

1. Converse, Inverse, and Contrapositive

In mathematics, there are many rules, properties, and theorems that are stated using **if...then**. These are conditional statements, $p \rightarrow q$, if p then q

If p and q are interchanged, negated, or both then a new conditional statement is formed.

1. Look at the following statement:

Conditional: If I go, then you stay.

p is I go

q is you stay

2. Let's interchange p and q , in other words, switch their position in the statement:

Converse: If you stay then I go

3. Look back at #1, the original conditional statement. Now let's write the p and q as a negation:

Inverse: IF I do not go, then you do not stay

4. Look back at #2, the converse statement. Now let's write the p and q as a negation:

Contrapositive: IF you do not stay then I do not go

Conditional.....opposite.....Inverse (the negative)

Converse.....opposite.....Contrapositive (the negative)

EXAMPLE: Write the three related statements given the conditional statement:

Conditional: If there is smoke then there is fire.

Converse: IF there is Fire then there is smoke

Inverse: IF there is no smoke then there is no fire

Contrapositive: IF there is no fire then there is no smoke

Here is a chart that shows all four conditional and related statements in symbol form.

Related Conditional Statements		
Conditional Statement	$p \rightarrow q$	(If p , then q .)
Converse	$q \rightarrow p$	(If q , then p .)
Inverse	$\sim p \rightarrow \sim q$	(If not p , then not q .)
Contrapositive	$\sim q \rightarrow \sim p$	(If not q , then not p .)

EXAMPLE: Write in symbol form, the three related statements given the conditional statement. Make sure to simplify two negatives, just like in regular math.

Conditional: $\sim p \rightarrow q$

Converse: $q \rightarrow \sim p$

Inverse: $p \rightarrow \sim q$

Contrapositive: $\sim q \rightarrow p$

EXAMPLE: Translate the conditional statement into symbols.
The translation might be the converse, inverse, or contrapositive.

~~A triangle is equilateral only if it has three sides of equal length.~~

p = A triangle is equilateral

q = a triangle has three sides of equal length

1. A triangle is equilateral if it has three sides of equal length. $q \rightarrow p$

2. If a triangle is not equilateral then it does not have three sides of equal length. $\sim p \rightarrow \sim q$

2. Biconditional statements

A compound statement using the words “if and only if” (abbreviated as *iff*) is called a biconditional statement, $p \leftrightarrow q$, p if and only if q p iff q .

Biconditional means there are two conditions: $p \rightarrow q$ and $q \rightarrow p$

Therefore in symbol form: $(p \rightarrow q) \wedge (q \rightarrow p) = p \leftrightarrow q$

Construct the truth table for “biconditional”

p	q	$p \rightarrow q$	$q \rightarrow p$	$(p \rightarrow q) \wedge (q \rightarrow p)$	$p \leftrightarrow q$
T	T	T	T	T	T
T	F	F	T	F	F
F	T	T	F	F	F
F	F	T	T	T	T

Notice that a biconditional statement is true when both p and q statements are the same.

EXAMPLE: Determine if each biconditional statement is TRUE or FALSE.

1. $6 + 8 = 14$ if and only if $11 + 5 = 16$

True, both same

2. $5 + 2 = 10$ if and only if $17 + 19 = 36$

False

3. $6 = 5$ if and only if $12 \neq 12$

True both same

4. Apple makes iPods if and only if
Burger King sells Big Macs

False

F

3. Consistent and Contrary

If two statements are **both true** about the same object, the statements are consistent

EXAMPLE: "the apple is red" and "it weighs 12 ounces"

If two statements **cannot** be true about the same object, the statements are contrary

EXAMPLE: "the apple is red" and "the apple is green"

EXAMPLE: decide if each pair of statements are consistent or contrary

contrary Elvis is dead. Elvis is alive!

contrary George Bush was a republican. George Bush was a Democrat.

consistent That animal has four legs. That animal is a tiger.

contrary Pi is an irrational number. Pi is a whole number.

consistent This number is a whole number. This number is an integer.