

# Propositional Logic - Truth Tables

## Exercises

# Write Down the Following Argument:

**Ducks have webbed feet**

**Ducks have feathers**

**Therefore, ducks have webbed feet and ducks have  
feathers**

# Question #1(a): What type of argument is it?

**Ducks have webbed feet**

**Ducks have feathers**

**Therefore, ducks have webbed feet and ducks have feathers**

# Question #1(a): What type of argument is it?

**Ducks have webbed feet**

**Ducks have feathers**

**Therefore, ducks have webbed feet and ducks have feathers**

- **Conjunctive Argument**

Question #1(b): What is the “form” of the argument using claim variables?

**Ducks have webbed feet**

**Ducks have feathers**

**Therefore, ducks have webbed feet and ducks have feathers**

# Question #1(b): What is the “form” of the argument using claim variables?

**Ducks have webbed feet**

**Ducks have feathers**

**Therefore, ducks have webbed feet and ducks have feathers**

-----

- p
- q
- Therefore, p & q

# Question #1(c): Create a truth table to check for validity

**Ducks have webbed feet**

**Ducks have feathers**

**Therefore, ducks have webbed feet and ducks have feathers**

-----

# Question #1(c): Create a truth table to check for validity

**Ducks have webbed feet**

**Ducks have feathers**

**Therefore, ducks have webbed feet and ducks have feathers**

-----

p	q	p & q
T	T	T
T	F	F
F	T	F
F	F	F



## Question #1(c): Complete Truth Table

**Ducks have webbed feet**

**Ducks have feathers**

**Therefore, ducks have webbed feet and ducks have feathers**

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p	q	p	q	p & q
---	---	---	---	-------

T	T	T	T	T
---	---	---	---	---

T	F	T	T	F
---	---	---	---	---

F	T	F	F	F
---	---	---	---	---

F	F	F	F	F
---	---	---	---	---

We can see  
we do not need  
the 2nd p, q  
Columns.

They just repeat  
the “guide  
columns.”

## #2: Write Down the Following Argument:

**If it is a cat, then it is furry**

**It is not a cat**

**Therefore, it is not furry**

## #2(a): What Is the Symbolic Form?

**If it is a cat, then it is furry**

**It is not a cat**

**Therefore, it is not furry**

-----

## #2(a): What Is the Symbolic Form?

**If it is a cat, then it is furry**

**It is not a cat**

**Therefore, it is not furry**

-----

$p \rightarrow q$

$\sim p$

Th:  $\sim q$

Conditional Argument ( $\rightarrow$ )

## #2(b): Give a Truth Table to Check For Validity:

**If it is a cat, then it is furry**

**It is not a cat**

**Therefore, it is not furry**

$p \rightarrow q$

$\sim p$

Th:  $\sim q$

-----

**Note: Remember, you will need guide columns  
and a column for “each” premise.**

## #2(b): Give a Truth Table to Check For Validity:

If it is a cat, then it is furry

It is not a cat

Therefore, it is not furry

-----

$p \rightarrow q$

$\sim p$

Th:  $\sim q$

$p$	$q$	$p \rightarrow q$	$\sim p$	$\sim q$
T	T	T	F	F
T	F	F	F	T
F	T	T	T	F
F	F	T	T	T

**#3(a): What type of argument  
is the following?:**

**Either we fight for freedom or we give into tyranny.**

**We won't fight for freedom**

**Therefore, we will give into tyranny.**

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# #3(a): What Type of Argument is the Following?:

**Either we fight for freedom or we give into tyranny.**

**We won't fight for freedom**

**Therefore, we will give into tyranny.**

-----

**Disjunctive Argument (Or - in this case either or - which is how we will often see the disjunctive argument)**



# #3(b): Write Out the Symbolic Form:

**Either we fight for freedom or we give into tyranny.**

**We won't fight for freedom**

**Therefore, we will give into tyranny.**

-----

# #3(b): Write Out the Symbolic Form:

**Either we fight for freedom or we give into tyranny.**

**We won't fight for freedom**

**Therefore, we will give into tyranny.**

-----

$p \vee q$

$\sim p$

Th:  $q$

# #3(c): Write Out A Truth Table:

**Either we fight for freedom or we give into tyranny.**

**We won't fight for freedom**

**Therefore, we will give into tyranny.**

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$p \vee q$	$p$	$q$	$p \vee q$	$\sim p$	$q$
$\sim p$	T	T	T	F	T
Th: $q$	T	F	T	F	F
	F	T	T	T	T
	F	F	F	T	F

# #4: Write Down the Following Argument:

**If it is Monday, then class will be held.**

**It is Monday.**

**Therefore, class will be held.**

# #4: Write Down the Following Argument:

**If it is Monday, then class will be held.**

**It is Monday.**

**Therefore, class will be held.**

- A) Type of argument
- B) Symbolic form of the argument
- C) What is the truth table
- D) Valid or Invalid argument form

## #4(a,b,c): Answer the Following Questions:

**If it is Monday, then class will be held.**

**It is Monday.**

**Therefore, class will be held.**

-----  
A) Type of argument

- Conditional (Modus Ponens)

# #4(a,b,c): Answer the Following Questions:

**If it is Monday, then class will be held.**

**It is Monday.**

**Therefore, class will be held.**

-----

## B) Symbolic Form

$p \rightarrow q$

$p$

Th:  $q$

# #4(a,b,c): Answer the Following Questions:

**If it is Monday, then class will be held.**

**It is Monday.**

**Therefore, class will be held.**

-----

## C) Truth Table

p	q	$p \rightarrow q$	p	q
T	T	T	T	T
T	F	F	T	F
F	T	T	F	T
F	F	T	F	F



## #4(a,b,c): Answer the Following Questions:

If it is Monday, then class will be held.

It is Monday.

Therefore, class will be held.

-----  
D) Valid or Invalid?

- Question: Are there any instances where both premises are true and the conclusion is false?

## #4(a,b,c): Answer the Following Questions:

If it is Monday, then class will be held.

It is Monday.

Therefore, class will be held.

-----  
D) Valid or Invalid?

- Question: Are there any instances where both premises are true and the conclusion is false?
- No -- So the argument is VALID
- **Modus Ponens**

## #5: Write Down the Following Argument

If it is Monday, then class will be canceled.

It is not Monday.

Therefore, class will not be canceled.

## #5(a): Write Down the Following Argument

If it is Monday, then class will be canceled.

It is not Monday.

Therefore, class will not be canceled.

- Give a truth table and tell me if the argument is valid or invalid.

# #5(a): Write Down the Following Argument

If it is Monday, then class will be canceled.

It is not Monday.

Therefore, class will not be canceled.

---

p	q	$p \rightarrow q$	$\sim p$	$\sim q$
T	T	T	F	F
T	F	F	F	T
F	T	T	T	F
F	F	T	T	T

Invalid Form:  
Denying the  
Antecedent  
(Row 3 is T, T  
F)

## #6: The following is what we call a “hypothetical syllogism”

$$p \rightarrow q$$

$$q \rightarrow r$$

$$\therefore p \rightarrow r$$

- Notice that there are three terms: p, q, r
- As a result, the guide columns in our argument get a little more complicated

## #6: “Hypothetical Syllogism”

$$p \rightarrow q$$

$$q \rightarrow r$$

$$\therefore p \rightarrow r$$

p	q	r	$p \rightarrow q$	$q \rightarrow r$	$p \rightarrow r$
T	T	T			
T	T	F			
T	F	T			
T	F	F			
F	T	T			
F	T	F			
F	F	T			
F	F	F			

## #6: "Hypothetical Syllogism"

$$p \rightarrow q$$

$$q \rightarrow r$$

$$\therefore p \rightarrow r$$

p	q	r	$p \rightarrow q$	$q \rightarrow r$	$p \rightarrow r$
T	T	T	T	T	T
T	T	F	T	F	F
T	F	T	F	T	T
T	F	F	F	T	F
F	T	T	T	T	T
F	T	F	T	F	T
F	F	T	T	T	T
F	F	F	T	T	T



# What about the following claim?

$$p \rightarrow (q \vee \sim q)$$

- Is this claim valid?
- Use a truth table

And ...

$$(p \ \& \ (p \rightarrow q)) \rightarrow q$$

Create a truth table to determine the  
value