

Philosophy 201 A01
Instructor: Dr. C. Klatt
Practice Test #1

Total marks = 50

Time Limit = 50 mins

Section I: Short Answer

Answer the following questions in the space provided. Be sure to explain your answer where needed. (10 x 3 marks each = 30 marks)

1. Is the following passage an argument? Why or why not? If it is an argument then identify the conclusion.

It would be immoral and selfish not to use animals in research today, given the harm that could accrue to future generations if such research were halted. - *Science, Medicine, and Animals* 1991

2. Is the following passage an argument? Why or why not? If it is an argument then identify the conclusion.

There are a lot of people getting into weird mystical cults lately. It must be because they are disappointed with traditional religions.

3. Write the argument in standard form. Include any suppressed premises or suppressed conclusions.

Susan refuses to work on Sundays, which shows that she is lazy and inflexible.

4. Indicate whether the given passage follows a common argument form. Is the argument valid or invalid?

If Prohibition succeeded in the 1920s, then the war on drugs will succeed today. But Prohibition did not succeed in the 1920s. Therefore, the war on drugs will not succeed today.

5. Indicate whether the given passage follows a common argument form. Is the argument valid or invalid?

Either the Vikes will win the championship or I will cry. The Vikes won so I won't cry.

6. Is the following argument deductive or inductive? Why?

Because both of our yards are near rivers in Manitoba, and my yard has lots of mosquitoes, your yard will have mosquitoes too.

7. Is the following statement true or false? Explain.

Deductive arguments are superior to inductive arguments.

8. Is it possible to have a valid argument with a false conclusion? Explain.

9. Is it possible to have a sound argument with a false conclusion? Explain.

10. Is the following statement true or false? Explain.

If a valid deductive argument has true premises then it is cogent.

Section II: Proving Invalidity

Prove that the following argument is invalid by using the counterexample method. (10 marks)

All diabetes sufferers are either insulin takers or glucose eliminators.
Some diabetes sufferers are glucose eliminators. So, some diabetes sufferers are insulin takers.

Section III: Argument Patterns

Use a diagram to show the pattern in the following deductive argument. (10 marks)

(1) Wild salmon in BC are an important part of the forest eco-system. (2) The salmon provide food for bears, birds and other animals. (3) The decaying carcasses give much needed nitrogen to the soil and contribute to the health of the trees. (4) Any wild salmon that are caught for human consumption will not contribute to the forest eco-system, so (5) we should try to eliminate our dependence on wild stocks of salmon. (6) Salmon farms ensure that a consistent supply of salmon is on available, thus (7) making the Canadian salmon industry more competitive in the world market. (8) Salmon farms also provide jobs for many communities where unemployment rates are high. (9) These are some of the reasons why we should encourage the growth of salmon farms in BC.