

Eng 2020: Sentence Ambiguity and Logical Fallacy

Due on or before March 31, 2009

Joshua Bowles MWF

Problem 1

Directions: Look at the following syllogisms and answer the questions as either YES or No.¹

- (1) Do the conclusions follow from the premises?
- (2) Are the conclusions true in the real world?
- (3) Are there any examples where the conclusions follow from the premises, but either the conclusions or the premises are not true in the real world?
 - a. Which examples are these?
 - b. How do you know the premises/conclusions are not true?

Syllogism 1. Pakistani

All Pakistanis are Moslems

No Sinhalese are Moslems

Therefore, no Sinhalese are Pakistani's.

Syllogism 2. Accidents

Accidents are frequent

Getting struck by lighteing is an accident

Therefore, getting struck by lightening is frequent.

Syllogism 3. Mormons

All Mormons are pious persons

No Samoans are Mormons

Therefore, no Samoans are pious persons.

Syllogism 4. Identity

All cells die and regenerate,

X is composed of cells,

(Therefore,) X is always dying and regenerating,

X is always dying and regenerating,

There exists an identity which is a property of X,

Therefore, The identity of X is always dying and regenerating.

Syllogism 5. Numbers

Some prime numbers are integers

All rational numbers are real numbers

All integers are rational numbers

Some prime numbers are real numbers.

¹A syllogism, both technically and classically, only has two premises. When it has more, or an argument is composed of a series of syllogisms, it is called a **sorite**, a Greek word meaning 'pile.'

Problem 2

The second problem is