

- 1. What is a concept? (3)**
- 2. What is the relationship between a word and a concept? (5)**
- 3. What is the semiotic triangle? (5)**
- 4. What is a proposition? (3)**
- 5. What is the difference between a proposition and a statement? (5)**
- 6. What is meant by an 'assertion' or 'claim' in philosophy? (3)**
- 7. What is rhetoric? (3)**



What is a philosophical argument?

An introduction to **logic** and
argumentation

Date

What is a philosophical argument?

1. What is an argument, in your view?
2. Give an example of an argument.

Philosophical argumentation

- At the **heart** of philosophy
- Involves **reasoning** to argue for **conclusions**

Why might the ability to adduce, understand, and evaluate arguments be important?

Rhetoric v. argumentation

- How might you try to persuade someone?
- In our everyday lives, people **attempt to persuade** us to believe or do things in at least two ways.
- They use **arguments** and they use **rhetoric**.



- A Churchill speech:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6jjhxeHljvU>
- Is it rhetoric or argumentation?
- Why?
- It looks like rhetoric, used well, for a good cause.
- **But...** rhetoric can be used for ill...
Any examples?

- **What is the difference between rhetoric and argumentation?**

- Critical faculties, reasoning, truth

- Premises, inferences, and conclusions

An argument with one premise

Bart has two sisters.

(Therefore,) Bart is not an only child.

What's a **premise**?

What word indicates a conclusion here?



An argument with two premises

Helping someone to commit suicide is the same as murder.

Murder is wrong.

Helping someone to commit suicide is wrong.

What's the premises?

Do you have to use a word such as 'therefore'?

Three premises

Car use is seriously damaging the environment.

Reducing car journeys would reduce damage to the environment.

We should do what we can to protect the environment.

Therefore, we should use cars less.



Standard Form

- The premises are listed in order of reasoning.
- Number the premises 'P1', 'P2' etc.
- Draw an inference bar to mark the move to the conclusion
- Conclusion is marked with 'C'.

Three premises

Car use is seriously damaging the environment.

Reducing car journeys would reduce damage to the environment.

We should do what we can to protect the environment.

Therefore, we should use cars less.

The argument in standard form

P1 Car use is seriously damaging the environment.

P2 Reducing car journeys would reduce damage to the environment.

P3 We should do what we can to protect the environment.

C Therefore, we should use cars less.

Rewrite in standard form

- “Only philosophy students take logic, and you are studying business, so you are not taking this logic class.”

- P1 Only philosophy students take logic
- P2 You are studying business
- C So you are not taking the logic class

- Reminder: Propositions are what assertions express.
Different assertions can express the same proposition.

Why do you think philosophical arguments are often set out in standard form?

What is an argument?

- Any subject
- One or more **premises**
- Conclusion
- Reasoning
- Inference (working something out)

What is an argument?

- “A reasoned _____ from one set of claims or propositions, the _____, to another, the _____”



A review: What is a philosophical argument?

Review

1. When is the difference between an argument and an assertion?
2. What is the difference between an argument and rhetoric?
3. What is an argument?
4. How many premises does an argument have?
5. And how many conclusions?
6. What is the standard form of an argument?
7. Why do we reconstruct arguments and put them into standard form?

8. Briefly outline the nature of argumentation in philosophy (5).