

# LAS101: Critical Thinking, Reading, and Writing

## Midterm Mock Exam

curated by The Peanuts

Name.....ID.....Section.....Seat No.....

**Conditions:** Closed Book

**Directions:**

1. This exam has 14 pages (including this page). Yes, that's a lot.
2. Write your name at the top.
3. Reading the problem is optional, but answering without reading is a bold strategy.
4. Answers must be written in English only
5. Crying is permitted, but please keep it at a whisper.
6. Remember: neat handwriting increases your chance of future self-respect (not marks, though).

*For solution, **click here**.  
Solution will unlock soon.*

## Part 1: MCQs

Choose the best answer for each question.

**1. According to Perry's model of cognitive development, students in this stage believe all opinions are equally valid and avoid judging others' views.**

- a) Dualism stage
- b) Relativism stage
- c) Commitment stage
- d) Analysis stage

**2. The Greek word "kritikos" which forms the root of "critical thinking" means:**

- a) to believe or accept
- b) to judge or decide
- c) to question or doubt
- d) to learn or study

**3. Which characteristic of critical thinking involves using imagination to see possibilities and potential future problems?**

- a) Open-minded skepticism
- b) Effective communication
- c) Creative problem-solving
- d) Flexibility and tolerance for ambiguity

**4. In the Three-Tier Model of thinking, which level involves using immature defense mechanisms like avoidance, denial, and conformity?**

- a) Experience
- b) Interpretation
- c) Resistance
- d) Analysis

**5. The statement “Physician-assisted suicide is a terrifying practice where doctors murder their patients” primarily contains:**

- a) Only cognitive meaning
- b) Only emotive meaning
- c) Both cognitive and emotive meaning
- d) Neither cognitive nor emotive meaning

**6. Which type of definition assigns meaning to a word for the first time?**

- a) Lexical definition
- b) Stipulative definition
- c) Precising definition
- d) Persuasive definition

**7. The statement “Today our job situation is more transparent” demonstrates which problem?**

- a) Ambiguity
- b) Vagueness
- c) Emotive terminology
- d) Circular reasoning

**8. According to the lesson on reason and emotion, which approach to faith believes that religious beliefs should align with reason and evidence?**

- a) Fideism
- b) Rationalism
- c) Agnosticism
- d) Critical rationalism

**9. Emotional intelligence includes all of the following EXCEPT:**

- a) Perceiving and expressing emotion accurately
- b) Generating feelings that facilitate thought
- c) Suppressing all emotions during decision-making
- d) Regulating emotions for intellectual growth

**10. According to Kant's perspective, variations in our understanding of reality are primarily caused by:**

- a) Different cultural backgrounds
- b) Structures of the mind that filter information
- c) Educational differences
- d) Language barriers

**11. False memory syndrome refers to:**

- a) Forgetting important events
- b) Remembering events that never happened or remembering them incorrectly
- c) Being unable to form new memories
- d) Having difficulty recalling recent events

**12. In the Asch line experiment, what percentage of participants gave wrong answers due to group pressure?**

- a) 25%
- b) 50%
- c) 65%
- d) 75%

**13. Which type of evidence consists of personal stories that may sound convincing but can be inaccurate or distorted?**

- a) Expert testimony
- b) Peer-reviewed research
- c) Anecdotal evidence
- d) Statistical data

**14. The "One of Us/One of Them" error is characterized by:**

- a) Treating people differently based on group membership
- b) Overestimating our own abilities
- c) Remembering dramatic events as more common
- d) Believing we control more outcomes than we actually do

**15. Which fallacy occurs when someone attacks the person making the argument rather than addressing the argument itself?**

- a) Straw man fallacy
- b) Red herring
- c) Ad hominem (Personal attack)
- d) False dilemma

**16. The statement “Either you love this country, or you hate it” is an example of:**

- a) Hasty generalization
- b) False dilemma
- c) Appeal to ignorance
- d) Slippery slope

**17. ”You cannot prove that ghosts don’t exist, so they must be real” demonstrates which fallacy?**

- a) Appeal to authority
- b) Appeal to ignorance
- c) Begging the question
- d) Naturalistic fallacy

**18. Which fallacy occurs when the conclusion simply restates the premise without providing new evidence?**

- a) Circular reasoning (Begging the question)
- b) Red herring
- c) Straw man
- d) Appeal to pity

**19. A proposition is defined as:**

- a) A question that seeks information
- b) A command or directive
- c) A complete statement that can be true or false
- d) An emotional expression

**20. In argument analysis, premises that cannot support the conclusion without each other are called:**

- a) Independent premises
- b) Joint (dependent) premises
- c) Sub-conclusions
- d) Conditional statements

**21. Which of the following is NOT considered an argument?**

- a) "I think this movie is great because the acting is superb and the plot is engaging."
- b) "The weather is sunny today."
- c) "You should exercise regularly because it improves your health."
- d) "All students must pass the exam, so John must pass too."

**22. The difference between rhetoric and argumentation is that:**

- a) Rhetoric uses emotional language while arguments do not
- b) Rhetoric aims to persuade while arguments aim to discover truth
- c) Rhetoric is always wrong while arguments are always right
- d) There is no significant difference



**23. Consider this argument: “Social media affects students’ concentration. Universities should limit social media access. This will improve academic performance.” What type of reasoning structure does this represent?**

- a) Independent premises supporting a conclusion
- b) Dependent premises supporting a conclusion
- c) A sub-conclusion leading to a main conclusion
- d) A circular argument

**24. Which of the following statements demonstrates ethnocentrism?**

- a) “I believe my opinion is always correct.”
- b) “These foreigners should learn our customs because our way is the proper way.”
- c) “Humans are the most important species on Earth.”
- d) “I don’t like being challenged on my beliefs.”

**25. The gambler’s fallacy is an example of which type of cognitive error?**

- a) Social error
- b) Perceptual error
- c) Probability error
- d) Memory error

**26. If someone argues “Smoking is natural because tobacco grows naturally, therefore smoking is good for you,” they are committing which fallacy?**

- a) Appeal to authority
- b) Naturalistic fallacy
- c) Hasty generalization
- d) False dilemma

**27. Which statement represents the strongest evidence for evaluating a health claim?**

- a) A celebrity endorsement
- b) Personal testimonials from users
- c) Peer-reviewed research by medical experts
- d) Popular opinion on social media

**28. In argument construction, what is the primary purpose of addressing counterarguments?**

- a) To confuse the reader
- b) To show that you know different perspectives exist
- c) To strengthen your argument by addressing potential objections
- d) To make your argument longer

**29. The Milgram experiment demonstrated that:**

- a) People naturally resist authority figures
- b) Most people will follow harmful orders from authority figures
- c) Critical thinking skills prevent obedience to authority
- d) Education level determines resistance to authority

**30. Which approach best characterizes effective critical thinking according to the course materials?**

- a) Relying solely on logical reasoning without emotions
- b) Accepting expert opinions without question
- c) Integrating reason and emotion while remaining open to evidence
- d) Following traditional beliefs and avoiding new ideas

## Part 2: Writing

**Instructions:** For each passage below, you must:

1. Place brackets [ ] around each proposition and number them as they appear
2. Double underline the main conclusion and single underline the premises
3. Circle any conclusion or premise indicator words
4. Create an argument diagram using the symbols learned in class (numbers, arrows, lines for dependent premises)
5. Add any unstated propositions at the end if necessary

**Passage A:**

“Taylor Swift’s new album will be successful. First, her previous three albums all topped the charts for multiple weeks. Additionally, she has a massive and loyal fanbase who eagerly await each release. Finally, the music industry experts predict strong sales based on early singles.”

**Your Analysis:**

Bracketed and numbered propositions:

Argument diagram:

**Passage B:**

“Students should not be allowed to use smartphones during lectures. The main reason is that smartphones create distractions that interfere with learning. When students check social media or text messages, they cannot focus on the lesson. Furthermore, research shows that multitasking reduces comprehension and retention. Some might argue that smartphones can be used for educational purposes, but in practice, most students use them for non-academic activities during class time. Therefore, universities should implement strict no-phone policies in classrooms.”

**Your Analysis:**

Bracketed and numbered propositions:

Argument diagram:

**Passage C:**

“The university library should extend its operating hours until midnight. Currently, the library closes at 10 PM on weekdays. Many students have part-time jobs during the day and can only study in the evening. The library is the only quiet place on campus where students can access all necessary resources. If the library stays open later, more students will have adequate time to complete their research and assignments.”

**Your Analysis:**

Bracketed and numbered propositions:

Argument diagram:

Unstated propositions (if any):