

Strengthen, Justify the Conclusion, and Assumption Identify The Question Stem Drill

The following items contain a sample question stem. In the space provided, categorize each stem into one of the three Logical Reasoning Question Types: Strengthen, Justify the Conclusion, or Assumption. *Answers on next page*

1. Question Stem: “Which one of the following, if true, most strongly supports the statement above?”

Question Type: _____

2. Question Stem: “Which one of the following is an assumption on which the author’s argument depends?”

Question Type: _____

3. Question Stem: “The conclusion drawn by the anthropologist follows logically if which one of the following is assumed?”

Question Type: _____

4. Question Stem: “Which one of the following is an assumption required by the argument?”

Question Type: _____

5. Question Stem: “Which one of the following, if assumed, would allow the conclusion to be properly drawn?”

Question Type: _____

6. Question Stem: “Which one of the following, if true, does most to justify the apparently contradictory conclusion above?”

Question Type: _____

Strengthen, Justify the Conclusion, and Assumption Identify The Question Stem Drill Answer Key

1. Question Type: Strengthen

The presence of the phrase “most strongly supports” indicates that this question stem is a Strengthen.

2. Question Type: Assumption

The presence of the word “assumption” without any sufficient condition indicators classifies this question as an Assumption. Further, the phrase “depends upon” indicates the answer will have a necessary quality, a hallmark of assumption questions.

3. Question Type: Justify the Conclusion

The presence of the words “if” and “assumed” indicates that this question stem is a Justify.

4. Question Type: Assumption

The key words in this stem are “required” and “assumption,” making this an Assumption question. You must be careful when you see the word “assumption” because that word can also be used in Justify the Conclusion questions.

5. Question Type: Justify the Conclusion

The presence of the words “if” and “assumed” indicates that this question stem is a Justify, as does the phrase “allow the conclusion to be properly drawn.”

6. Question Type: Strengthen

The presence of the phrase “does *most* to justify” indicates that this question stem is a Strengthen. The presence of “most” opens the door to an answer that does not 100% justify the conclusion, hence the question is not a true Justify the Conclusion question.