

STATEMENT AND ARGUMENTS

STATEMENT-ARGUMENTS

In this type of question, a statement concerned with a political, social or economic issue is given followed by certain arguments in favour of or against the statement. The candidate is required to analyze first the statement then the arguments in context of the statement and finally decide which of the arguments hold strong and help formulate the most appropriate opinion on the subject.

Strong arguments are those which are both important and directly related to the question.

Some Tricks to evaluated forceful arguments.

- (i) Arguments should directly related to the statement. If argument is not directly related to the statement, It is called a weak argument and it will not become forceful.
- (ii) Arguments should not be based on an example or an accident.
- (iii) If any argument is only advice. It does not become a forceful statement
- (iv) Argument should not be based on emotion because emotions are based on personnel thinking.
- (v) Meaning of arguments should be clear and straight.
- (vi) Such arguments which are opposite to social belief can not be strong. Such arguments are factually wrong.
- (vii) Such arguments which are repetitive.

Directions(Q.1-5): Each question given below consists of a statement, 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.

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 argument I and II are strong.

EXAMPLE

- 1. Statement:** Should there be an upper age limit of 65 years for contesting Parliamentary Legislative Assembly elections?

Arguments:

- I.** Yes, generally, people above the age of 65 lose their dynamism and will power.
- II.** No, the life span is so increased that people remain physically and mentally active even upto the age of 80.

- 2. Statement:** Should adult education programme be given priority over compulsory education programme?

Arguments:

- I.** No, it will also help in success of compulsory education programme.
- II.** Yes, it will help to eliminate the adult illiteracy.

- 3. Statement:** Is buying things on installments profitable to the customer?

Arguments:

- I.** Yes, he has to pay less.
- II.** No, paying installment upsets the family budget.

- 4. Statement:** Should religion be banned?

Arguments:

- I.** Yes, it develops fanaticism in people.
- II.** No, religion binds people together.

- 5. Statement:** Should all the drugs patented and manufactured in western countries be first tried out on sample basis before giving licence for sale to general public in India?

Arguments:

- I.** Yes, many such drugs require different doses and duration for Indian population and hence it is necessary.
- II.** No, this is just not feasible and hence cannot be implemented.

DETAIL EXPLANATION

1. (d) The age of a person is no criterion for judging his mental capabilities and administrative qualities. So, none of the arguments holds strong.
2. (b) Clearly, argument I gives a reason in support of the statement and so it does not hold strong against it. The adult education programme needs to be given priority because it shall eliminate adult illiteracy and thus help in further spread of education. So, only argument II is strong enough.
3. (d) In buying things on installments a customer has to pay more as the interest is also included. So, argument I does not hold. Moreover, one who buys an item on installments maintains his future budget accordingly as he is well acquainted with when and how much he has to pay, beforehand. So, argument II is also not valid.
4. (c) Religion binds people together through the name of God and human values. But at the same time it may create differences and ill-will among people. So, either of the arguments holds strong.
5. (a) Clearly, health of the citizens is an issue of major concern for the Government. So, a product like drugs, must be first studied and tested in the Indian context before giving licence for its sale. So only argument I holds strong.