VERBAL REASONING WORKSHOP
Verbal in CAT

- Reading Comprehension
- Verbal Ability
- Verbal Reasoning
# Verbal Ability

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word Based questions</th>
<th>Grammar Based Questions</th>
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<td><strong>Vocab</strong>: synonyms</td>
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<td>antonyms</td>
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<td>analogies</td>
<td>Multiple usage</td>
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<td>odd man out</td>
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<td><strong>Usage based</strong>: Fill in the blanks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Multiple usage</td>
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<td>Choose the appropriate words : homophones/misused words</td>
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Verbal Reasoning

**Conceptual**
- Critical Reasoning
- Fact / Inference/Judgment
- Upstream and Downstream Argument
- Logical and Farfetched conclusion

**Non-Conceptual**
- Para Jumble
- Para Completion
- Summary based
- Restatement of an idea
What is Reasoning?

Reasoning is the ability to question why a particular thing happens.

Rules of Reasoning:
• Information
• Validity of a statement
• Elimination
Any statement that is verifiable

Characteristics of a Fact

- A chair has four legs [countable]
- One looks forward to set objectives for the coming year [mass activity]
- Nestle tried to capture the market with Maggie soup variants but got into a bit of a soup itself, with competitor HLL dragging it to the ASCI [example]
- The state government is giving finishing touches to a financial package for the mango farmers in Konkan, Mantralaya officials said [quote]
An opinion or a judgment is any statement which is not verifiable.

Characteristics of a Judgment

- Nothing sells better than promises of a happy heart [adjective: uncountable]
- The rise of Indian currency will impact exporters adversely [prediction]
- The tolerance or even defense of encounter killings is deeply flawed [author’s view]
- Like the boycott of foreign goods in pre-independent days somebody should convince people not to drink soft drinks. [advice]
A conclusion is a judgment derived from a fact; This Judgment is known as a conclusion.

- I don’t like principles, I prefer prejudices penned author Oscar Wilde, no doubt frustrated with the social mores of his day.
- Amazon.com is the largest online bookstore with over 300,000 titles available. Hence, you will be able to find the book you want.
- The current season is likely to see the output drop to less than 3 lakh tones.
Assumption

A statement based on a fact which helps derive a conclusion
An assumption is always implicit (never stated)

Examples:
• Assumption when a notice is displayed
• An assumption while an advertisement is printed
• An assumption when an advice is given
Fact/Inference/judgment
Argument

Premise + Assumption = Conclusion

This equation or relation is known as an Argument

Example:
Amitabh is the highest paid actor (Premise)
Therefore a good actor (Conclusion)
Assumption is: good is defined in terms of payment

The above statement is known as an argument
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FACT</th>
<th>JUDGMENT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Countable</td>
<td>Uncountable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visible</td>
<td>Invisible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quote</td>
<td>Adjectives/adverbs/abstract nouns</td>
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<tr>
<td>Past activity</td>
<td>Author’s view</td>
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<tr>
<td>Present activity</td>
<td>Advice</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mass activity</td>
<td>Future activity or prediction</td>
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<tr>
<td>Examples</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Information</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
1. The present government has avowed goals to reduce poverty and stimulate development.
2. The PM has acknowledged the need for focused investment in science and technology by announcing a doubling of related spend in terms of percentage of GDP over the next couple of years.
3. Parliament’s approval for the creation of a National Science and Eng Research Board, responsible for funding and furthering scientific research is laudable and a significant step in the right direction.
4. The HRD Ministry’s efforts to improve the higher education system and the establishment of 5 new IISER in the past 3 years should provide a vital boost to the cause of scientific research in India.
1. As cinema screens open every other month in malls across the country, cinema hall owners have to offer more than just movies to set them apart.

2. When PVR cinemas opened its first multiplex in Delhi, it revolutionized the way we watched movies.

3. About a decade later, while single-screen theatres in the nation’s capital are all but extinct multiplexes have opened in virtually every major shopping mall.

4. Clearly, the future of movie-watching is multiplexes
Critical reasoning
Critical reasoning

- **Premise**: any data given/information given/statement that is verifiable
- **Conclusion**: A conclusion is a judgment derived from a fact; the fact is verifiable and so is the judgment. This Judgment is known as a conclusion.
- **Assumption**: a statement based on a fact to derive the conclusion
- **Argument**: P+A = C
- **Inference**: A judgment derived from the fact; the fact is verifiable but the judgment is not verifiable. Such a judgment is known as an Inference
Inference

A judgment derived from the fact; the fact is verifiable but the judgment is not verifiable. Such a judgment is known as an Inference.
## Inference Vs Conclusion

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Opinion type</th>
<th>Fact</th>
<th>Verifiable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Judgment</td>
<td>Is not derived from a fact</td>
<td>Is not verifiable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conclusion</td>
<td>Is derived from a fact</td>
<td>Is verifiable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inference</td>
<td>Is derived from a fact</td>
<td>Is not verifiable</td>
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</table>
Types of questions

- **Premise**: additional premise required to support the argument/strengthen the argument
- **Conclusion**: Identify the appropriate conclusion for the argument.
- **Inference**: Identify the appropriate inference for the argument.
- **Weakening the argument**
- **Strengthening** the argument
- Identify the reason for the **Paradox**
- **Assumption**: Identify the assumption and Flaw in the reasoning
Long before the advent of science, man was groping in darkness helplessly trying in his own primitive way to understand the nature around him. Science has revolutionized his attitude to nature. His prejudices and false notions have now been unmasked. It has bestowed on him perception enough to unravel mysteries of nature to his benefit. He is no more a dumb driven cattle at the behest of nature.

Q : Identify the conclusion in the above paragraph
Cricket Australia has introduced a new clause in the players contract that stipulates that players are not to work as commentators for broadcasting companies, for a three-year period immediately after they retire from international cricket. Observers have expressed concerns that this clause is unfair as it would prevent retired cricketers from earning a livelihood for a three-year period immediately after their retirement.

Q Which of the following is an assumption critics of the clause make?
Cricket is the most popular sport in India. However its popularity has adversely affected the prospects of the other sports like hockey and football. In order to correct the imbalance, the Ministry of sports should stop funding cricket and allot those resources to other sports.

Q Which of the following if true, would most weaken the above argument?
A study conducted by the market research firm ACN reveals that corporate executives who own expensive luxury sedans earn more than did corporate executives who owe cheaper mid-sized cars. ACN researchers assert that based on this evidence, it is clear that a corporate executive who wishes to earn more should purchase a luxury sedan.

Q What is the flaw in this argument?
Inference based : Identify the Inference?

The assumption of power by the Khalijis was an event of great significance in so far as it marked the assumption of power by the Indian Muslims, who were considered inferior by the Turks. Talauddin Khalji who came to the throne at the ripe age of 70 , adopted a very liberal and tolerant policy. He permitted most of the Turkish nobles to enjoy their previous posts and even pardoned those who revolted against him.

Q What inference can be drawn from this paragraph about Talauddin Khalji?
No international economic organization has perhaps generated as much as concern and controversy in India as WTO has done, although it is technically a successor to GATT, which was in existence for 47 years and of which we took little notice.

Q Which of the following could explain the above inconsistency?
Bhansali is in the process of turning out a new film in which Amitabh is playing a role. Amitabh has always performed brilliantly in films, and this one is therefore bound to be a hit.

Q Which of the following is similar to the argument above?
1. A manuscript found after Agatha’s death is soon to be published as a book. This is sure to be a best seller as all of her other books have been.

2. HH, the chain famous for Hyderabadi cuisine will be opening a outlet for Chinese food next week. Those looking for good Chinese food need look no further.

3. India will face South Africa in the one-day international to be played tomorrow. Dhoni is in the playing eleven. India is sure to lose since Dhoni has never clicked against South Africa.

4. The Turf Club will be opening their 3rd off course betting counter in the city tomorrow. VVSL, the renowned cricketer, will be doing the honours. A huge gathering of punters can be expected to turn up.
PARA JUMBLES
Para jumbles

Ways to tackle Para jumbles

• Types
• Introduction (if required)
• Links : Structure/grammar

Content

Structure links :

• Noun-pronoun (number, gender)
• Conjunctions
• Parallelism
para jumbles

Content links:

- Idea elaboration
- Idea example
- Cause effect
- Chronology
- Common word approach
- Generic to specific
In America, highly educated women, who are in a stronger position in the labour market than less qualified ones, have higher rates of marriage than other groups. Some work supports the Becker thesis, and some appears to contradict it. And, as with crime, it is equally inconclusive. But regardless of the conclusion of any particular piece of work, it is hard to establish convincing connections between family changes and economic factors using conventional approaches. Indeed, just as with crime, an enormous academic literature exists on the validity of the pure economic approach to the evolution of family structures.
A. I had six thousand acres of land, and had thus got much spare land besides the coffee plantation. Part of the farm was native forest, and about one thousand acres were squatters’ land, what [the Kikuyu] called their shambas.

B. The squatters’ land was more intensely alive than, the rest of the farm, and was changing with the seasons the year round. The maize grew up higher than your head as you walked on the narrow hard-trampled footpaths in between the tall green rustling regiments.

C. The squatters are Natives, who with their families (hold a few acres on a white man’s farm, and in return have to work for him a certain number of days in the year. My squatters, I think, saw the relationship in a different light, for many of them were born on the farm, and their fathers before them, and they very likely regarded me as a sort of superior squatter on their estates.

D. The Kikuyu also grew the sweet potatoes that have a vine like leaf and spread over the ground like a dense entangled mat, and many varieties of big yellow and green speckled pumpkins.

E. The beans ripened in the fields, were gathered and thrashed by the women, and the maize stalks and coffee pods were collected and burned, so that in certain seasons thin blue columns of smoke rose here and there all over the farm.

CBED
Para completion

**Pattern**: A paragraph is given in which either the first/middle/concluding sentence is missing.

The more common pattern in CAT in the recent past has been wherein the last sentence is missing.

**Approach to solve this question type**

The paragraph given to you can either be a part of a larger passage or a stand alone passage.

The last sentence of a paragraph can do the following functions:

- Conclusion
- Restatement
- Dangler (can be a link to the next paragraph which is not known to us)