

Philosophy 103: Introduction to Logic

Logic Exercise: Arguments and Nonarguments

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Directions: Study the following passages. If the passage is an argument, diagram it using the numbered statements. If the passage is not an argument, explain why it is not.

- (1) [T]he ideas in poetry are usually stale and often false and (2) no one older than sixteen would find it worth his while to read poetry merely for what it says.¹
- (1) We artists must realize the truth that even small physical movements, when injected into ‘given circumstances,’ acquire great significance through their influence on emotion. (2) The actual wiping off of blood helped Lady Macbeth to execute her ambitious designs. (3) A small, physical act acquires an enormous inner meaning; the great inner struggle seeks an outlet in such an external act.²
- (1)The analyst may forget that artistic effect and emphasis are not identical with the mere frequency of a device. (2) Thus Miss Josephine Miles is misled by statistical evidence into stressing the Pre-Raphaelite element in Hopkins’ diction.³
- (1) The Roman Empire crumbled to dust (2) because it lacked the spirit of liberalism and free enterprise.⁴
- (1) For most of your childhood and adolescence, the structure of your daily life was probably decided for you. (2) In high school, you were probably given a bit more leeway, but the structure was still pretty intense. (3) Then when you were thrown out into the real world, whether in a job or at college, all the structure you were probably used to others establishing for you, especially your parents, simply went away. (4) This transition can be hard for anyone, but when you add depression to the mix, the situation can get out of control

¹George Boas, *Philosophy and Poetry* (Wheaton College, Mass.: 1932), 9.

²Adapted from Constantin Stanislavski, *An Actor Prepares* (New York: Theatre Arts, 1936), 141.

³René Wellek and Austin Warren, *Theory of Literature* (New York: Harcourt Brace, 1956), 182.

⁴Ludwig von Mises, *Human Action* 1949 (Ludwig von Mises Institute, 1998), 763.

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- (5) It's not surprising, then that so many people can become depressed and overwhelmed on their first jobs or at a new school.⁵
6. (1) Go play with the towns you have built of blocks, the towns where you would have bound me! (2) I sleep in my earth like a tired fox, (3) And my buffalo have found me.⁶
7. (1) If you want to know what God thinks of money, (2) just look at the people he gave it to.⁷
8. (1) Seeing things on a great scale, they [New Kingdom Egyptians] sought to create greatness, no longer after the manner of their ancestors, the Pyramid-builders, by the exaggerated bulk of their material, but by the reasoned immensity of their conceptions; (2) thus architects had arrived at the gigantic colonnades of Luxor and Karnak.⁸
9. (1) Because Christians refused to acknowledge the state religion, which was the cult of the emperor, (2) and because they refused to participate in its rather perfunctory rites, (3) they were regarded as politically subversive and were bitterly persecuted.⁹
10. (1) Be careful what you pretend to be (2) because you are what you pretend to be.¹⁰
11. (1) The marching band on the football field is more of a show than a concert. (2) In such situations, the listener's relationship to music is a passive one. (3) He *hears* the music but does not actually *listen* to it, and (4) therefore, real appreciation does not exist in such conditions.¹¹
12. (1) Herbs which restore strength and tonify weakened tissues when the body is "empty"—deficient—are called "tonic." (2) Clinically, tonics are used for two purposes. (3) One is to increase the body's resistance to disease when resistance has been impaired by excess "evil-qi." (3) The second clinical use is to restore energy and accelerate recovery in patients who have become weak and vulnerable due to long-standing chronic ailments. (4) Tonics are among the most useful of all drugs in Chinese herbal medicine.¹²
13. (1) Load three DNA samples in adjacent lanes in the gel, noting the order. (2) The entire contents of a sample tube should be loaded in a well. (3) This

⁵Julie A. Fast and John D. Preston, *Get It Done When You're Depressed* (New York: Alpha Penguin, 2008), 33.

⁶Stephen Vincent Benét, *The Ballad of William Sycamore*.

⁷Dorothy Parker quoted in Judy Brown, *The Funny Pages* (Andrews McMeel, 2002), 160.

⁸G. Maspero, *Art in Egypt* (New York: Scribner's, 1922), 207-8.

⁹Horst de la Croix and Richard G. Tansey *Gardner's Art Through the Ages* (New York: Harcourt Brace, 1975), 245.

¹⁰Often misquoted by attributing to Kurt Vonnegut, Jr., *Mother Night*.

¹¹Hugh M. Miller, *Introduction to Music* (New York: Barnes & Noble, 1958), 4.

¹²Daniel P. Reid, *Chinese Herbal Medicine* (Boston, Mass: Shambhala, 1986), 143.

amount of DNA will look overloaded if stained with ethidium bromide, but works well for the transfer and detection.¹³

14. (1) Why should it only be middle-class people who care about the language?
(2) I come personally from a working-class background. (3) I went to a state school, and (4) there are many street traders in my immediate family. (5) Punctuation is no more a class issue than the air we breathe.¹⁴
15. (1) [T]he mill wished to employ girls, (2) because girls never rebelled against the harder work, the stretching-out, the longer hours, or the cutting of pay.¹⁵
16. (1) The liberation of an individual, as he grows up, from the authority of his parents is one of the most necessary though one of the most painful results brought about by the course of his development. (2) It is quite essential that the liberation should occur and (3) it may be presumed that it has been to some extent achieved by everyone who has reached a normal state. (4) Indeed, the whole progress of society rests upon the opposition between successive generations.¹⁶
17. (1) Today, because of its etymology and much of the actual work of specialists, (2) philology is frequently understood to mean linguistics, especially historical grammar and the study of past forms of languages. (3) Since the term has so many and divergent meanings, (4) it is best to abandon it.¹⁷
18. (1) It's extraordinary how we go through life with eyes half shut, with dull ears, and with dormant thoughts. (2) Perhaps it's just as well; and it may be that it is this very dullness that makes life to the incalculable majority so supportable and so welcome. (3) Nevertheless, there can be but few of us who have never known one of these rare moments of awakening when we see, hear, understand every so much—everything—in a flash—before we fall back again into our agreeable somnolence.¹⁸
19. (1) If you can keep your head when all about you
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you,
(2) If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you
(3) Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it.¹⁹
20. (1) On the stage, do not suffer for the sake of suffering. (2) Don't act in general for the sake of action; (3) always act with a purpose.²⁰

¹³Adapted from Carolina Biological Supply, *Southern Hybridization Experiment Kit* (Carolina Biological Supply Co., 1996), 4.

¹⁴Lynne Truss, *Eats, Shoots & Leaves* (New York: Gotham Books, 2004), xxvi.

¹⁵Erskine Caldwell *God's Little Acre* (Franklin Center, Penn.: Franklin Library, 1979), 72.

¹⁶Sigmund Freud, "Family Romances" in *Standard Edition of the Complete Psychological Works* trans. James Strachey, et al London: Vintage, 1953-1974), 9:237.

¹⁷René Wellek and Austin Warren, *Theory of Literature* (New York: Harcourt Brace, 1965), 38.

¹⁸Joseph Conrad, *Lord Jim* (Chicago: R. R. Donnelley, 1991), 113.

¹⁹Adapted from Rudyard Kipling, "If" in *Complete Verse* (New York: Anchor, 1988), 578.

²⁰Adapted from Constantin Stanislavski, *An Actor Prepares* (New York: Theatre Arts, 1948), 37.