

Week 1: An Introduction to Arguments

[P1] There is a bridge in your town that hundreds of cars drive over every day.
 [P2] Engineers who work for the town regularly inspect the bridge.
 [P3] Every once in a while, repairs are made to the bridge.
 [C] This bridge will be safe to drive over tomorrow.

[P1] In high school, Stan was a member of the chess club, the audio-visual club, and the juggling club.
 [C] Stan is smart.

[P1] Only students who are members of the juggling club can learn how to “breathe fire.”
 [P2] Mary isn’t a member of the juggling club.
 [C] Mary can’t learn how to “breathe fire.”

I have eaten bread almost every day of my life, and every time I have done so it has provided nourishment. So, the next time I eat bread, it will provide nourishment.

The night of Mozart’s death was dark and stormy; at the funeral, too, it began to rage and storm. Rain and snow fell at the same time, as if Nature wanted to shew her anger.

Bats are the only mammals that can fly. Bartok is a mammal, but he is not a bat. Thus, Bartok cannot fly.

[P1] Seoul, South Korea is larger than Mexico City.
 [P2] Mexico City is larger than New York City.
 [C] Therefore, Seoul is larger than New York City.

[P1] It is either warm outside or cold outside.
 [P2] It is not cold outside.
 [C] Therefore, it is warm outside.

[P1] Will Ferrell is a warm-blooded animal.
 [P2] All goats are warm-blooded animals.
 [C] Therefore, Will Ferrell is a goat.

[P1] Will Ferrell is a warm-blooded animal.
 [P2] All warm-blooded animals are goats.
 [C] Therefore, Will Ferrell is a goat.

[P1] If Peter went to the police, then Margaret was arrested today.
 [P2] Margaret was arrested today.
 [C] Therefore, he went to the police.

[P1] If Peter went to the police, then Margaret was arrested today.
 [P2] Peter went to the police.
 [C] Therefore, Margaret was arrested today.

[P1] Peter is a human 12-year-old, and he can breathe under water (without any artificial aids).
 [P2] Both of Peter’s parents can breathe underwater (without ...).
 [P3] All of Peter’s aunts and uncles can breathe underwater (wit...).
 [P4] All of Peter’s grandparents can breathe underwater (witho...).
 [P5] Peter’s older sister can breathe under water (without any ...).
 [C] Therefore, Peter’s younger brother will be able to breathe under water (without any artificial aids).

[P1] If I went to a store that sells milk, then I got milk.
 [P2] I went to a store that sells milk.
 [C] Therefore, I got milk.

[P1] If I went to a store that sells milk, then I got milk.
 [P2] I got milk.
 [C] Therefore, I went to a store that sells milk.

[P1] George H.W. Bush’s oldest son is George W. Bush.
 [P2] George W. Bush was the President.
 [C] George H.W. Bush’s oldest son was the President.

[P1] Wilt Chamberlain’s oldest son is George W. Bush.
 [P2] George W. Bush was the President.
 [C] Wilt Chamberlain's oldest son was the President.

[P1] In every U.S. Presidential election since 1852, either the Democratic candidate or the Republican candidate has won.
 [C] The Democratic candidate or the Republican candidate will win the next U.S. Presidential election.

[P1] The Jones Memorial Bridge is regularly inspected by qualified engineers.
 [P2] Cars and trucks have been driving over it for many years.
 [C] Therefore, it will be safe to drive over the Jones Memorial Bridge tomorrow.

[P1] Mary is a cold-blooded animal.
 [P2] All cold-blooded animals are lizards.
 [C] Therefore, Mary is a lizard.

[P1] Barack Obama is a man.
 [P2] All men are warm blooded.
 [C] Therefore, Barack Obama is warm blooded.

[P1] The capital of Pennsylvania was located in Philadelphia until 1799.
 [P2] From 1799 until 1812, the capital of Pennsylvania was located in Lancaster.
 [P3] From 1812 until today, the capital of Pennsylvania has been located in Harrisburg.
 [C] Therefore, next year, the capital of Pennsylvania will be located in Harrisburg.

[P₁] Starkville is larger than Chicago.

[P₂] Chicago is larger than Tokyo.

[C] Therefore, Starkville is larger than Tokyo.

[P₁] Today is Saturday.

[C] Therefore, Today is Saturday or today is Sunday.

[P₁] Today is Saturday.

[C] Therefore, Today is Saturday or there is a dragon on the moon.

[P₁] Mississippi is east of the Mississippi river.

[P₂] Part of Mississippi touches the Gulf of Mexico.

[C] Therefore, Mississippi State University is in Starkville.

[P₁] If it is 9:00 am on Monday, then Peter is in his office.

[P₂] It is 9:00 am on Monday.

[C] Therefore, Peter is in his office.

[P₁] If it is 9:00 am on Monday, then Peter is in his office.

[P₂] Peter is in his office.

[C] Therefore, it is 9:00 am on Monday.

[P₁] If it is 9:00 am on Monday, then Peter is in his office.

[P₂] It is not 9:00 am on Monday.

[C] Therefore, Peter is not in his office.

[P₁] If it is 9:00 am on Monday, then Peter is in his office.

[P₂] Peter is not in his office.

[C] Therefore, it is not 9:00 am on Monday.