

# Syllogism

Only & Few Concepts & Questions



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Syllogism is generally considered a difficult topic by banking aspirants. From the past banking exams, it's been observed that syllogism questions based on 'Only & Few" are repetitively asked. Some aspirants tend to ignore this topic and lose precious marks. But it should be remembered that even a single mark is very important in banking exams. Therefore to help you with the 'only & few' cases of this topic we have come up with a comprehensive article which will clear all your doubts. We have explained different scenarios of 'only & few' cases of syllogism along with examples. Not only this, but we have also provided you questions (with explanation) for practice.

Let's get started with the different scenarios of only & few cases of syllogism

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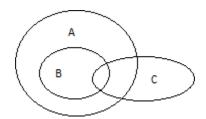
### Syllogism- Only & Few- Statements & Valid Conclusions

#### A. Statements:

Only few A are B Some B are C

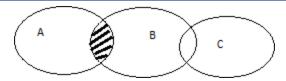
#### **Conclusions:**

I. All A being B is a possibility: Doesn't Follow



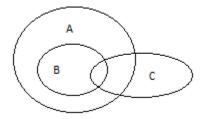
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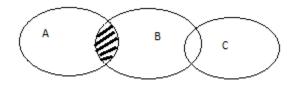


As only few A are B, all A cannot be B.

#### II. No A being B is a possibility: Doesn't Follow

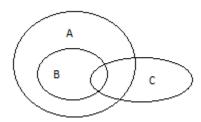


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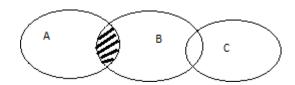


Some A has to be B.

#### III. All B being A is a possibility: Follows



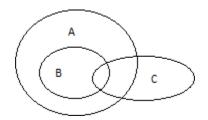
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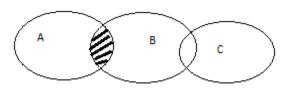
As there are two possibilities, all B may be A.

#### IV. Some A are not B: Follows



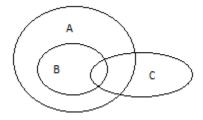


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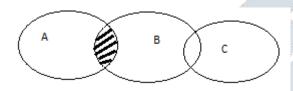


As only few A are B, so some A are definitely not B.

V. Some A not being B is a possibility: Doesn't Follow



Or



Only few A are B, it means that some A are definitely not B and it is not a possibility, it is definitely true.

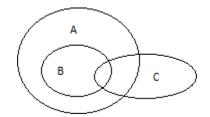
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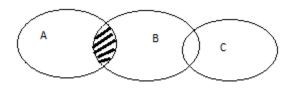


VI. Some B are not A: Doesn't Follow



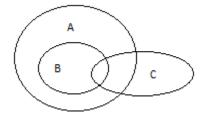


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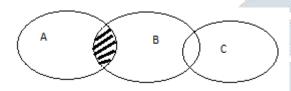


In  $1^{st}$  possibility, all B are A while in  $2^{nd}$  possibility, some B are not A.

VII. Some B not being A is a possibility: Follows

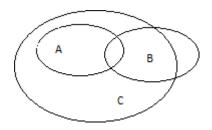


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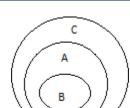


In 1<sup>st</sup> possibility, all B are A while in 2<sup>nd</sup> possibility, some B are not A.

VIII. Some A are not C: Doesn't Follow



Or



All A are C is 1st possibility. So, it doesn't follow.

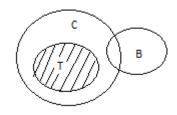
#### **B. Statements:**

Only C are T (It means that all T are C and no other element is T, and there will be no intersection)

Some C are B

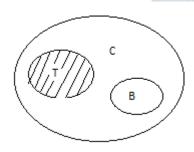
#### **Conclusions:**

I. Some B can be T: Doesn't Follow



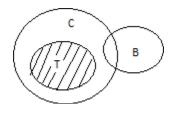
No B is T.

II. All B can be C: Follows



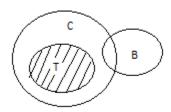
As some C are B, all B can be C.

III. All C can be B: Doesn't Follow



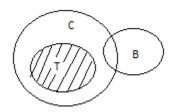
As T cannot be B, so all C cannot be B

IV. Some T not being C is a possibility: Doesn't Follow and is false



All T are C, so some T not being C is not at all possible.

V. No T is B: Follows



Only C are T, so T is not B.

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### Syllogism- Only & Few- Questions for Practice (with **Explanatory Answers**)

Question 1: In the question below there are three statements followed by two conclusions I and II. You have to take the three given statements to be true even if they seem to be at variance from commonly known facts and then decide which

of the given conclusions logically follows from the four statements disregarding commonly known facts.

#### **Statements:**

No fingers are legs
Mostly legs are hands
Only a few hands are hairs

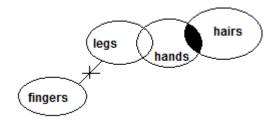
#### **Conclusions:**

- I. Some legs are not hairs
- II. All hands being fingers is a possibility.
- a. Only conclusion II follows
- b. Neither conclusion I nor conclusion II follows
- c. Only conclusion I follows
- d. Both conclusion I and conclusion II follow.
- e. None of the above

#### Answer: b

#### **Solution:**

Following figure can be formed:



From the figure, neither conclusion I nor conclusion II follows Hence, option b.

Question 2: In the question below there are three statements followed by two conclusions I and II. You have to take the three given statements to be true even

if they seem to be at variance from commonly known facts and then decide which of the given conclusions logically follows from the four statements disregarding commonly known facts.

#### **Statements:**

Few bottles are mugs.

All mugs are jugs.

Mostly jugs are buckets

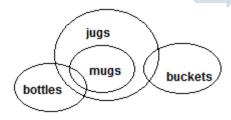
#### **Conclusions:**

- I. Only mugs are buckets
- II. Few bottles are jugs
- a. Both conclusion I and conclusion II follow.
- b. Only conclusion II follows
- c. Neither conclusion I nor conclusion II follows
- d. Only conclusion I follows
- e. None of the above

#### **Answer:** b

#### **Solution:**

Following figure can be formed:



From the figure, only conclusion II follows Hence, option b.

# **Prelims**

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Question 3: In the question below there are three statements followed by two conclusions I and II. You have to take the three given statements to be true even if they seem to be at variance from commonly known facts and then decide which of the given conclusions logically follows from the four statements disregarding commonly known facts.

#### Statements:

Only rivers are seas

Few lakes are rivers

Few oceans are lakes

#### **Conclusions:**

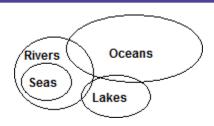
- I. Some seas being lakes is a possibility
- II. Some rivers being oceans is a possibility
- a. Only conclusion II follows
- b. None of the above
- c. Neither conclusion I nor conclusion II follows
- d. Both conclusion I and conclusion II follow.
- e. Only conclusion I follows

Answer: a

**Solution:** 

Following figure can be formed:





From the figure, only conclusion II follows

Hence, option a.

Question 4: In the question below are given three statements followed by two conclusions numbered I and II. You have to take the given statements to be true even if they seem to be at variance from commonly known facts. Read all the conclusions and then decide which of the given conclusions logically follows from the given statements disregarding commonly known facts.

#### **Statements:**

Only a few rides are trips.

No trip is mountain.

All mountains are trees.

#### **Conclusions:**

I: Some trees are not trips.

II: All rides being trips is not a possibility.

a. Only conclusion I follows

b. Only conclusion II follows

c. Either conclusion I or II follows

d. Both conclusions I and II follow

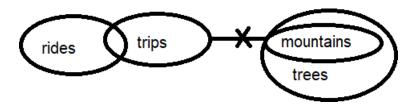
e. Neither conclusion I nor II follows

Answer: d

**Solution:** 

The figure deduced from the statements,





Therefore, both conclusions I and II follow. Hence, option d.

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Question 5: In the question below there are three statements followed by two conclusions I and II. You have to take the three given statements to be true even if they seem to be at variance from commonly known facts and then decide which of the given conclusions logically follows from the four statements disregarding commonly known facts.

#### **Statements:**

Mostly pets are cats
Only cats are dogs
No cats are rabbits

#### **Conclusions:**

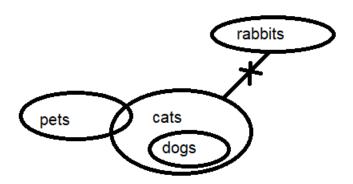
- I. Some pets are rabbits.
- II. All pets being rabbits is not a possibility.
- a. Both conclusion I and conclusion II follow.
- b. Only conclusion I follows
- c. Neither conclusion I nor conclusion II follows
- d. Only conclusion II follows

#### e. None of the above

Answer: d

**Solution:** 

Following figure can be formed:



From the figure, only conclusion II follows. Hence, option d.

Question 6: In the question below there are three statements followed by two conclusions I and II. You have to take the three given statements to be true even if they seem to be at variance from commonly known facts and then decide which of the given conclusions logically follows from the four statements disregarding commonly known facts.

#### **Statements:**

Few bulbs are tubelights

No tubelights are fans

Few fans are lights.

#### **Conclusions:**

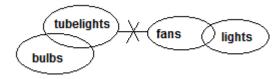
- I. Few lights are tubelights
- II. All bulbs may be fans.
- a. Only conclusion II follows
- b. Both conclusion I and conclusion II follow.

- c. Neither conclusion I nor conclusion II follows
- d. Only conclusion I follows
- e. None of the above

#### Answer: c

#### **Solution:**

Following figure can be formed:



From the figure, none of the conclusions follow. Hence, option c.

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Question 7: In the question below there are three statements followed by two conclusions I and II. You have to take the three given statements to be true even if they seem to be at variance from commonly known facts and then decide which of the given conclusions logically follows from the four statements disregarding commonly known facts.

#### **Statements:**

Only a few Sundays are Mondays. Some Mondays are Tuesdays No Tuesdays are Fridays

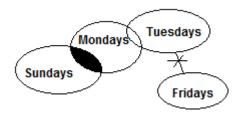
#### **Conclusions:**

- I. Some Sundays are not Mondays
- II. Some Sundays are not Fridays.
- a. Both conclusion I and conclusion II follow.
- b. Only conclusion I follows
- c. Neither conclusion I nor conclusion II follows
- d. Only conclusion II follows
- e. None of the above

### **Answer:** b

#### **Solution:**

Following figure can be formed:



From the figure, only conclusion I follows Hence, option b.

Question 8: In the question below there are three statements followed by two conclusions I and II. You have to take the three given statements to be true even if they seem to be at variance from commonly known facts and then decide which of the given conclusions logically follows from the four statements disregarding commonly known facts.

#### **Statements:**

Some pencils are pens

Only pens are colours

Few pencils are erasers

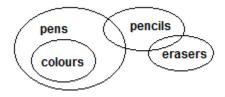
#### **Conclusions:**

- I. Few colours may be pencils
- II. Few erasers are pens
- a. Only conclusion II follows
- b. None of the above
- c. Neither conclusion I nor conclusion II follows
- d. Both conclusion I and conclusion II follow.
- e. Only conclusion I follows

Answer: c

**Solution:** 

Following figure can be formed:



From the figure, neither conclusion I nor conclusion II follows Hence, option c.

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Question 9: In the question below there are three statements followed by two conclusions I and II. You have to take the three given statements to be true even if they seem to be at variance from commonly known facts and then decide which

of the given conclusions logically follows from the four statements disregarding commonly known facts.

#### **Statements:**

Only few laptops are computers No computers are keys Few keys are mobiles

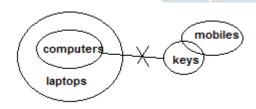
#### **Conclusions:**

- I. Some mobiles are computers
- II. All computers being laptops is a possibility
- a. Only conclusion II follows
- b. Neither conclusion I nor conclusion II follows
- c. Only conclusion I follows
- d. Both conclusion I and conclusion II follow
- e. None of the above

#### Answer: a

#### **Solution:**

Following figure can be formed:



From the figure, only conclusion II follows.

Hence, option a.

Question 10: In the question below there are three statements followed by two conclusions I and II. You have to take the three given statements to be true even if they seem to be at variance from commonly known facts and then decide which of the given conclusions logically follows from the four statements disregarding commonly known facts.

#### **Statements:**

Few rivers are ponds.

All ponds are oceans

No oceans are seas

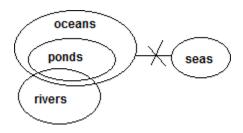
#### **Conclusions:**

- I. Few ponds can be seas
- II. All rivers are oceans
- a. Only conclusion II follows
- b. None of the above
- c. Neither conclusion I nor conclusion II follows
- d. Both conclusion I and conclusion II follow.
- e. Only conclusion I follows

#### Answer: c

#### **Solution:**

Following figure can be formed:



From the figure, neither conclusion I nor conclusion II follows

Hence, option c.

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