

Phil 57 section 3
Prof. Stemwedel
Homework #1

In the passages that follow, determine whether an argument is present. If an argument is not present, determine whether the passage is an explanation, an illustration, or a report. Circle all the premise and conclusion indicators.

1. "Monkeys like bananas, and I like bananas. So, I must be a monkey"
-- A five-year-old
2. "You must live your life using the same philosophy a mountain climber uses to climb a mountain: 'Never look down. Keep looking forward and upward.'"
-- Salmonsohn, *How to be Happy, Dammit*.
3. When you sign up for Facebook, you are supposed to read and agree to the terms of service, including the privacy policy. As long as Facebook abides by its own privacy policy, you can't complain that they are sharing your information inappropriately.
4. It's true that when you sign up for Facebook, you are supposed to read and agree to the terms of service, including the privacy policy. However, those terms of service run for more pages than the Constitution of the United States of America, and the language of the terms of service is confusing even to lawyers. There is no way Facebook can reasonably expect that most of its members have read and understood the terms of service they've "agreed" to. This means that members have every right to complain to Facebook about how their personal information is shared.
5. "Any law that degrades human personality is unjust. All segregation statutes are unjust because segregation distorts the soul and damages the personality"
-- Martin Luther King, Jr.
6. "Our galaxy is made up of our sun and billions of other stars. The galaxy is a huge, flat spiral system that rotates like a wheel, and the myriads of stars move around its center somewhat as the planets revolve around our sun. In addition to our galaxy, there are millions of other galaxies." – Bergmann, Moor, and Nelson, *The Logic Book*
7. "The study of logic as a formal discipline goes back at least to Aristotle (350 B.C.). In recent times formal logic has been intimately connected with theoretical work in such disciplines as physics and mathematics. There is, however, a fairly common view in contemporary culture to the effect that thinking clearly and being rational are, at the very best, of marginal value and may even be detrimental to one's mental and physical well-being." – Bergmann, Moor, and Nelson, *The Logic Book*

8. “[I]n fact logic can be of considerable practical value. All of us, logicians and nonlogicians, students and teachers, are, and must be, concerned to acquire true beliefs about ourselves and the world around us. The emphasis here is on ‘true’ because, as agents constantly interacting with the world, we must care about whether our beliefs accurately picture the world. To be indifferent to the truth of one’s beliefs or to think that the truth of a belief is a matter of how one feels about things, rather than how things are, is to court disaster. One who takes such a cavalier attitude toward truth will often end up thinking that such and such is the case when the world is really quite different. And the fact that the world is different will cause him or her at least consternation and very possibly serious harm.”
– Bergmann, Moor, and Nelson, *The Logic Book*

9. “There cannot be any emptiness; for what is empty is nothing, and what is nothing cannot be.” -- Melissus

10. “In the beginning man was born from creatures of a different kind; because other creatures are soon self-supporting, but man alone needs prolonged nursing. For this reason he would not have survived if this had been his original form.”
--Anaximenes

11. Freedom of the press is an important freedom of societies. It is like the right to life with respect to individuals.

12. An agreement cannot bind unless both parties to the agreement know what they are doing and freely choose to do it. This implies that the seller who intends to enter a contract with a customer has a duty to disclose exactly what the customer is buying and what the terms of the sale are.

13. Neither the butler nor the maid did it. That leaves the chauffeur or the cook. But the chauffeur was at the airport when the murder took place. The cook is the only one without an alibi for his whereabouts. Moreover, the heiress was poisoned. It’s logical to conclude that the cook did it.

14. If a piece of information is not “job relevant,” then the employer is not entitled qua employer to know it. Consequently, since sexual practices, political beliefs, and associational activities are not a part of most job descriptions, employers qua employers are not entitled to information about them from a prospective employee. And since they do not directly affect one’s job performance, they are not legitimate information for any employer to know in the determination of hiring a job applicant.

15. Parents who were abused as children are themselves more often violent with their own children than parents who were not abused. This proves that being abused as a child leads to further abuse of the next generation. Therefore, the only way to stop the cycle of child abuse is to provide treatment for abused children before they themselves become parents and perpetuate this sad and dangerous problem.