Argument from causal generation applies an assumed (or inductively established) causal relationship to specific cases or classes. Three tests can be applied:

Will intervening factors preclude an expected cause and effect relationship?

Is the cause sufficient to bring about the effects?

Will the cause result in other unspecified effects

Syllogism is a 3-part argument structure:

Major premise – not flossing leads to tooth decay

Minor premise – Chad doesn’t floss

Conclusion – Chad will develop tooth decay

Three common syllogistic types:

Categorical

Major: All people are mortal

Minor: Socrates is a person

Conclusion: Socrates is mortal

Hypothetical (if, then)

Major: If tacos are being served, its Tuesday

Minor: Tacos are not being served

Conclusion: It is not Tuesday

Disjunctive (either, or)

Major: All students pass or fail

Minor: Karen didn’t pass

Conclusion: Karen failed

The enthymeme requires the participation of the audience in the co-creation of an argument. It has an “assumed” premise that the audience collectively inserts. It is one of the most persuasive ways to argue.

Example

Major: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Minor: Socrates is a person

Conclusion: Socrates is mortal