

Hints for Exercises in Chapter 2

1. Difference between propositional logic and first-order logic

Answer:

Propositional logic deals with statements that are either true or false, without internal structure. First-order logic extends this by including quantifiers (\forall , \exists), variables, and predicates, allowing more expressive representations.

Hint:

Think about how you'd represent "All humans are mortal" in each logic system.

2. Syntax and semantics in logic

Answer:

Syntax refers to the formal structure or rules for writing logical expressions. **Semantics** defines the meaning or truth of those expressions in a model.

Hint:

Consider how a grammatically correct sentence might still be meaningless; logic works similarly.

3. Logical inference

Answer:

Logical inference is the process of deriving new statements from known ones.

- **Valid:** From "All birds fly" and "Penguin is a bird," infer "Penguin flies."
- **Invalid:** From "All birds fly" and "Penguin flies," infer "Penguin is a bird."

Hint:

Try creating your own examples and test their validity.

4. Soundness and completeness

Answer:

A system is **sound** if all derivable statements are true. It is **complete** if all true statements can be derived. These properties ensure reliability and power in reasoning.

Hint:

Ask: Can I trust the system to never lie and to find all truths?

5. Limitations of logic in real-world knowledge**Answer:**

Logic struggles with uncertainty, ambiguity, and incomplete information. It's rigid and doesn't handle probabilistic reasoning well.

Hint:

Think about how humans deal with vague or contradictory information - can logic do the same?

6. Resolution principle**Answer:**

Resolution is a rule of inference that combines clauses to eliminate contradictions. It's powerful because it's complete for propositional logic and forms the basis of many automated reasoning systems.

Hint:

Try resolving "A OR B" and "NOT A OR C": what do you get?

7. Translating natural language to logic**Answer:**

Example:

- "It is raining or snowing" → **R V S** (Propositional)
- "All cats are mammals" → **$\forall x (\text{Cat}(x) \rightarrow \text{Mammal}(x))$** (First-order)

Hint:

Break sentences into subjects, predicates, and logical connectors.

8. Normal forms in logic

Answer:

- **CNF (Conjunctive Normal Form):** AND of ORs
 - **DNF (Disjunctive Normal Form):** OR of ANDs
- They simplify reasoning and are essential for algorithms like resolution.

Hint:

Try converting simple expressions like “ $(A \rightarrow B)$ ” into CNF.

9. Logical connectives and truth tables

Answer:

- **AND (\wedge):** True if both are true
- **OR (\vee):** True if at least one is true
- **NOT (\neg):** Inverts truth
- **IMPLIES (\rightarrow):** False only if premise is true and conclusion false
- **BICONDITIONAL (\leftrightarrow):** True if both sides are equal

Hint:

Build truth tables for each to see how they behave.

10. Unification in first-order logic

Answer:

Unification is the process of making two logical expressions identical by finding a substitution for variables. It's crucial for applying resolution in first-order logic.

Hint:

Try matching “ $\text{Loves}(x, y)$ ” with “ $\text{Loves}(\text{John}, y)$ ”: what substitution works?

11. Logic-based AI vs. other approaches

Answer:

Logic-based AI uses formal rules and reasoning. Connectionist (neural networks) and statistical AI rely on data and patterns. Logic is precise; others are flexible and data-driven.

Hint:

Compare how each approach handles language translation or image recognition.

12. Relevance of logic in AI today**Answer:**

Logic is still used in knowledge representation, automated reasoning, planning, and semantic web technologies. It's essential for explainable AI and rule-based systems.

Hint:

Explore AI applications in law, medicine, or robotics — where rules matter.

13. Challenges in scaling logic-based systems**Answer:**

Complexity grows rapidly with more rules and facts. Handling uncertainty, incomplete data, and real-time reasoning is difficult.

Hint:

Think about how many rules you'd need to model human conversation.

14. Implementing a theorem prover using resolution**Answer:**

A basic theorem prover converts expressions to CNF and applies resolution to check entailment. The example implemented shows how a query like "C" can be proven from a knowledge base.

Hint:

Try modifying the knowledge base and see how the result changes.

15. Creating a small expert system

Answer:

Use rules like:

- IF animal has feathers THEN it is a bird
 - IF bird cannot fly THEN it might be a penguin
- Implement forward chaining to infer conclusions from facts.

Hint:

Pick a narrow domain and list simple rules, then build logic around them.

16. Knowledge representation and ontologies**Answer:**

Ontologies are structured frameworks for organizing knowledge. They define concepts, relationships, and rules, enabling logical reasoning and interoperability.

Hint:

Explore how medical ontologies help diagnose diseases.

17. Solving a logic puzzle using resolution**Answer:**

Choose a puzzle like Sudoku. Represent constraints as logical clauses and apply resolution to eliminate invalid options until a solution emerges.

Hint:

Start with a small grid and write rules for rows, columns, and boxes.

18. Search algorithms in problem-solving**Answer:**

Search algorithms like BFS, DFS, and A* help find solutions in puzzles, games, and planning by exploring possible states and paths.

Hint:

Visualize a maze, how would you find the shortest path?

19. Challenges in large state spaces

Answer:

Large spaces lead to memory and time issues. It's hard to explore all possibilities, and heuristics may be needed to guide search.

Hint:

Think about chess, how many moves ahead can you realistically compute?

20. Local search algorithms**Answer:**

- **Hill Climbing:** Moves to better states
- **Simulated Annealing:** Allows occasional worse moves to escape local optima
Useful for optimization in large spaces.

Hint:

Try solving a puzzle by tweaking one piece at a time.

21. Game-playing AI using minimax**Answer:**

Implement minimax to evaluate game states and choose optimal moves. Use depth-limited search for simplicity. Let a human play against the AI.

Hint:

Start with Tic-Tac-Toe, can your AI block and win?

22. Stop word removal function**Answer:**

Create a list like ["the", "a", "is", "in"] and filter tokens from a sentence. This helps in text preprocessing for NLP tasks.

Hint:

Try removing stop words from a paragraph, what's left?

23. Keyword-based topic detection

Answer:

Define keyword lists for topics. Scan a document for matches and assign the topic with the most hits.

Hint:

Test with news headlines, can you guess the topic?