

## Quiz #1

### Instructions

- Answer as many questions as you are able to.
- Please write your answers *clearly* in the blanks provided. Do the best you can to complete your answers in the space given.
- If absolutely necessary, you can use spare space at the bottom of page 2 to complete your answers.
- Each question is worth 1 point, unless otherwise specified. The maximum score is 66 points.
- If you're not sure, guessing is better than leaving a question blank.

Philosopher X writes these sentences (I and II) in the introduction of his essay:

- I. In this essay I argue that Locke's view about where our ideas come from is incorrect.*  
*II. I will also defend my own claim that ideas are implanted in our heads by space aliens.*

1A. Which sentence describes X's *positive view*?: \_\_\_\_\_

1B. Which sentence describes X's *negative view*?: \_\_\_\_\_

Turn the following claims into arguments by adding a *reason* in support of that claim, i.e., a *premise*.  
(2 pts. each)

- **Feel free to be creative, but avoid making a non-sequitur, by choosing a reason for which the claim given would be a reasonable conclusion.**
- **Don't forget to use a premise-flag, to signal that you're providing a premise!**

2A. College should be free for everyone

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

2B. PHI 1500 is an excellent class

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

For 3A-3J, write the letter corresponding to the name of the fallacy next to the example of that fallacy.

- |                        |                         |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| a) Ad Hominem          | f) Confirmation Bias    |
| b) Anecdotal Evidence  | g) Hasty Generalization |
| c) Appeal to Authority | h) Red Herring          |
| d) Appeal to Emotion   | i) Slippery Slope       |
| e) Appeal to Tradition | j) Strawman             |

3A. \_\_\_\_\_ *We shouldn't eat at that restaurant: I heard that someone got sick after eating there.*

3B. \_\_\_\_\_ *Oprah said eating gluten is bad for your health, so it must be true.*

3C. \_\_\_\_\_ *If we say that fetuses have rights, then we'll never be able to eat omelettes again, because we'd be violating the rights of chicken eggs.*

3D. \_\_\_\_\_ *Our visitor is British, so she will surely be expecting tea and crumpets for breakfast.*

3E. \_\_\_\_\_ *We couldn't possibly elect a female president; the president has always been a man.*

3F. \_\_\_\_\_ *We can't trust anything Karl Marx said because he's a communist.*

3G. \_\_\_\_\_ *Don't take more food than you'll eat: just think of all the starving children in developing countries.*

3H. \_\_\_\_\_ *Those gun control activists just want to leave us all without any defenses against foreign military attacks.*

3I. \_\_\_\_\_ *Drake is a better rapper than Meek Mill: everyone on Drake's official fan site agrees.*

3J. \_\_\_\_\_ *Smoking is good for your health, because it makes you look mature and mysterious.*

If you have an objection to an argument, what are two ways you can respond to it?

4A. \_\_\_\_\_

4B. \_\_\_\_\_

For each of the following sentences (5A-5G), fill in the blank with the best option from the word bank.

auxiliary argument	persuasive
begs the question	sound
consistent	valid
equivocation	

- 5A. One of the premises from argument Y is not *obviously* true, so argument Y is not \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5B. Premise 1 of argument Z is false, so argument Z cannot be \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5C. To determine whether or not an argument is \_\_\_\_\_, you only need to look at its form, not at its content.
- 5D. Since Jessica wasn't sure that premise 3 of her argument would be obviously true to all of her readers, she decided to provide a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ to support it.
- 5E. Gerald objected to argument Q, saying that it only seems plausible if you read the word "right" with two different meanings in different premises. In other words, argument Q contained the fallacy of \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5F. Linda realized that argument H was flawed because one of its premises assumed exactly what the author aimed to conclude. Thus, argument H is circular, or in other words, it \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5G. Argument J contains two premises that contradicted each other, so argument J is not \_\_\_\_\_.

6. Suppose that researchers find that, in general, the more spicy foods someone eats, the better their grades are in school. In other words, academic performance and spicy food consumption are *correlated*. Jo concludes from this data that eating spicy foods makes people smarter, and thus *causes* them to do better in school.

Jo has made the logical error of \_\_\_\_\_.

7. Fallacix is marketed as a miracle drug that solves financial problems. Andy rushes out to the pharmacy to buy Fallacix, and takes it every day for a month. At the end of the month, Andy gets a big raise at work. Andy raves about the drug, saying that it really does solve financial problems, as promised in the commercials.

What logical error has Andy made?

- 8A. What do philosophers call a sentence that has the format "If [blank], then [blank]"?:

8B. The proposition that goes in the first blank (after "if") is called the \_\_\_\_\_.

8C. The proposition that goes in the first blank (after "if") is called the \_\_\_\_\_.

The first premise is provided for you in the arguments below (9A-9F). Fill in the second premise (2) and the conclusion (3) to complete the argument, satisfying the argument form indicated.

(1 pt. per blank/ 2 pts. per question)

**9A: MODUS PONENS**

1. If you study hard for your classes, then you will be rewarded.
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

**9B: MODUS TOLLENS**

1. If it is raining, then clouds are in the sky.
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

**9C: MODUS PONENS**

1. If you brought an umbrella, then you will not get wet.
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

**9D: MODUS TOLLENS**

1. If you put sugar in your coffee, then your coffee is sweet.
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

**9E: DENYING THE ANTECEDENT**

1. If you put sugar in your coffee, then your coffee is sweet.
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

**9F: AFFIRMING THE CONSEQUENT**

1. If you put sugar in your coffee, then your coffee is sweet.
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

In questions 10 & 11, you will determine the validity and soundness of the arguments step-by-step.

**10.**

- 1) If it is the year 2015, then we are in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.
- 2) We are in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.
- 3) Therefore it is the year 2015.

**10A. In the space below, identify each proposition in the argument and assign it a letter.** (E.g. "let 'A' = 'I am taking a quiz' ") (2 pts.)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**10B. What form is the argument in?** (Hint: replace the propositions in the argument with the letters that symbolize them.)

\_\_\_\_\_

**10C. Is the argument valid? (yes or no)** \_\_\_\_\_

**10D. Is premise 1) true?** \_\_\_\_\_

**10E. Is premise 2) true ?** \_\_\_\_\_

**10F. Is the argument sound?:** \_\_\_\_\_

**11.**

- 1) If it is the year 2048, then we are in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.
- 2) It is the year 2048.
- 3) Therefore we are in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

**11A. In the space below, identify each proposition in the argument and assign it a letter.** (2 pts.)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**11B. What form is the argument in?** (Hint: replace the propositions in the argument with the letters that symbolize them.)

\_\_\_\_\_

**11C. Is the argument valid?** \_\_\_\_\_

**11D. Is premise 1) true?** \_\_\_\_\_

**11E. Is premise 2) true ?** \_\_\_\_\_

**11F. Is the argument sound?** \_\_\_\_\_

In questions 12 & 13, you will evaluate arguments more thoroughly by explaining the reasoning behind your responses in the space provided. ( \_ points each)

12.

- 1) If a person has a good career, then they got good grades in school.
- 2) Albert Einstein did not get good grades in school.
- 3) Therefore Albert Einstein did not have a good career.

12A. Do you think premise 1) is true or false, and *why*?

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12B. *Let's assume that premise 2) is true.* Combining that information with your answer to 11A, what do you think about the argument's validity and soundness?

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13.

- 1) If someone compliments a stranger on their appearance, then the stranger is flattered.
- 2) A catcaller compliments a stranger on their appearance.
- 3) Therefore a stranger is flattered by a catcall.

13A. Do you think premise 1) is true or false, and *why*?

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13B. Do you think premise 1) is true or false, and *why*?

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13C. Combining your answers to 12A & 12B, what do you think about the argument's validity and soundness?

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\*\*\*END OF QUIZ \*\*\*