

Introduction to Logic

Assignment 2

Task 1

Identify the hidden premises or assumptions in the following arguments. Note that there could be more than one hidden premise/assumption in each of these arguments.

1.1 The business model of internet cafes is no longer capable of success. This is because the availability of internet has skyrocketed over the past several years. Free wifi is offered in most major coffee shops and stores. Additionally, most people now have mobile devices with plans that provide them with internet access.

1.2 Companies should avoid using popular networking platforms, such as Facebook or Line, as a means of communication. This is because many employees use such platforms for personal communication. Using such a platform would thus make the employees distracted and their productivity reduced.

1.3 A franchise restaurant pays its employees in State A \$2.00 per hour above the minimum wage, and pays its employees in State B \$1.00 per hour above the minimum wage. The franchise has three times as many employees in State A as in State B. The franchise's total expenditures on hourly wages for its employees must therefore be higher in State A than in State B.

1.4 The press reports sensationalist stories in order to get people to pay attention to the news. In order to generate high ratings, reporters now only report on topics with great scandal that will compel people to pay attention. The general public is, therefore, uninformed about basic non-sensational events.

1.5 Gotham city conducted a survey in which over half of its residents admitted that they do not recycle, and the city's recycling plant has threatened to lay off employees due to lack of work. In order to increase recycling, the city should install recycling machines in the city center, in which residents can turn in their bottles, cans, and other recyclables in exchange for discount coupons. This plan would dramatically increase the number of residents that recycle and save the jobs at the recycling plant.

Task 2

Identify the type of informal fallacies in each of these arguments. Provide a brief explanation to justify your answer.

2.1 My friend at another university said her logic class was easy, and the one I'm in is easy, too. All logic classes must be easy!

2.2 Guns and knives are similar -- both are tools made of metal that could be used to kill. And yet it would be absurd to restrict the purchase of knives -- so restrictions on the purchase of guns are equally absurd.

2.3 The opposition party again opposed the reenactment of the death penalty. They must believe the lives of convicted murderers are more important than the lives of their victims. Clearly, they are wrong and the law enabling death penalty should be put into effect immediately.

2.4

Yoda: How feel you?

Anakin: Cold, sir.

Yoda: Afraid are you?

Anakin: No, sir.

Yoda: See through you we can.

Mace Windu: Be mindful of your feelings.

Ki-Adi-Mundi: Your thoughts dwell on your mother.

Anakin: I miss her.

Yoda: Afraid to lose her I think, hmm?

Anakin: What has that got to do with anything?

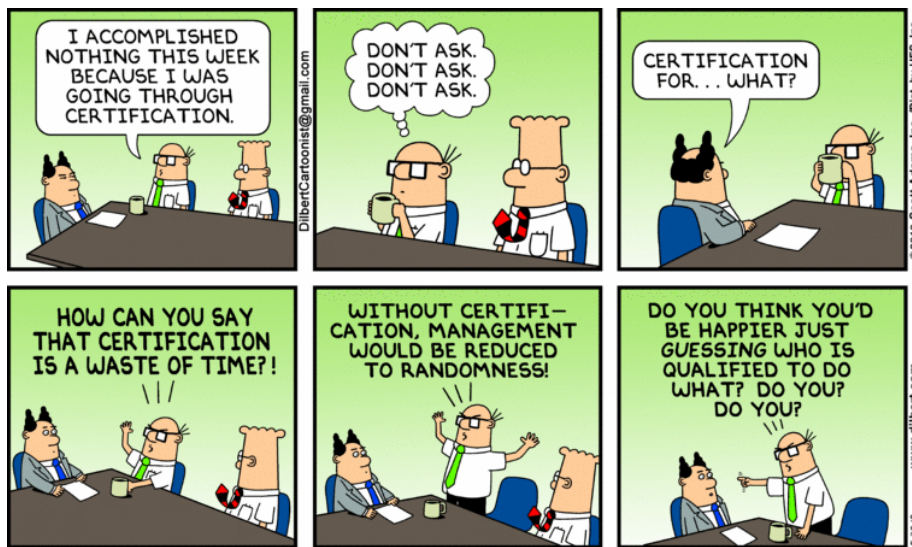
Yoda: Everything! Fear is the path to the dark side. Fear leads to anger. Anger leads to hate. Hate leads to suffering. I sense much fear in you.



2.5



2.6



2.7 "Do I trust the word of a mad man and forget the lessons of September 11th or take action to defend America? Given that choice, I will defend America every time"
George W. Bush

2.8 It has been more than a month since the Government started the lock down, and the infection rate has not decreased at all. Clearly, the lock down did not work and should be stopped.

2.9



According to repeated nationwide surveys,

More Doctors Smoke **CAMELS** than any other cigarette!

Doctors in every
branch of medicine
were asked, "What
cigarette do you smoke?"
The brand named most
was Camel!

You'll enjoy Camels for the same reasons
so many doctors enjoy them. Camels have
cool, cool *mildness*, pack after pack, and
a *flavor* unmatched by any other cigarette.

Make this sensible test: Smoke only
Camels for 30 days and see how well Camels
please your taste, how well they suit
your throat as your steady smoke. You'll
see how enjoyable a cigarette can be!

THE DOCTORS' CHOICE IS AMERICA'S CHOICE!



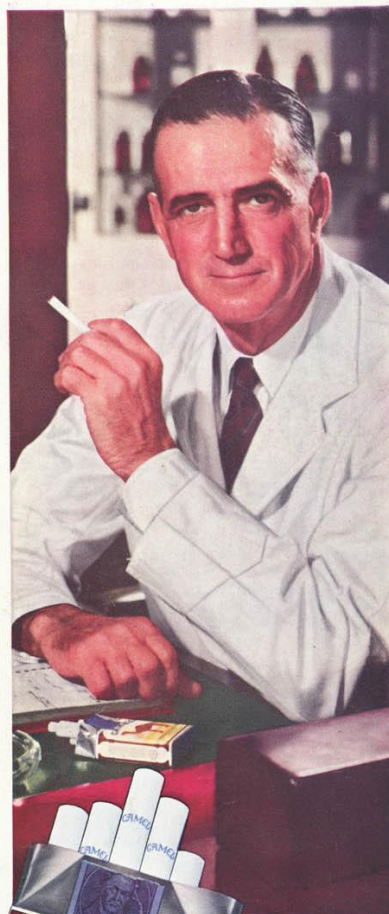
MAUREEN O'HARA says: "I pick
Camels. They agree with my
throat and taste wonderful!"



DICK HAYMES states: "I get more
pleasure from Camels than
from any other brand!"



RALPH BELLAMY reports: "Camels
suit my taste and throat. I've
smoked 'em for years!"



B. J. Bernstein Tobacco Co.
Washington, D. C.



For 30 days, test Camels in your "T-Zone" (T for Throat, T for Taste).