

Statement & Inference

Inference based questions are frequently asked in critical reasoning. It is essential to use the right strategy to solve such type of questions. Before discussing the strategy, let's understand the basics.

WHAT IS AN INFERENCE?

Inference is using observation and background to reach a logical conclusion. You probably practice inference every day. For example, if you see someone eating a new food and he or she makes a face, then you infer he does not like it. Or if someone slams a door, you can infer that she is upset about something.

Before you can begin to practice inference in literature, you should know what you are looking for. Your goal is to find the intended meaning of the text. Intended meaning is what we think the author is trying to teach us.

Direction: Read the given passage and answer the question that follows:

People are always less happy to accept scientific data they feel contradicts their preconceived beliefs. No surprise here; no human likes to be wrong. But science isn't supposed to care about preconceived notions. Science, at least good science, tells us about the world as it is, and not as some wish it to be. Sometimes what science finds is consistent with a particular religion's wishes. But usually it is not.

Example  **I:** What can be inferred about good science? Select from the given options.

I. A good science is well received by the educated people.

II. A good science is based on concrete results obtained through testing the hypothesis.

III. A good science and religion are same.

(a) Only II (b) Both II and III (c) Both I and III (d) Only III (e) None of these

Explanation: (a) Answer to the above question is option (a) and this can be drawn on the basis of the line "But science isn't supposed to care about preconceived notions. Science, at least good science, tells us about the world as it is and not as some wish it to be".

Point I is wrong as there is no relevant point in the passage to draw this conclusion.

Point III is too farfetched and it may not be always true for science and religion to be same.

EXERCISE

DIRECTIONS: (Qs. 1-10): In each of the questions given below, a passage has been given which are either situational based or describes a scenario. Below each passage, a question has been given which is framed to make you infer something out of it. Mark out the correct inference as your answer.

1. Radha needs to shift to the new area because of the commutation issues. She wants an apartment near to her office but she is in trouble. The accommodation she is looking for is not up to the mark. She needs to shift in a studio apartment because of her privacy concerns. But at the same time she doesn't want to spend that much amount which is needed to get her requirements fulfilled. She is thus taking a lot of time in getting settled to a new place.

What can be inferred from this scenario of her decision making?

- (a) Perplexed (b) Clever
(c) Miser (d) Cheater
(e) Lenient

2. Sarveshram is the managing director of a Hindus Corps. Pvt. Ltd. This is the third year of his tenure and he has gained a lot of expertise but the company is forcing him to change his department in which he would be having a complete new experience of the IT along with a decent increment in his salary. He is now ready to switch to the other department because of the increment.

Which quality do you see in Sarveshram?

- (a) Money-minded (b) Economical
(c) Enthusiastic (d) Workaholic
(e) Absurd

3. Miss Sheoran had a bakery from which a customer had been buying stale loaves. She thought him to be a poverty-stricken, struggling artist and wanted to help him out. One day when he came for his stale loaf, she secretly cut the crust and put in some butter. This man had been working on a plan for a new theatre in the city and had finally inked the drawing. He would use breadcrumbs to erase the pencil marks. Miss Sheoran ruined his plans and his chances by cutting the bread crumbs.

Which quality can depict the behavior of Miss Sheoran?

- (a) Meticulous
- (b) Weird
- (c) Demonic
- (d) Angelic
- (e) Generous

4. An employee named Aman in a government ministry wants to impress his girlfriend with his diplomatic status, so he removes some top secret documents from the office safely. That night, the ministry is raided by spies and the authorities assuming that the young man somehow knew about the raid and had removed the documents to safeguard them. He is ultimately congratulated.

What can be inferred from the passage?

- (a) People should take random steps like this so as to be famous
- (b) An expression of cleverness can sometimes be an outcome of someone's failure
- (c) Good things happen to the bad people
- (d) Cruel people are more likely to escape from the dangers
- (e) Absurdity resides inside every human but it totally depends on the spectators how they judge that absurd person

5. Raman had to reach to the studio early on his first day of the shoot. He was in hurry. On his way to studio he met with an abandoned child. The child was begging before him when he was about to leave after getting the green signal of the traffic lights but owing to generosity he couldn't able to leave from there. He thought of helping the child and asked about his parents but the child was an orphan. Raman was in dilemma now. He took the child to the orphanage and got him admitted there and then left for his work. He got very much late after doing so.

What would you infer about Raman's behavior from the above given scenario?

- (a) Helping
- (b) Frugal
- (c) Baffled
- (d) Exasperating
- (e) Fastidious

6. The Mcvities decides to get into the prison to avoid the winter chill. During the day, he does various things that could get him arrested, but they are all in vain. As evening approaches, he comes to a cathedral where organ music is being played. The music stirs in him boyhood ideals and aspirations, so he decides to give up his current life for a more constructive and purposeful one. Unfortunately, at that exact moment, a policeman arrests him for loitering.

What could you infer from the present scenario?

- (a) Got a raw deal
- (b) Extending the olive branch
- (c) Method to someone's madness
- (d) It is better to try than to sit idol
- (e) The thought is better than the reality

7. Imagine that a murderer hoists his victim onto a chandelier to make it appear that she had hanged herself, but he forgets to place a chair beneath it.

What would you depict about the murderer's qualities?

- (a) He was a bit conservative personality
- (b) He made a plan but without any reasoning

- (c) He was actually trying to help the other person but failed due to the negligence
- (d) He was a person, who having overcome major obstacles, is undone by something trivial
- (e) He revoked the action performed by him because he was guilty later on

8. Hema is a digital venture at its heart. It includes a traditional supermarket, but the locations also fulfill online grocery orders and offer restaurants. The Hema app, which connects to a customer's Alipay account, is the glue that holds all the different elements together.

What would you infer from the above given information?

- (a) Hema is an app launched by the government officials
- (b) Hema is an app launched to regulate all the securities listed on the SEBI
- (c) Hema is to speed-up the transactions performed in the supermarkets
- (d) There will be a robust platform for the faster implementation of the policies regarding the capital and money market
- (e) None of the above

9. Forty-year-old Praveen, though never a gym rat, had always been into sports. He played table tennis at the State level and squash and badminton too. His sister Sunitha, on the other hand, would always shy away from sports. She would always have some excuse up her sleeve to get out of playing any kind of sports.

What can be inferred about the Sunitha's passions?

- (a) She has bigger dreams
- (b) She is a high-class woman and very much successful in her career
- (c) She is a bit shy for sports and far away from being called as the gym rat
- (d) She loves her brother too much that for him, she sacrifices for her dreams
- (e) She is too much selective when it comes to the matter of the sports

10. Seriously, though, while studying for my MA in Liberal Arts, I was lucky enough to take a great class in Gothic fiction and learn about its roots and its basic elements. You may be surprised to find that while it's easy to come up with ideas, it's hard to find enough time to write them all down.

What is the author's opinion about methods of learning the art of analyzing ideas?

- (a) He thinks that coming up with it is the only challenge that one has to face
- (b) The success lies in easily coming up with ideas along with finding time to write them down
- (c) The only problem associated with while analyzing the ideas is that people don't want to find time for writing them and then memorizing it
- (d) It is hard to believe that people are very much weak in analyzing the minute things related to the every aspect of life
- (e) None of the above

DIRECTIONS (Qs. 11-12): In each of the following question, some statements are given. They may be inferred from the main statement or not. Read the statements carefully and mark the answer:

11. Statement: The Indian High Commission in Antigua and Barbuda had asked the authorities there to stop billionaire diamond trader Mehul Choksi from travelling around the world, sources said on Monday.

Inference:

- I. All billionaire diamond traders should immediately stop travelling to Antigua and Barbuda for the time being.
 - II. Mehul Choksi should seek asylum in some other country to avoid being caught.
 - III. The Indian High Commissioner should himself go and arrest Mehul Choksi.
- (a) If only I follows
(b) If only II follows
(c) If both I and II follow
(d) If both II and III follow
(e) If none of them follow

12. Statement: There is a general protest from the inhabitants of a certain area that the report submitted by a on riots in that area has been fabricated, based on prejudices and has present commission whole event.

Inference:

- I. Another inquiry commission should be sent for proper investigations.
 - II. The members of commission should be severely punished.
 - III. The next commission should consist of inhabitants of that area only.
- (a) If only I follows
(b) If only II follows
(c) If both I and II follow
(d) If both II and III follow
(e) If none of them follow

13. Statement: No one in the Royal Family wants to be king or queen by their choice, Prince Harry has told a US magazine, adding that "we will carry out our duties at the right time". "Is there any one of the Royal Family who wants to be king or queen? I don't think so," he told Newsweek.

Which of the following is not in line with the above statement?

- (I) He said the royals were doing their duties "for the greater good of the people".
 - (II) Harry, who recently said he had received counselling to cope with the death of his mother in a car crash in Paris, said: "My mother had just died, and I had to walk a long way behind her coffin, surrounded by thousands of people watching me while millions more did on television.
 - (III) He also paid tribute to his "remarkable" grandmother for letting the younger royals do things their own way.
- (a) Only (I) (b) Only (II)
(c) Only (III) (d) Both (II) and (III)
(e) None of these

14. Indian police have dropped sedition charges against 15 Muslim men arrested for allegedly shouting "anti-India and pro-Pakistan" slogans during the Champions Trophy cricket final. **Which of the following could be the reason for dropping off of the sedition charges against the arrested men by the police.**

- (I) It was difficult to prove sedition charges against them.
 - (II) None of them has a criminal background.
 - (III) People charged with sedition have to surrender their passports, are not eligible for government jobs, must appear in court as and when required, and spend money on legal fees.
- (a) Only (I) (b) Only (II)
(c) Both (I) and (II) (d) Both (II) and (III)
(e) None of these

15. Read the statement and arguments carefully and choose the right answer.

There is a growing feeling amongst the larger Asian countries that the West is passé. The news coming out of there, especially since the 2008 financial crisis, is of declining populations, big layoffs and economic meltdowns in several countries of the European Union (EU), Italy being the latest. So much of bad news over an extended period gives the impression that the rise of the West has finally halted; that the West is now in cowering retreat.

Which of the following weakens the argument provided in the passage above?

- I. The Western media has contributed to perpetuating the news of the decline of the West.
 - II. The rich West hangs together, with a combined GDP several times than that of the rest of the world.
 - III. The U.S., has a growing population and remains the most productive and innovative in the world, as well as militarily the most powerful.
- (a) Only II (b) Only III
(c) Only I and II (d) Only I and III
(e) Only II and III

Directions (16-20): Below are given some passage followed by several possible inferences which can be drawn from the facts stated in the passage. You have to examine each inference separately in the context of the passage and then decide upon its degree of truth and falsity.

The country has taken a major initiative by introducing convertibility of the Rupee on the current account. It has also been declared that the ultimate goal is to make the Rupee fully convertible. These are signs of the country's achieving economic maturity. India is now ready to welcome foreign capital. It is preparing to reduce import tariffs to levels which are currently the norm in other developing countries. All these measures show that India is today mature and strong enough to face international competition and to integrate itself successfully with the global economy. The country is ready to shed its ideological inhibitions and ready to evaluate the international economic environment in a pragmatic spirit.

16. Convertibility has not been introduced on the capital account.
- if the inference is definitely true.
 - if the inference is probably true.
 - if the data is inadequate.
 - if the inference is probably false.
 - if the inference is definitely false.
17. Current account convertibility means full convertibility.
- if the inference is definitely true.
 - if the inference is probably true.
 - if the data is inadequate.
 - if the inference is probably false.
 - if the inference is definitely false.
18. An economically immature country does not have any convertibility of currency.
- if the inference is definitely true.
 - if the inference is probably true.
 - if the data is inadequate.
 - if the inference is probably false.
 - if the inference is definitely false.
19. Import tariffs in India are lower than those in other developing countries.
- if the inference is definitely true.
 - if the inference is probably true.
 - if the data is inadequate.
 - if the inference is probably false.
 - if the inference is definitely false.
20. Socialistic ideals prevented India from evaluating the international economic environment in a pragmatic spirit.
- if the inference is definitely true.
 - if the inference is probably true.
 - if the data is inadequate.
 - if the inference is probably false.
 - if the inference is definitely false.
- DIRECTIONS (Qs. 21-22):** *There are some criteria which will be considered during appraisal of employee-Statement by manager of a company.*
- Punctuality and sincerity are one of the key points which will be surely reviewed.
 - Hard work and dedication towards work will be applauded.
- Just to quantify an amount in the salary package of employee with no reason will not be entertained.
21. Which of the following can be inferred from the give statement?
- Punching machine of office will be evaluated by HR.
 - There will be minimum 10% increment for deserving employee based on their performance.
 - Some of employees of company have done a tremendous job with complete determination and enthusiasm.
- Only I
 - Both II and III
 - Both I and III
 - Only III
 - None of these
22. Which of the following undermines the statement given by Manager?
- Increment of 15% has been done for all the employees whose 1 year is completed.
 - Performance chart has been prepared by leaders of different department based on their proficiency.
 - Relaxation time for late coming of 240 minutes in a year i.e. of 10 minutes twice in a month is given to all employees.
- Only II
 - Both II and III
 - Both I and III
 - Only I
 - None of these
23. Begusarai, a district in Bihar which has seen the phase of kidnapping, extortion, murder to "The Industrial city of Bihar". Nowadays there are 4 major industries in Begusarai. Growth rate of Begusarai is top amongst all districts of Bihar and 5th among all districts of India in year 2017. Which of the following can be inferred from the above statement?
- Opportunities of the employment has been increased in Begusarai.
 - There is no case of murder, kidnapping and extortion in 2017.
 - People of Begusarai are hardworking and keen to go forward.
 - Top industrialists of India are desirous to have their industry in Begusarai.
- Only II
 - Only I and III
 - Only I
 - Only III and IV
 - None of these

Hints & Solutions

1. (a) 'Perplexed' because if Radha is facing commutation issues, she should shift to the nearer place which will obvious be higher than the rent she is paying currently but as she is thinking a lot about the migration and can't take decisions because of the financial issues, she is proved to be a perplexed or confused person
2. (a) 'Money-minded' as Sarveshram is ready to switch in new department and leave the expertise and experience he has gained in the past three years.
3. (e) 'Generous' because Miss Sheoran has removed the bread crumbs and applied the butter for the sake of the struggling and poverty-stricken artist.
4. (c) 'Good things happen to the bad people' because Aman wanted to impress his girlfriend for which he removed the documents from his office, but as the raid conducted and the credit of such raid had been given to him, it was something good that happened to a bad person.
5. (a) 'Helping' because Raman has given priority to the need of the child.
6. (e) 'The thought is better than the reality' as when Mcvities decided to give up his life for the sake of something good, his long-awaited desired which he was ready to shun fulfilled.
7. (d) 'He was a person, who having overcome major obstacles, is undone by something trivial' because the efforts in the end went vain.
8. (e)
9. (c) 'She is a bit shy for sports and far away from being called as the gym rat' as comparing to her brother, she was completely an opposite personality.
10. (a) 'The success lies in easily coming up with it along with the finding time to write them down' is the only method described about the art of analyzing ideas given in the passage.
11. (e) None of the courses of action follow. All of them contain a lot of extraneous information and are impractical solutions.
12. (e) I does not follow because it may cause a chain reaction. II is negative inference because without the proper investigation the punishment will not be the correct action, hence II does not follow. III also leads to biased report.
13. (c) Statement (I) suggests that royals are not kings or queens by choice but because they have to, for the welfare of the country which is in line with the statement. (II) fortifies the statement by stating out an example in which he had to face problems because of his royal background. (III) is irrelevant to the statement.
14. (c) Statement (I) and (II) are valid enough reason for dropping the charges against arrested men. Whereas statement (III) only gives some details about the severity of the sedition charges.
15. (d) The argument in the passage is that the West is not doing well.
Statement I is incorrect as it does not impact the argument and simply states that the media plays a role in spreading the news of the West's decline.
Statements II and III are correct. Both weaken the argument that the West has lost power. Hence, option (d) is correct.
16. (a) 17. (e) 18. (b) 19. (e) 20. (b)
21. (a) For I: Yes, it can be inferred from the given statements as it is clearly mentioned punctuality and sincerity are one of the key points which will surely reviewed.
For II: No, it is clear from the given statements that there will be increment but percentage cannot be inferred.
For III: No, as it is mentioned by manager that hard work and dedication towards work will be applauded. But, Is there some employee who have done their work with complete determination and enthusiasm, it cannot be inferred. We can assume it but it cannot be inferred from it.
22. (c) For I: Yes, it weakens the statement of manager as it is said by manager that increment will be based on performance i.e. hard work and determination. But 15% for all those employees who have completed 1 year undermines the statement by manager.
For II: No, it strengthens the statement by manager as performance chart has been prepared and appraisal will be done accordingly.
For III: Yes, it weakens because it is mentioned that punctuality is one of the key factor and if those who is punctual and those who gets relaxation time and both are considered as same, then it's a partiality for the punctual coming employee.
23. (b) For I: Yes, as it is mentioned in statement that nowadays there are 4 major industries in Begusarai, then it is obvious employment will increase.
For II: No, we cannot say that there is no case of murder, kidnapping or extortion, we can only say it has been reduced. But this reduction has touch the figure of zero, it cannot be inferred.
For III: Yes, as it is mentioned growth rate of Begusarai is top in Bihar and 5th among all districts in India, and Begusarai has moved from the phase of darkness. It clearly indicates that people of Begusarai are hardworking and keen to move forward.
For IV: No, it has been mentioned that nowadays Begusarai has 4 major industries but we cannot say that top industrialists have desire to have their industry in Begusarai.