

## ARGUMENT

**Directions:** In making decisions about important questions, it is desirable to be able to distinguish between "Strong" arguments and "Weak" arguments in so far as they relate to the question. "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.

**Instructions:** 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**

- 1) if only argument I is strong.
- 2) if only argument II is strong.
- 3) if either I or II is strong.
- 4) if neither I nor II is strong and
- 5) if both I and II are strong.

**1. 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? **(SBIPO Exams -2000)**

**2. 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? **SBIPO Exams -2000**

**3. 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. **SBIPO Exams -2000**

**4. Statement:** Should higher qualification be the only criteria for internal promotions in any organisation?

**Arguments:**

- I. Yes, why not? In fact only high or 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 **SBIPO Exams-2000**

**5. 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. **SBIPO Exams-2000**

**6. 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. **Bank of Baroda PO-1999**

7. **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.

**Bank of Baroda PO-1999**

8. **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.

**Bank of Baroda PO-1999**

9. **Statement:** With the opening of the economy in India, should all workers unions be banned?

**Arguments:**

I. No, workers unions are not banned in the other economically advanced countries.

II. No, a level-headed worker's union can really do wonders both for workers and economy.

**Bank of Baroda PO-1999**

10. **Statement:** Should we grant permission to reputed private companies to construct civil airports 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.

**Bank of Baroda PO - 1999**

11. **Statement:** Should computer knowledge be made a compulsory subject for all students at secondary school certificate (S SC.) examination in India'?

**Arguments:**

I. No, our need is 'bread' for everyone, we cannot follow western models.

II. Yes, we cannot enter the year 2000 without equipping our children with computers. **SBI Associates PO-1999**

12. **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.

**SBI Associates PO-1999**

13. **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.

**SBI Associates PO-1999**

14. **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.

**SBI Associates PO - 1999**

15. **Statement:** Should system of offering jobs only towards 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?

**SBI Associates PO-1999**

16. **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.

**Guwahati PO-1999**

17. **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

**Guwahati PO-1999**

18. **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.

**Guwahati PO-1999**

19. **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.

**Guwahati PO-1999**

20. **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.

**Guwahati PO-1999**

21. **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.

**BSRB Mumbai PO-1999**

22. **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.

**BSRB Mumbai PO-1999**

23. **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.

**BSRB Mumbai PO-1999**

24. **Statement:** Should military training of 3 years be made compulsory to all able-bodied youths in India?

**Arguments:**

I. Yes, similar practice is being followed in some developed countries.

II. No, compulsion spoils the best in everything.

**NABARD-1999**

25. **Statement:** Should Government standardize rent for rented houses in big cities in India?

**Arguments:**

I. No, it is an interference in the relationship between landlord and tenant.

II. Yes, Government can do it, provided it has political will to do it.

**NABARD-1999**

26. **Statement:** Should old and poorly maintained petrol diesel vehicles like autorickshaws and taxis which generate heavy pollution be banned for public services in big cities?

**Arguments:**

- I. Yes, it will reduce pollution level in these cities which will enhance health of citizen.
- II. No, what will the poor autorickshaw /taxi driver do for their survival?

**NABARD-1999**

27. **Statement:** Should Government-dependent loss-making academic institutes like universities/colleges be closed down in India?

**Arguments:**

- I. Yes, they are only creating batches of unemployable young graduates.
- II. Yes, none of the developed countries support universities by such massive financing.

**NABARD-1999**

28. **Statement:** Should the system of paying minimum purchase price for farmers for wheat, rice and the like be scrapped in India?

**Arguments:**

- I. No, farmers who produce our staple food must get decent return on their investment and labour in a Welfare State like India.
- II. Yes, it is an outdated practice which we must discard

**NABARD-1999**

29. **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 conditional amendments and our prestige will lower.
- II. Yes, this is the only way out adopted by developing countries.

**BSRB Bhopal PO - 2000**

30. **Statement:** 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.

**BSRB Bhopal PO-2000**

31. **Statement:** 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.

**BSRB Bhopal PO - 2000**

32. **Statement:** 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.

**BSRB Bhopal PO- 2000**

33. **Statement:** 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.

**BSRB Bhopal PO-2000**

34. **Statement:** 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.

**BSRB Patna PO-2001**

35. **Statement:** Should more smaller states be formed from the remaining bigger slates'?

**Arguments:**

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

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

**BSRB Patna PO- 2001**

36. **Statement:** 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.

**BSRB Patna PO-2001**

37. **Statement:** 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.

**BSRB Patna PO-2001**

38. **Statement:** 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.

**BSRB Patna PO-2001**

39. **Statement:** 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.

40. **Statement:** 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.

**SBI PO Exams-2001**

41. **Statement:** 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 work.

**SBI PO Exams-2001**

42. **Statement:** 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.

**SBI PO Exams - 2001**

43. **Statement:** 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.

**SBI PO Exams -2001**

44. **Statement:** Should the TV channels depicting sex and violence be banned?

**Arguments:**

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.

**Corporation Bank PO Exams - 2002**

45. **Statement:** Should promotions in the armed forces be made on the basis of seniority?

**Arguments:**

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.

**Corporation Bank PO Exams - 2002**

46. **Statement:** Should automation be restricted only to industrial sector in our country?

**Arguments:**

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.

**Corporation Bank PO Exams-2002**

47. **Statement:** Should the freedom of press be curbed in a democratic country?

**Arguments:**

I. Yes. Press, if not curbed, may go to any extent to lead the public astray.

II. No. Why should we do that?

**Corporation Bank PO Exams - 2002**

48. **Statement:** Should sex education be included in the syllabus of junior college as a compulsory subject?

**Arguments:**

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.

**Corporation Bank PO Exams- 2002**

49. **Statement:** Should the public sector undertakings be allowed to adopt hire-and-fire policy?

**Arguments:**

I. Yes. This will help the public sector undertakings to get rid of non-performing employees and will also help to reward the performing employees.

II. No, the management may not be able to implement the policy in an unbiased manner and the employees will suffer due to the high-handedness of the management.

**IBPS PO Exams -2002**

50. **Statement:** Should India carry out fresh tests of nuclear weapons?

**Arguments:**

- I. Yes, this will send a stern message to the whole world that India is serious to defend herself by any means from aggression.
- II. No, the international community will isolate India and this will bring a setback to Indian economy.

**IBPS PO Exams-2002**

51. **Statement:** Should there be more than one High Court in each State in India?

**Arguments:**

- I. No, this will be a sheer wastage of taxpayers' money
- II. Yes, this will help reduce the backlog of cases pending for a very long time.

**IBPS PO Exams-2002**

52. **Statement:** Should all the rivers of India be brought under Central Water Commission?

**Arguments:**

- I. Yes, it will ensure equal distribution of water to the States.
- II. No, because it will be contrary to the geographical conditions in the States.

**IBPS PO Exams-2002**

53. **Statement:** Should the government open more medical colleges in the country?

**Arguments:**

- I. No, because the Government should ensure quality education in the existing Medical colleges as majority of the colleges lack necessary infrastructure.
- II. Yes, because there is urgent need of qualified doctors and the ratio between doctors and citizens is the lowest in India.

**IBPS PO Exams-2002**

54. **Statement:** Should there be a total ban on all tobacco products in India?

**Arguments:**

- I. No, this will render a large number of people jobless
- II. No, the government will lose huge amount of money as it will not earn by way of taxes on these products.

**Andhra Bank SO-2002**

55. **Statement:** Should Hindi language be made compulsory at school level in all the States in India?

**Arguments:**

- I. No, students should not be forced to learn any language.
- II. Yes, it is the national language, so everybody must learn it.

**Andhra Bank SO-2002**

56. **Statement:** Should the retirement age of all government employees in India be made 55 years?

**Arguments:**

- I. Yes, this will help government to offer employment to youth at lower cost and with higher productivity.
- II. No, the government will be deprived of the expertise of the experienced employees and this will have adverse effect on the productivity.

**Andhra Bank SO-2002**

57. **Statement:** Should India pull out of Commonwealth Confederation?

**Arguments:**

- I. No, India will lose an international forum to express its opinion on world matters.
- II. Yes, Commonwealth has lost its relevance in the post-cold war scenario.

**Andhra Bank SO-2002**

58. **Statement:** Should all the profit-making public sector units be sold to private companies?

**Arguments:**

I. Yes, this will help the government to augment its resources for implementing the development programmes.

II. No, the private companies will not be able to run these units effectively.

**Andhra Bank SO-2002**

59. **Statement:** Should the existing labour laws be changed on the favour of owners?

**Arguments:**

I. Yes, the existing labour laws give much more protection to employees than required and thus production is reduced.

II. No, because owners would exploit-employees as before when there were no labour laws.

**RBI Grade 'B' Officer's Exam -2002**

60. **Statement:** Should India acquire/manufacture the latest nuclear weapons?

**Arguments:**

I. Yes, the enemies of India are improving their weapons continuously.

II. No, it will be against our policy of maintaining world peace.

**RBI Grade 'B' Officer's Exam - 2002**

61. **Statement:** Should animals be killed in the name of laboratory experiment?

**Argument:**

I. Yes, they are available in abundance.

II. No, we have been supporting non-violence on every step of our lives.

**RBI Grade 'B' Officer's Exam - 2002**

62. **Statement:** Should the prestigious people be met with special treatment by law if they have committed crime unknowingly?

**Arguments:**

I. Yes, because the prestigious people do not commit crime intentionally.

II. No, it is our policy that everybody is equal before the law.

**RBI Grade 'B' Officer's Exam - 2002**

63. **Statement:** Should mutual funds be brought under stricter Government control?

**Arguments:**

I. Yes, that is one of the ways to protect the interest of the investors.

II. No, stricter Government controls are likely to be counterproductive.

**RBI Grade 'B' Officer's Exam - 2002**

64. **Statement:** Should India allow the foreign media companies to buy stakes in the print media in India?

**Arguments:**

I. Yes, this will improve the quality of reporting in Indian newspapers by way of expertise and technological upgradation.

II. No, they will divert people's mind from important national issues to trivial issues important to their interests.

**NABARD Asistant Manager - 2002**

65. **Statement:** Should India develop a national water grid by connecting all the rivers in the country?

**Arguments:**

I. No, this is just not possible as we do not have the technical knowhow.

II. Yes, this will greatly help the entire country by effectively channelling the excess water to the areas having shortage.

**NABARD Asistant Manager-2002**



66. **Statement:** Should there be Board examination at the end of Std. IV for all the students in India?

**Arguments:**

- I. No, this will unnecessarily burden the children at their tender age and hamper normal growth.
- II. Yes, in today's competitive world the children need to be prepared right from the beginning to face such difficult examinations.

**NABARD Assistant Manager - 2002**

67. **Statement:** Should India create a huge oil reserve like some western countries to face difficult situations in future?

**Arguments:**

- I. No, there is no need to block huge amount of foreign exchange and keep the money idle.
- II. Yes, this will help India withstand shocks of sudden rise in oil prices due to unforeseen circumstances.

**NABARD Assistant Manager- 2002**

68. **Statement:** Should the parents of those children who do not send their wards to school be fined?

**Arguments:**

- I. Yes, this is the only way to eradicate illiteracy.
- II. No, why should the parents be fined?

**NABARD Assistant Manager - 2002**

69. **Statement:** Should there be capital punishment for those who are found guilty of rape charges?

**Arguments:**

- I. Yes, this is the only way to eliminate such atrocities on women.
- II. No, this will lead to more violence as culprits may even kill the rape victims.

**Canara Bank PO-2003**

70. **Statement:** Should all the non-performing employees in the public sector be compulsorily retrenched from service?

**Arguments:**

- I. No, this will give an unjust handle to the management and they may use it indiscriminately.
- II. Yes, this will help increase the level of efficiency of these organisations and these organisations will become profitable establishments.

**Canara Bank PO-2003**

71. **Statement:** Should there be compulsory medical examination of both the man and the woman before they marry each other?

**Arguments:**

- I. No, this is an intrusion into the privacy of an individual and hence cannot be tolerated.
- II. Yes, this will substantially reduce the risk of giving birth to children with serious ailments.

**Canara Bank PO-2003**

72. **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.

**Canara Bank PO-2003**

73. **Statement:** Should all the foreign banks immediately be asked to close down their operations in India?

**Arguments:**

- I. No, this will have an adverse impact on Indian economy.
- II. Yes, this is the only way to make the Indian banks survive and prosper.

**Canara Bank PO -2003**

74. **Statement:** Should India become a permanent member of UN's Security Council?

**Arguments:**

- I. Yes, India has emerged as a country which loves peace and amity.
- II. No, Let us first solve problems of our own people like poverty, malnutrition.

**IBPS Jr Executive Exams - 2002**

75. **Statement:** Should Government close down loss-making public sector enterprises?

**Arguments:**

I. No. All employees will lose their jobs, security and earning; what would they do?

II. Yes. In a competitive world the rule is 'survival of the fittest'.

**IBPS Jr Executive Exams - 2002**

76. **Statement:** Should persons convicted of criminal offences in the past be allowed to contest elections in India?

**Arguments:**

I. No. Such persons can not serve the cause of the people and the country.

II. Yes. It is democracy — let people decide whom to vote.

**IBPS Jr Executive Exams - 2002**

77. **Statement:** Should Government 'freeze' pay-scales and salary of all private and public sectors and its own employees to contain inflation?

**Arguments:**

I. Yes. All over the world this is considered as a sure way to contain inflation.

II. No. The government should control market forces to keep check on the prices.

**IBPS Jr Executive Exams - 2002**

78. **Statement:** 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.

**PNB Management Trainee - 2003**

79. **Statement:** 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.

**PNB Management Trainee-2003**

80. **Statement:** 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.

**PNB Management Trainee - 2003**

81. **Statement:** 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.

**PNB Management Trainee - 2003**

82. **Statement:** 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

**PNB Management Trainee - 2003**

83. **Statement:** 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. **SBI PO-2003**

84. **Statement:** 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. **SBI PO - 2003**

85. **Statement:** 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. **SBI PO-2003**

86. **Statement:** 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. **SBI PO-2003**

87. **Statement:** 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. **SBI PO - 2003**

88. **Statement:** 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. **Bank of Maharashtra PO-2003**

89. **Statement:** 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. **Bank of Maharashtra PO - 2003**

90. **Statement:** 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 judgement 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. **Bank of Maharashtra PO - 2003**

91. **Statement:** 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.

**Bank of Maharashtra PO - 2003**

92. **Statement:** 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.

**Bank of Maharashtra PO - 2003**

93. **Statement:** Should women be given equal opportunity in matter of employment in every field?

**Arguments:**

I. Yes. They are equally capable.

II. No. They have to shoulder household responsibilities too.

**SIDBI Officer's Grade Exams - 2000**

94. **Statement:** Should trade unions be banned completely

**Arguments:**

I. No. This is the only way through which employee can put their demands before management.

II. Yes. Employees get their illegal demands fulfilled through these unions.

**SIDBI Officer's Grade Exams - 2000**

95. **Statement:** Should the habit of late-coming in educational institutions be checked?

**Arguments:**

I. No. Until it affects the work.

II. Yes. Discipline must be maintained.

**SIDBI Officer's Grade Exams - 2000**

96. **Statement:** Should children be prevented completely from watching television?

**Arguments:**

I. No. We get vital information regarding education through television.

II. Yes. It hampers the study of children.

**SIDBI Officer's Grade Exams - 2000**

97. **Statement:** Should seniority be the only criterion for the promotion?

**Arguments:**

I. No. All the senior employees are not interested in promotion.

II. Yes. Otherwise senior employees feel humiliated.

**SIDBI Officer's Grade Exams - 2000**

## Answers and Explanations

1.1; Argument 1 is advantageous. Argument II has lack of any theme.

2.1; 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.

3.2; 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.

4.2; Neither the reason nor other factors are given in Argument 1. Hence, it is weak. On the same grounds II is strong.

5.4; I is not strong. The individual's demands are as important as the motherland's. II is weak because of its complacent attitude.

6.4; I is distorting the argument. II is based on an example which may not apply to India.

7.5; Both are strong because from the economic point of view we can't ignore either unemployment or revenue loss.

8.1; 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.

9. 4; I is based on example, Hence does not follow. II is a vague argument.

10. 2; II is strong because national security is a priority area

11.2; 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.

12.5   13.1   14.2   15.5

16. 2; 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.

17. 4; 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,

18. Argument I presupposes the absence of trained teachers Which is not true. II is strong because cultural ground can't be neglected.

19.4; II is weak because of the term only 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

20.4; II is an example. Example is generally a weak argument. All countries may have different constitutions, different financial status, difference in population etc. Hence II is weak argument. I suggests only alternate arrangement The reasons of banning are not given. Hence I, too, is weak argument.

21.4; 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.

22.1; Economic advantage and user-friendliness are strong reasons. Hence I is strong. II is weak because it is tantamount to following other countries blindly,

23.1; 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.

24.4; It is possible that the condition of India is different from those of developed countries; e.g. The developed countries have small population compared to India. Hence following them always is not wise. Hence I is not strong. II is not strong because it shies away from being specific. Such generalisations are usually weak arguments.

25.4; I is hardly an argument. It merely states the obvious. It says nothing about why the Govt should not interfere. II deviates from the question. The questions is why the Govt should do it, not whether it can do it.

26. 1; I is strong because health can't be neglected. II is weak because it is a cry of desperation. Note that it is not strong enough to aver that survival is not possible.

27.1; I is strong. We cannot afford to have for the masses an education that is not oriented towards employment. II is not strong because it does not go into the reason why developed countries don't go for such financing.

28. 1; I is strong because of the Welfare State theory. But II does not give a proper reason. It vaguely terms the practice as "outdated".

29.4; 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.

30.2; The main purpose of decentralisation of power is to run the functions of 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 sort of merely rephrases the statement.

31. 5; 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.

32. 1; 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.

33. 2; 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.

34.2; If I were strong then the provision to amend the constitution would not have been there. Hence I is not strong. Certainly, the no. of candidates will be reduced and it will be easier for the electorate to decide about them. Hence II is a strong argument.

35.5; Here both arguments are strong.

36. 5; I is strong because it does not make sense to penalise the rest of the country for something I use. II is strong because if it leads to inflation, even the poor will get trapped.

37.2; Reducing the term is no 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.

38. 5; I is strong because non-serious students vitiate the environment. Besides, when we have PhDs who hardly know their subject, it brings disrepute to our education system. II is strong because merit should not be allowed to rot for want of money.

39. 1; 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. "Best fit" does not specify a cause.

40.2; Argument I does not go into the reason while argument II does.

41. 5; I is strong because often the need arises for the employees to voice their demands. II is also strong because the employees are abusing their right.

42. 5; Both arguments are strong -I on humanitarian grounds and II on legal grounds.

43.1; I would be strong because "competitiveness" and "better service" are desirable. But is it "the only way"? Certainly not. Hence I is weak. II is weak because the argument has a flawed assumption. MNCs are a threat to national security.

44.4; 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) necessary to be watched. .

45.2; 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 the most on this factor. II is strong because it advocates for efficient persons who must not be ignored.

46.5; Both promote employment in their own ways.

47. I; I is strong because it pin-points the possible negative effect.

48.1; I is strong because education leads to abolition of malpractices carried or in a hush-hush manner. II is not strong because the argument confuses education with titillation.

49. 1; I is strong because it will enhance efficiency of public sector undertakings. II is based on wrong notions. Hence. II is not strong.

50. 2; Why a fresh test of nuclear weapons? Fresh tests of nuclear weapons will be termed as an exhibition of nuclear weapons. Having nuclear capacity is enough to show a strong defending capacity. In a nutshell, argument I carries a wrong notion. Argument II divulges the bad effects if India carries out fresh tests of nuclear weapons.

51. 1; Why more than one High Court? A single efficient High Court is enough to do the job of more than one High Court. Hence, I is strong because it is true that there will be a wastage of money in that case. II is weak because increase in number of High Courts will not necessarily result in quick disposal of pending cases.

52.4

53. 5; I is strong because if existing medical colleges lack necessary infrastructure then opening new medical colleges will not be an appropriate step. II is strong because assuming things to be in a proper shape, more medical college does mean a greater number of qualified doctors.

54. 5; Both the arguments are strong. I is strong because unemployment is a major problem. II is also strong because it will debilitate the Financial condition of the government. Weak financial condition will affect the development work of the government.

55. 2; I is not strong because it has nothing substantial. The use of compulsory" in the question itself implies "being forced". II is strong because national language is not something to be seen as a mere token.

56. 5; Both the arguments are strong: I is strong because it will give more opportunity to youth and will make the output more dynamic. II is strong because role of experience plays a vital role in enhancing productivity.

57.1

58. 1; I is strong because it is beneficial for the country. II is weak because it is based on a wrong notion.

59. 5; I is strong because we are not in a position to afforded less production. II is strong because exploitation of employees is not desirable either.

60. 1; I is strong from the point of view of the security of the nation. II is weak because it is the use of weapons, no their possession, which is a threat to peace. Our policy is of no-first-use.

61.4; Abundance of animals does not mean that we should reduce their number. Hence, I is a weak argument. II is also a weak argument because it does not depict the real picture. Are we really supporting non-violence on every step of our lives? Moreover, it does not go into the reason for practising non-violence.

62. 2; Argument I advocates that prestigious people do not commit crime intentionally. Is it true? Answer is 'No' Hence, I is a weak argument. Argument II is a strong argument.

63.1

64. 1; I is strong because it says not only about the positive impact of foreign media on our reporting of newspaper but also how this change will come about. II is a weak argument because allowing foreign media companiesto buy stakes does not implies that these companies will be given entirely free hand to operate print media in India. Besides, this argument assumes the reader to be stupid.

65. 2; I is weak because it does not focuss on the core issue and supports it with a wrong assumption. Note that a need can be fulfilled with the help of other countries if India lacks the required technology. II is a strong argument because optimum and even use of water is desirable.

66.4

67. 2; I is weak because it simply negates the need of oil reserves. II is strong because such oil reserves will play a major role in bearing the brunt of the rise in oil prices due to unforeseen reasons.



68.4

69. 2; I is weak because it is not true. Is it the only way? Second is correct on logical thinking.

70. 5; I is strong because such sweeping powers often tend to fall prey to vested interests. II is strong on the ground of performance.

71. 2; I is weak because it gives importance to the privacy of the individual more than medical examination, ie health, care. II is a strong argument because it is a desirable piece of truth.

72. 1; I is strong as it is based on an established fact. II is not true. Hence, II is a weak argument.

73. 1; I is strong because it is not desirable that the Indian economy be led into trouble. II is weak because this is Not the only way.

74. 1; I is strong because it mentions the indispensable requirement in support of its claim. But II is not strong because grabbing the opportunity of being a permanent member of UN will, on the contrary, give a new impetus to the development work.

75. 1; I is strong because we can't ignore a large section of employees. II is not strong because it does not add anything to the statement.

76. 2; I is not true. Hence, I is not strong. II is strong because the choice of the people should be given supremacy.

77. 1; Since India is a part of the world, whatever is true all over the world should be true for India also. Hence I is strong. But II is weak because it provides an alternative instead of going into the reason.

78. 5; 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.

79.4; Argument I is not strong because India should take its stand according to its need. Argument II is not correct because of the word 'only'. Hence, argument II is not strong.

80. 2; 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.

81. 1; 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.

82. 5; 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.

83.5; 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.

84. 2; I is weak because it advocates an extreme action. It does not take into account the cost incurred. II is strong on humanitarian grounds.

85. 2; Argument 1 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.

86.4; 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.

87. 1; 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.

88. 1; 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.

89. 1; 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.

90. 5; I is strong because it will make the election process more meaningful and purposeful. II is strong on account of the tenets of democracy.

91. 5; 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.

92. 1; I is strong on the basis of Constitutional right. II is not true. Hence, it is a weak argument.

93. 4; It has not been mentioned how women are equally capable. Hence I is weak. Household responsibilities can be equally shared by men and women. Hence II is weak.

94. 1; I is the very rationale behind the establishment of trade unions. Hence I is strong. Illegal demand cannot be fulfilled unless the management is fully convinced of the reasonability of their demands. Hence II is weak.

95. 2; I is not strong because instead of giving a reason, it adds a further clause. II is strong because discipline plays a major role in an educational institution.

96. 1; Watching TV may also be a part of education. More- over, long hours of studies without entertainment may prove to be fruitless.

97.4; I is not strong because the question of criterion arises only when the employee is really for promotion. II is not strong because a blind submission to such a feeling will do no good to the organisation. The effort should be to take measures that make employees feel that they are being cared for even though not promoted.

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