

P.2 Developing an Argument

Writing a proof is similar to writing an argument that something is true. It's important to think in advance about what makes an argument good or bad, and how to go about putting an argument together.

Goals:

- Write arguments that your solutions to the first day exercises are correct.
- Analyze these arguments for any deficiencies.

1. Revisit your solutions to exercises 4 and 5 from the first packet. Discuss your solutions with your group and then write down a carefully worded argument that your solution is correct. Avoid being excessively vague or excessively verbose.

2. Do the same for question 6. Try to express your argument without the use of pictures or diagrams.

3. Try to find a solution for question 7 again and write down an explanation of how you know your solution to be correct.

4. There are certain similarities to developing the solutions and arguments to the provided logic problems. Name some of those similarities. Specifically, focus on how the arguments need to begin.
5. By now you've discussed different arguments enough to know what makes one good or bad. In your opinion, what are the necessary elements of a good argument? What should they avoid?