

Thinking about Social Phenomena

Constructing Puzzles



Lecture dt. Jan 13, 2020

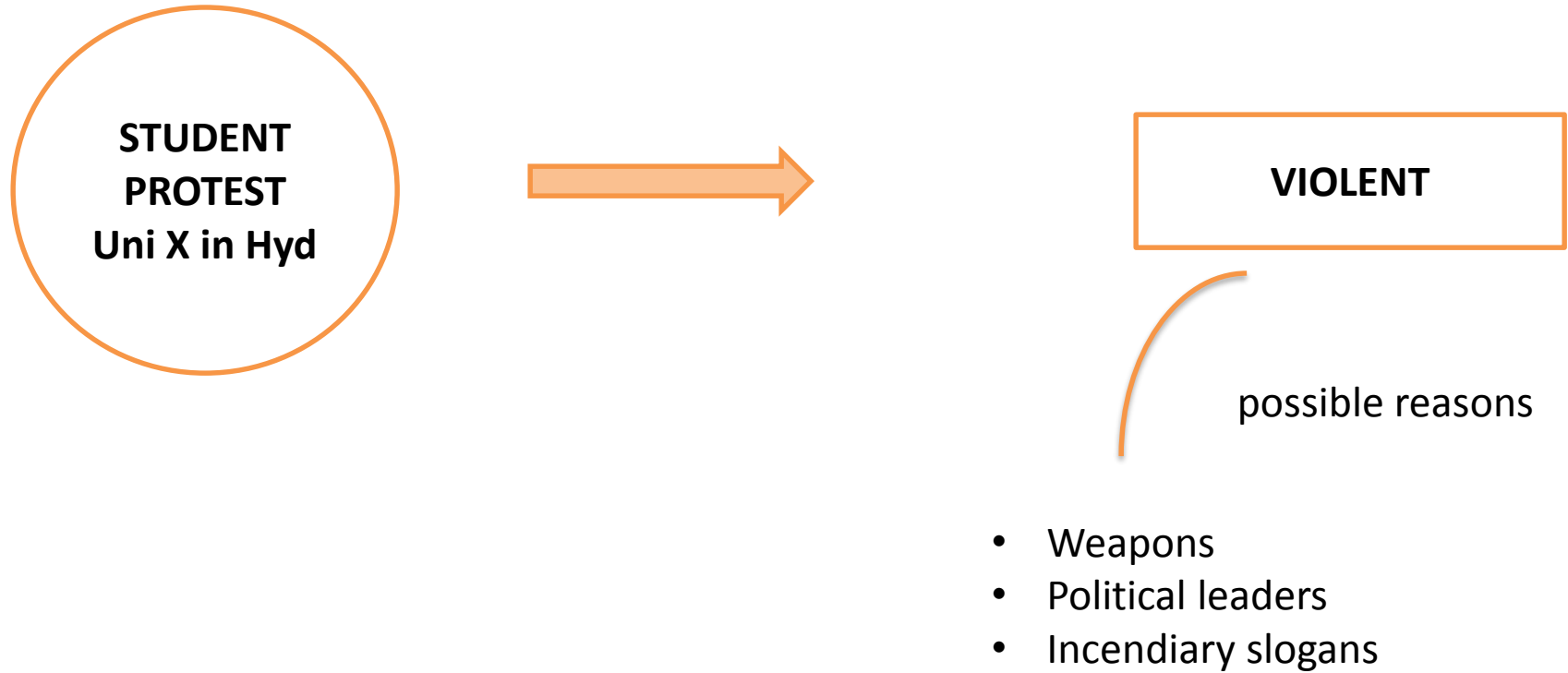




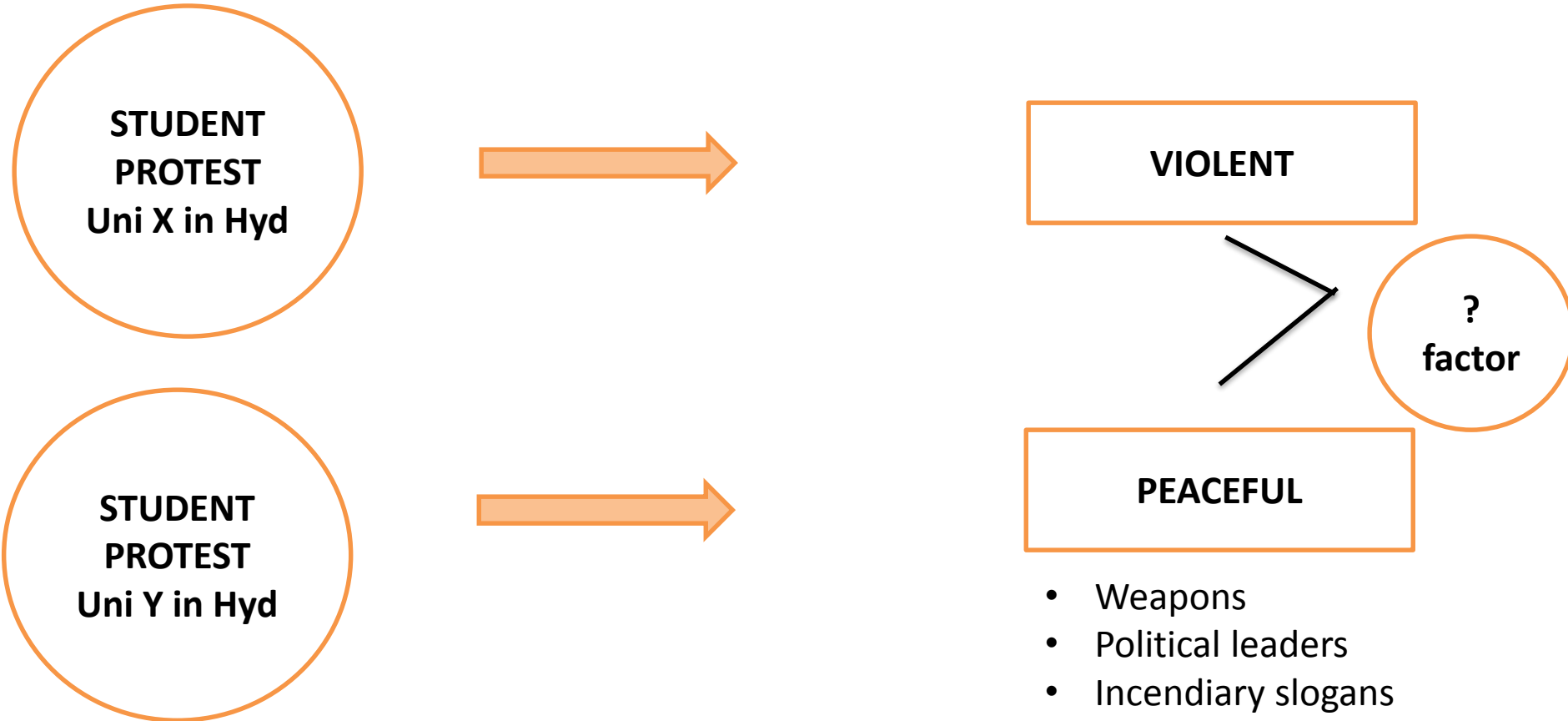
Intuition

- Non-conscious reasoning; (usually) based on prior experiences
- Rarely leads to good decision outcomes; people unlikely to be able to judge the accuracy of their own intuition
- *Confirmation bias*: looking for or interpreting information consistent with prior beliefs or intuition; discard counter-evidence, e.g. the Earth is flat.

How to make a reasoned analysis



How to make a reasoned analysis



How to make a reasoned analysis: Non-events

Why did something *not* happen when, given the conditions, it should have?



The curious incident
of the dog in the night-time

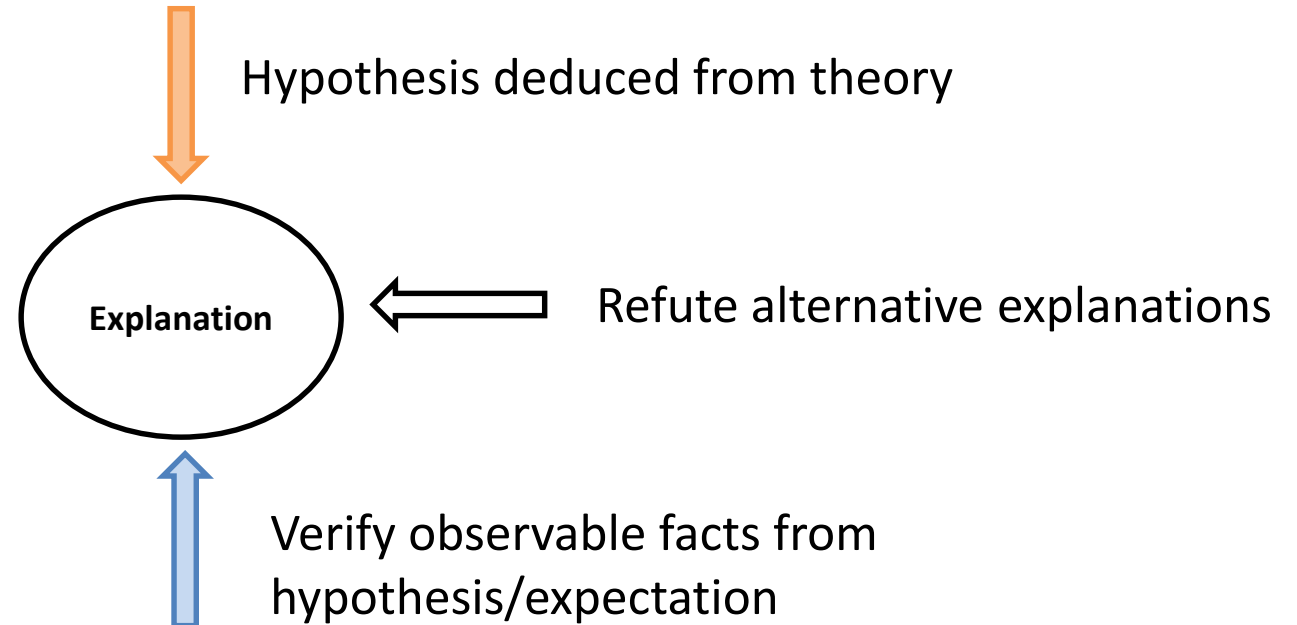
- Decisions
- Words
- Actions
- Events

How to make a reasoned analysis

Fact: People in democracies live longer than those in non-democracies

How to make a reasoned analysis

Theory → Hypothesis → Alternative Explanations →
Can they be refuted?



Puzzle for Thursday

A group of children are asked to estimate the size of coins from memory. Children from poorer backgrounds overestimated the size of the coins to a greater degree than the more affluent children.

Analyze.