

Philosophy 103: Introduction to Logic

Logic Exercise: Statements

©2008 Licensed under the GFDL

Directions: A statement is a sentence with a truth value. We need not know the truth value (*i.e.*, whether the truth value is “true” or “false”) in order to recognize the presence of a statement. For the purpose of this exercise, identify the sentences in the following problems as statements if and only if the sentence is in principle falsifiable or verifiable. Emotive, modal, fictional, and contrafactual sentences are not to be counted as statements here. Explain your answers.

1. What is so rare as a day in June? (Lowell, *The Vision of Sir Launfal*)
2. If we were to work hard, then we would play hard.
3. Stock market movements cannot be predicted.
4. Color is a subjective rather than an objective characteristic of things.
5. Mental activity is exhibited whenever electrical activity is present in neural pathways.
6. The center of most galaxies is empty.
7. In artistic portraiture, the less important the subject is, the more realistic the work is considered.
8. A person's behavior changes his behavior more than a person's attitude changes his behavior.
9. Consider the choices of your avocation carefully.
10. Appreciation of music is not based on likes or dislikes.
11. The word “empathy” has at least eight different senses.
12. The U.S. would have been much better off if it wouldn't have invaded Iraq.
13. The only true generalization about the character of Hadrian is that he was consistent in his inconsistencies.
14. “And I died in my boots like a pioneer; With the whole wide sky above me.” (Benét, *The Ballad of William Sycamore*)
15. Modification of Greek theories of psychology by medieval Christian scholars who added on nonscientific hypotheses live on in today's popular thinking.