
TEST 1 ANSWERS: PHIL 201

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

- Argument, convincing us that the conclusion is true, must include definition in the answer
- Conclusion: It would be immoral and selfish not to use animals in research today

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.

- Because is a premise indicator, so first sentence is a conclusion, but only if an argument
- Not argument, not actually trying to convince that people are getting into cults

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.

- Standard form: premises, line, conclusion
- Put in what's missing
- Suppressed also means implicit
- Conclusion: which shows that she is lazy and inflexible
- Don't use indicator words in standard form

Standard:

Susan refuses to work on Sunday

IP: Anyone who refuses to work on Sundays is lazy and inflexible

Susan 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.

- choose from the 6 patterns
- order of premises don't matter

-If P then W
Not P
Not W
-DA
-name pattern, and state valid or invalid

6 forms:

DS: has or

HS: 3 if thens

MP: If P then Q (valid)

P

Q

MT: If P then Q (valid)

Not Q

Not P

AC: If P then Q (invalid)

Q

P

DA: If P then Q (invalid)

Not P

Not Q

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.

V or C

V

Not C

-Not DS or any of the options

-So just write invalid

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.

-Inductive, because not certain, evidence in premise makes the truth of the conclusion likely and not for certain

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

Deductive arguments are superior to inductive arguments.

-False, deductive arguments u believe the conclusion with certainty but may be difficult to determine the truth of the premises.

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

-True, as long as there is one premise that is false. Only combo you cant have is TTF.

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

-False, in order to be sound, argument must be valid and have all true premises, if you had TTF then It would be invalid

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

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

-False, cogency only applies to inductive arguments

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.

-So is indicator to conclusion

All D are I or G

Some D are G

Some D are I

Substitutue something for letters:

PREMISES TRUE

CONCLUSION FALSE

All fish are birds or animals

Some fish are animals

Some fish are birds

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.

9 is conclusion

2 and 3 separately go to 1

4 goes to 5

1 and 4 conjoined goes to 5

6 goes to 7

5 and 7 go to 9

8 goes to 9