

**Critical Thinking  
Assignment 2, Summer 2016**

**KEY**

**Chapter 3**

Exercise 3.3: 19

**This is an inductive argument, whose conclusion is “Someone must have been telling lies about Joseph K.” It is not a strong argument because it assumes, as its implied premise, that someone who has done nothing wrong upon arrest means that someone has been telling lies about them. Notice, they could be falsely arrested or arrested mistakenly. Lying about Joseph K does not follow from the premise.**

Exercise 3.4: 7

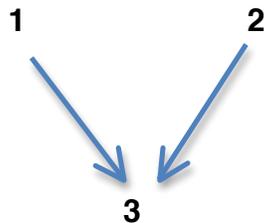
**The implicit premise is: Any government that persecutes women will or is bound to fall.**

Exercise 3.9: 9, 21

**9: Premises: 1) Studies and experts disagree as to whether any relationship exists between pornography and . . . behavior. 2) The pro-censorship Meese Commission Report . . . unreliable.**

**Conclusion: 3) No cause-effect relationship has been well established to show that viewing pornography and violence against women. This is an implied conclusion.**

**Diagram: Remember that diagram cannot be accurate unless it enumerates premises and conclusion!**



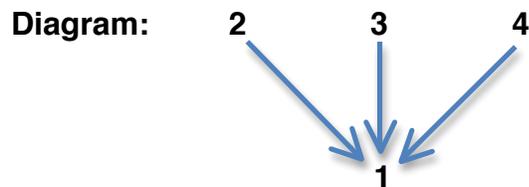
**21: Premises: 1) Their coffee was . . . a week ago. 2) Some food critics have also . . . review websites.**

**Conclusion: 3) I'm pretty sure . . . business soon.**

**Diagram: same as #9 above.**

Integrative Exercises pp. 114-116: 10, 16

**10: Conclusion: 1) Hockey is the greatest sport in the world. Premises 2) It is incredibly fast paced. 3) There is a lot of skill . . . precision. 4) The checking and even fighting . . . to watch.**



**This argument is inductive and has no signs of fallacies. Probably premise 3 is the strongest. Here the implied premise is that any game that features such skill is the greatest game or most exciting.**

**16: An argument is present. The conclusion is 1) The movie the Godfather is . . . ever produced. Premises 2) Even Mafia members . . .big screen 3) Critics consider . . . mobster film 4) Marlon Brando . . . performances.**

**Same diagram as the one above. This inductive argument likely does not appeal to popularity or majority because the groups referred to are likely to have expertise and have formed a consensus around this issue.**

## **Chapter 4**

Exercise 4.2: 11, 12, 13

**11: It is impossible to accept given that this girl has incurable cancer.**

**12: Using background knowledge one could indicate that such an herb is used to treat nasal congestion, etc. The authority of Health Canada goes some way towards supporting this claim. Altogether students should say that they would or should accept this claim, but again the point of the exercise is to have you**

reason through this and some students might have some grounds of rejecting, though this is difficult. Proportioning belief is also acceptable.

**13:** Without background knowledge this one is tough, even for me. But, I know a little about arthropods, particularly beetles. But I do not know enough to render a judgment about their evolution. The cited expert is likely to be something of an authority. Either accept or proportion believe to the evidence would work.

Exercise 4.3: 6

Importantly, the quality of response is dependent on the ability to offer a good reason that would change your mind.

## Chapter 5

Exercise 5.2: 22, 24

**22:** Red Herring because the speaker introduces irrelevant reasons for why he deserves a better grade. This contributes to something like an appeal to emotion. Yet, the Red Herring is the main fallacy. In appealing to needing a break the student is diverting attention away from the issue of the quality of his paper to the situation they face at home.

**Question 24:** Composition fallacy

Exercise 5.3: 3, 8

**Question 3:** Begging the Question

**Question 8:** This is a stand alone claim and it is hard to identify premise or conclusion. The claim might be rephrased to say: There is a causal relationship between a weak economy and high rates of infant mortality in Rwanda. There can be no fallacies present without a pseudo or elliptical argument present. If one finds an argument present, it might be faulty analogy, given the assumption that Any country that has a weak economy will have a high rate of infant mortality. One falsely compares Rwanda to this. But this has low probability of being committed. To be sure, I do not think any fallacies are present.

Integrative Exercises page 200-02:

**20: This is an argument, an inductive one. The conclusion is “The British explorers of the . . . their backward ways. The premise is “If it weren’t true, it wouldn’t be in my history textbook.”**

**It is permissible to call this a red herring because what is said in a textbook as true has no necessary link with what happened historically and that is why especially in history, texts are being revised to capture real, often horrific history.**

**Or, the fallacy could be said to be “appeal to authority.” But, it would have to be established that the writers of the textbook are not genuine experts. This fallacy is much harder to justify as present.**