that more work can be done. Good qualities or system of even our enemy can be adopted. Hence II is weak.</p> <p>46. (b) It is not necessary that any practice which has been continued for a long time be right. Hence, I is a weak argument. Argument II is strong.</p> <p>47. (b) Neither the reason nor other factors are given in argument I. Hence, it is weak. On the same grounds II is strong.</p> <p>48. (d) I is not strong. The individual's demands are as important as the motherland's. II is weak because of its complacent attitude.</p> <p>49. (d) I is distorting the argument. II is based on an example which may not apply to India.</p> <p>50. (e) Both are strong because from the economic point of view we can't ignore either unemployment or revenue loss.</p> | <p>51. (a) I is strong because it will bolster patriotic sentiments. II is not strong because it is not necessary than an extra reservation quota be created. The new category may be adjusted within earlier limits.</p> <p>52. (d) I is based on example, Hence, does not follow. II is a vague argument.</p> <p>53. (b) II is strong because national security is a priority area.</p> <p>54. (b) I is weak because bread and education are two different things. Comparison of these two has no sense. Both should go parallel. II is strong. In this hi-tech world it should be compulsory for our children to know about computers.</p> <p>59. (b) Children are not being affected by malaria. This implies they are already resistant to the disease. Why then should we need the supplements?</p> <p>60. (d) If the economic condition of the village has improved, why should the villages borrow further to repay earlier loans?</p> <p>63. (b) Both (ii) and (iii), speak positively for the product.</p> <p>65. (a) According to Nikhil: 17, 18, 19 or 20 ... (i)<br/>According to mother: 18 or 19 ... (ii)<br/>From (i) and (ii), either 18th or 19th.</p> <p>66. (b) As mentioned, 'food was cooked and stored in the open space for almost 12 hours earlier'. Now, this may be the cause of food-poisoning.</p> <p>68. (d) This is why the tourist company has mentioned the term 'hassle-free holiday package' in the advertisement, assuming that people will prefer to tour by their company.</p> <p>69. (c) Except (c), all may be reasons for not going for the flats by the people. Option (c) has no connection with the statement.</p> <p>71. (d) The no-profit-no-loss basis points to this.</p> <p>72. (b) Any law will become ineffective without the support of the implementation machinery.</p> <p>73. (d) It must be assumed; otherwise they can't take such decisions.</p> |
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