

Conclusion: There is no reason for you not to start exercising regularly. The indicator word "Thus" helps identify the conclusion. The other statements are offered in support of this claim.

2. If you start a strenuous exercise regimen before you know if your body is ready, you can cause serious damage. Therefore, you should always have a physical checkup before you start a rigid exercise program.
3. Since television commercials help pay the cost of programming, and because I can always turn off the sound of the commercials, go to the bathroom, or get something to eat or drink, it follows that commercials are not such a bad thing.
4. Since television commercials disrupt the flow of programs, and given that any disruption impedes the continuity of a show, consequently we can safely say that commercials are a bad thing.
- ★ 5. We should never take our friends for granted. True friends are there when we need them. They suffer with us when we fail, and they are happy when we succeed.
6. They say that "absence makes the heart grow fonder," so my teachers should really love me, since I have been absent for the last 2 weeks.
7. I think, therefore I am. René Descartes
8. I believe that humans will evolve into androids, because we will eventually be able to replace all organic body parts with artificial parts. In addition, we will be able to live virtually forever by simply replacing the parts when they wear out or become defective.
- ★ 9. At one time Gary Kasparov had the highest ranking of any chess grand master in history. However, he was beaten in a chess tournament by a computer program called Deep Blue, so the computer program should be given a ranking higher than Kasparov.
10. It is true that $1 + 4 = 5$, and it is also true that $2 + 3 = 5$. Thus, we can conclude with certainty that $(1 + 4) = (2 + 3)$.
11. The digital camera on sale today at Cameras Galore has 5.0 megapixels and costs \$200. The digital camera on sale at Camera Warehouse has 4.0 megapixels and it costs \$150. You said that you did not want to spend over \$175 for a camera, so you should buy the one at Camera Warehouse.
12. You should buy the digital camera at Cameras Galore. After all, you did say that you wanted the most megapixels you can get for up to \$200. The digital camera on sale today at Cameras Galore has 5.0 megapixels and costs \$200. But the digital camera on sale at Camera Warehouse has only 4.0 megapixels and it costs \$150.
- ★ 13. The world will end on August 6, 2045. I know this because my guru said it would, and so far everything he predicted has happened exactly as he said it would.

14. Fast-food products contain high levels of cholesterol. They also contain high levels of sodium, fat, and trans fatty acids. These things are bad for your health. I am going to stop eating in fast-food places.

15. You should eat more vegetables. They contain low levels of cholesterol. They also contain low levels of sodium, fat, and trans fatty acids. High levels of those things are bad for your health.

II. Determine whether the following passages contain arguments. Explain your answers.

1. Our company has paid the highest dividends of any Fortune 500 company for the last 5 consecutive years. In addition, we have not had one labor dispute. Our stock is up 25% in the last quarter.

Answer: Not an argument. The three propositions can be used to support some other claim, but together they simply form a set of propositions with no obvious premise or conclusion.

2. Our cars have the highest resale value on the market. Customer loyalty is at an all-time high. I can give you a good deal on a new car today. You should really buy one of our cars.

3. I hate the new music played today. You can't even find a station on either AM or FM that plays decent music anymore. The movies are no better. They are just high-priced commercials for ridiculous products, designed to dupe unsuspecting, unintelligent, unthinking, unenlightened consumers.

4. We are going to have a recession. For 100 years, anytime the stock market has lost at least 20% of its value from its highest point in any fiscal year, there has been a recession. The current stock market has lost 22% of its value during the last fiscal year.

- ★ 5. She doesn't eat pork, chicken, beef, mutton, veal, venison, turkey, or fish. It follows that she must be a vegetarian.

6. It seems as if everyone I know has a computer or cell phone. The electronics industry is making better and better products every year.

7. The cost of electronic items, such as televisions, computers, and cell phones, goes down every year. In addition, the quality of the electronic products goes up every year. More and more people throughout the world will soon be able to afford at least one of those items.

8. There is biological evidence that the genetic characteristics for nonviolence have been selected over time by the species, and the height and weight of humans have increased over the centuries.

- ★ 9. She won the lottery, so she will quit her job soon.

10. Income tax revenues help pay for many important social programs, and without that money some of the programs would have to be eliminated. If this happens,

many adults and children will suffer needlessly. That is why everyone, individuals and corporations, should not cheat on their income taxes.

11. All living things (plants, animals, humans) have the ability to absorb nourishment, to grow, and to propagate. All "living creatures" (animals and humans) have in addition the ability to perceive the world around them and to move about. Moreover, all humans have the ability to think, or otherwise to order their perceptions into various categories and classes. So there are in reality no sharp boundaries in the natural world.

Jostein Gaarder, *Sophie's World*

12. *Veidt:* Will you expose me, undoing the peace millions died for? Kill me, risking subsequent investigation? Morally you're in checkmate.

Jon: Logically, I'm afraid he's right. Exposing this plot, we destroy any chance of peace, dooming Earth to worse destruction. On Mars, you demonstrated life's value. If we would preserve life here, we must remain silent.

Alan Moore and Dave Gibbons, *Watchmen*

- ★ 13. The officer shook his head, perplexed. The handprint on the wall had not been made by the librarian himself; there hadn't been blood on his hands. Besides, the print did not match his, and it was a strange print, the whorls of the fingers unusually worn. It would have been easy to match, except that they'd never recorded one like it.

Elizabeth Kostrova, *The Historian*

14. Johnny wondered if the weather would affect his plans. He worried that all the little fuses and wires he had prepared might have become damp during the night. Who could have thought of rain at this time of year? He felt a sudden shiver of doubt. It was too late now. All was set in motion. If he was to become the most famous man in the valley he had to carry on regardless. He would not fail.

Tash Aw, *The Harmony Silk Factory*

15. It may be no accident that sexual life forms dominate our planet. True, bacteria account for the largest number of individuals, and the greatest biomass. But by any reasonable measures of species diversity, or individual complexity, size, or intelligence, sexual species are paramount. And of the life forms that reproduce sexually, the ones whose reproduction is mediated by mate choice show the greatest biodiversity and the greatest complexity. Without sexual selection, evolution seems limited to the very small, the transient, the parasitic, the bacterial, and the brainless. For this reason, I think that sexual selection may be evolution's most creative force.

Geoffrey Miller, *The Mating Mind*

16. Sue hesitated; and then impulsively told the woman that her husband and herself had been unhappy in their first marriages, after which, terrified at the thought of a second irrevocable union, and lest the conditions of the contract should kill their love, yet wishing to be together, they had literally not found the courage to repeat it, though they had attempted it two or three times. Therefore, though in her own sense of the words she was a married woman, in the landlady's sense she was not.

Thomas Hardy, *Jude the Obscure*

- ★ 17. [A] distinction should be made between whether human life has a purpose and whether one's individual life is purposeful. Human life could have been created for a purpose, yet an individual's life could be devoid of purposes or meaning. Conversely, human life could have been unintended, yet an individual's life could be purposeful.

Brooke Alan Trisel, "Intended and Unintended Life"

18. After supper she got out her book and learned me about Moses and the Bulrushers, and I was in a sweat to find out all about him; but by and by she let it out that Moses had been dead a considerable long time; so then I didn't care no more about him, because I don't take no stock in dead people.

Mark Twain, *Huckleberry Finn*

19. I don't know when children stop dreaming. But I do know when hope starts leaking away, because I've seen it happen. Over the years, I have spent a lot of time talking with school children of all ages. And I have seen the cloud of resignation move across their eyes as they travel through school without making any real progress. They know they are slipping through the net into the huge underclass that our society seems willing to tolerate. We must educate our children. And if we do, I believe that will be enough.

Alan Page, Minnesota Supreme Court Justice, NFL Hall of Fame Induction Speech

20. To me the similarities between the *Titanic* and *Challenger* tragedies are uncanny. Both disasters could have been prevented if those in charge had heeded the warnings of those who knew. In both cases, materials failed due to thermal effects. For the *Titanic*, the steel of her hull was below its ductile-to-brittle transition temperature; and for the *Challenger*, the rubber of the O-rings lost pliability in sub-freezing temperatures. And both tragedies provoked a worldwide discussion about the appropriate role for technology.

Mark E. Eberhart, *Why Things Break*

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22. Stepan Arkadyevitch had learned easily at school, thanks to his excellent abilities, but he had been idle and mischievous, and therefore was one of the lowest in his class.

Leo Tolstoy, *Anna Karenina*

23. We are intelligent beings: intelligent beings cannot have been formed by a crude, blind, insensible being: there is certainly some difference between the ideas of Newton and the dung of a mule. Newton's intelligence, therefore, came from another intelligence.

Voltaire, *Philosophical Dictionary*

24. Churches are block-booking seats for *March of the Penguins*, which is apparently a "condemnation of gay marriage" and puts forward the case for "intelligent design," i.e., Creationism. To be honest, this is good news. If American