



ASSIGNMENT MAY 2021 SEMESTER

SUBJECT CODE : **FS1012**
SUBJECT TITLE : **CRITICAL THINKING & PROBLEM-SOLVING SKILLS**
LEVEL : **BACHELOR**

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INSTRUCTIONS TO STUDENTS

- 1) This assignment consists of **THREE (3)** questions. Answer **ALL** questions.
- 2) Plagiarism in all forms is forbidden. Students who submit plagiarised assignments will be penalised.
- 3) This assignment carries **60%** from the overall mark towards the final grade.
- 4) Submission must be made **BY** or **BEFORE 30 AUGUST 2021**. The assignment must be submitted in **PDF format**.

THERE ARE TWO (2) PAGES OF QUESTIONS,, EXCLUDING THIS PAGE

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer ALL questions.

Question 1

Judge the value of the evidence given in this passage:

Are Botox injections a safe alternative to face lifts? According to an interview with Dr N.O Worries, there are no dangerous side effects associated with Botox injections. Dr Worries performs hundreds of Botox injections. Dr Worries performs hundreds of Botox injections each month, is well established as a physician and has her own private practice. She claims that she never had a serious problem with any of her injections, and that her patients have never reported any side effects to her. Furthermore, the Hollywood association for Cosmetic Surgeons officially stated in a press release that Botox has never been shown to cause any negative effects, despite hat other physicians may argue.

(20 Marks)

Answer: the above given passage is about the safety alternatives of using Botox injections to face lifts. Here, the given passage evidence is based on the belief of Dr. N.O Worries. The passage explains about the use of Botox injections, it's advantage, disadvantage, people feedback etc. It also explains about the trust or belief between the doctors and patients as well as provided evidence are gathered from true source or not. Here, almost all the reasoning are encountered which includes actual belief of communicator. The belief make communicator to think about way of system, practice or world was, is or going to be. All of the knowledge are encountered from various reasons, assumptions or predictions. Such type of acquired knowledge as belief are addressed as factual claims.

when its time to face factual claims, then the first question raised by the listener is "Why should I believe it?". The second question raised is "is there any supportive documentation or evidence to belief your statement?" however, if he believes without any proper evidence, the claim can be considered as mere assertion. To avoid mere assertion, the criteria of credibility and it's evaluation via analysing the source of information, plays important as role. In other words, credibility is simply refers to how we believe the evidence is. Similarly, the criteria of credibility can be used t assess the credibility of documents or individual sources.

Before judging the evidence, there should be follow up of some criteria, aspects. Evidence cannot be taken directly true via just learning like in a classroom. In the above passage, there is mention that no single patient claims about the serious injuries, faults, negative effects or side effects of using Botox Injection for face lifts. There is chance of accuracy in evidence, but we cannot take it as true evidence which is based on single doctor provided statement until we consider or take feedback from the experience patient. However, there is written usage process, benefits of Botox

injection, we cannot trust written evidence presented in the Botox injection. The companies does not include the disadvantage in it, so it will be difficult to trust the evidence. But trust can be done at evidence only by attending communication with the experienced people. It is because experienced people have deep knowledge about the subject and can provide feedback about the evidence that either they are true or not. We cannot collect such type of important knowledge collected from the experienced people instead of collecting knowledge from the by learning with inexperienced people which leads to distrust the evidence. In case of above passage, there is also difficult to believe the evidence which is based on single doctor statement. In order to test evidence accuracy, we can use the mnemonic RAVEN to evaluate the evidence credibility. RAVEN is self consists of 5 important criteria of credibility. They are described as below:

1. R=Reputation
2. A=Ability to See
3. V=Vested Interest
4. E=Expertise
5. N=Neutrality

1. R=Reputation: Here, it is the first criteria of credibility. It is concerned with the history source and its current or past status based on the problem and evidence, determines its nature i.e. reliability and unreliability. The people who are professionals in their field such as doctors, engineers, lawyers, teachers etc. are considered to derive credibility from their professional experience. They always provide their evidence based on their experience. Professionalism defines that everything is trust worthy, but if the professionals are trust worthy then it can be considered as they cannot made it in their profession. From the above passage and according to the first criteria of credibility, the evidence is provided by the professional doctor based on her evidence, so we can consider provided information and reliability are accurate.
2. A=Ability to See: Ability to See is the second criteria of credibility. It refers to whether or not the source in position to know what they are talking about. There can be many source of information based on the experience and honesty, but if there is not access to archive the information from the source then the actual value of sources testimony will be going to limited. In order to assess a source of evidence using criterion, at first consider whether the person was available at the moment who experienced the entire face lifts using Botox Injection as a safety alternative. If the person was present then there were any conditions that might obstruct their view

otherwise impaired their assess to evidence. In the above passage, there is mentioned that Dr. N.O Worries have done multiple times face lifts using Botox Injection as alternative safety where she had closely monitored her patients with her teams. Thus, it is confirm that above evidence supports the ability to see criteria of credibility.

3. V=Vested Interest: Vested Interest can be considered as the third criteria of credibility. It can be defined as the provided source of information has generated source has anything personal at stake which includes two condition. First one is whether they have gain anything like money from it or whether they have anything to lose from it. It is more like paying certain amount for advertisement or generating fake source of information to compel the people to trust in the source of information. In case of first condition, if they gain something by lying, their credibility is weakened by their vested interest. If they might lose something by lying, then their credibility is strengthened by a vested interest to tell the actual truth. In case of Botox Injection, there is less chance of lying, because evidence shows she had her own practice where she can take charges for the service. If she is lying then she cannot cheat patients for long time.
4. E=Expertise: Expertise can be considered as the fourth criteria of credibility. It can be defined as knowledge gathered in the respective field and have experience of doing it professionally. Expertise defines the accurate and effective way of doing the work which provides the exact evidence of source of information. In case of Dr. N.O Worries, she had great experience and knowledge with expertise of doing surgery using Botox Injection. She claimed that she had done hundreds of Botox injection in a single month. Thus, it is clear that above passage supports this criteria of credibility and evidence are considered as true.
5. N=Neutrality: Neutrality can be considered as the fifth criteria of credibility. It can be defined as whether someone is disposed for supporting the particular subject for various reasons such as vested interest. If someone has disposed for wrong support then it falls in to bias which leads bad relationship with other people. In case of Dr N.O Worries, she had neutrality. She got positive comments about her expertise and vested interest with proper and correct evidence about the Botox injection for face lifts as a alternative safety of performing face lifts. It supports due to Hollywood also claims about the truthfulness of the evidence.

Thus these above mentioned R.A.V.E.N helps to judge the passage as true evidence value which is evaluated to be credible.

Question 2

How are Valid Arguments and Good arguments different from one another? Provide two examples for each that can illustrate the differences between the two.

(20 Marks)

Valid Argument: Valid argument can be defined as the there is no logical situation in the condition or statement where its all premises can be true where as the conclusion is false and vice verse. In the valid argument, the conclusion follows logically according to the premises. In case of valid argument, whenever we have the valid one including if we have the true premises then our conclusion must be true. There is not necessary to be true in the conclusion in case of invalid argument. In other words, if we select statement as a valid argument then we should start out premise as true which will end up as true in conclusion. For example, here are two argument defined below which defines both arguments are valid argument and returns conclusion as true if the premises are true.

- I have 128GB Pen-drive but Cassia has 64 GB. Therefore, I have more capacity of pendrive than Cassia.
- I have 3 roommates but Jhon has 2. therefore, Jhon have more roommate than me.

Here in the above example, by applying the definition of valid argument, the first examples is valid argument example where all premises are true as well as conclusion is also true. Here, Cassia cannot have more capacity of pendrive than me. This is what is meant when it is specified that all conclusion always becomes true when all the premises becomes true. Similarly, in case of second example, the argument is invalid: Jhon has 2 roommates while I have 3. therefore, he cannot possibly have more roommates than me. This is what actual meaning is, when permises cannot be true then conclusion becomes false.

Good Argument: Good argument is defined as the if the argument has one or more than one premise are true by providing good reason to believe in the conclusion. Similarly, if the argument has one or more than one premise which are false then it cannot be good argument because good argument always supports only true premises with true conclusion. In other word, it is that one argument which represents a true conclusion with good reason of outcome and accepting it. In good argument, unless all the available premises becomes true, there won't be no any further reasons for anyone to accept its conclusion. Similarly, a good argument must support either be valid statement or strong statement. While all the good arguments are valid but argument does not need to have valid to become good. Many argument have making them good argument while

being invalid. For example, there are mentioned arguments below. Here we will distinguish valid or invalid as well as address it as good argument or not.

- Premise1: No five years old boy has ever been able to drive cars like professionals
- premise2: Your brother is almost of five
- conclusion: your brother will not be able to drive cars like professionals

while it can be considered as the good argument, but it cannot be considered as valid one. The first premise can be true as mentioned in the second premise. However they are true but they are not allowed and not considered as the logically true i.e. your brother will not be able to do so. There is possibility of your brother might have some knowledge about how does works and be able to how to ride but not able to ride like professionals. It is more likely neither illogical nor impossible.

While both premises are true, the conclusion supported as true. Here the above argument might be considered as fairly one. So, in case of good argument, premises should be able to provide good enough reason to accept the conclusion. For example,

- premise1: tomorrow is weekend
- premise2: I won't have to go office
- conclusion: tomorrow, I won't have go to office

the above example can be considered as both good argument and valid argument. Here all the premises are true with logical and have good reason to accept the conclusion.

Valid Argument	Good Argument
Valid argument can have good argument	Good argument does not have necessary to valid
There should logics to accept as an valid argument	There should have good reason to accept as a good argument
Conclusion follows according to the premises	Conclusion follows according to the reason of premises
When premises cannot be true then conclusion becomes false	The conclusion of this argument does not follow premises

Question 3

Depict these arguments in the “Q. Therefore P” format.

- a. If he had the money, he would have given it to me.

Answer: He had given me money as he had enough to give it to me.

- b. If I had cat, I would be happy.

Answer: I would have been happy as i got a cat.

- c. If he passes the trial, he will move to the next round.

Answer: He will move to the next round as he had to passes the trial.

- d. If you manage to eliminate the impossible, then you will arrive at the truth.

Answer: you would had arrived at the truth as you could have managed to eliminate the impossible.

- e. If ever I had the chance, I would live by the sea.

Answer: I would live by the sea as I ever had the chance.

(20 Marks)

END OF ASSIGNMENT QUESTION