

MEKELLE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF LAW AND GOVERNANCE
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

COURSE TITLE: LOGIC & CRITICAL THINKING

SEMESTER II

AC. YEAR: _____

TIME ALLOWED: 2 HOURS

CLASSIFICATION: REGULAR

EXAM DATE: _____

NAME: _____ ID. _____

DEPARTMENT _____ SECTION _____

INSTRUCTOR'S NAME: _____

General Instructions:

- 1. Make sure that the exam contains Pages, including the front page and the answer sheet!!**
- 2. Write your name, ID, department and section both on the front page and the answer sheet.**
- 3. Write Your Answers legibly only on the spaces provided on the Answer Sheet!!**
- 4. Use Block (capital) letters for the choice, matching and identification items!!**
- 5. Don't detach the answer sheet!!**
- 6. Don't start or turn this page until you are told to do so!!**

PART I: MULTIPLE CHOICE ITEMS (1point each)

INSTRUCTION: READ EACH QUESTION AND PUT THE LETTER OF YOUR CHOICE ON THE SPACE PROVIDED

- 1) “Mr. Sewnet Bishaw claimed that ‘Ethiopia’s loss in the African Cup of Nations could be attributed to the goal keeper’s rashness and lack of concentration.’ Therefore, we can conclude that if it had not been for the goal keeper, Ethiopia would have made it to the semi-finals”. The fallacy committed by this argument is;
- A. Unqualified authority B. Oversimplified cause C. Missing the Point
D. Non Causa pro Causa E. No fallacy is committed by the argument
- 2) “Many students are suffering as a result of exam stress. Some of them get sick and others spend hours trying to understand the reading materials given to them thereby worrying themselves to death. Clearly, the best way to restore the students’ tranquility is to abolish exams altogether.” This arguments suffers from
- A. Suppressed Evidence B. Begging the Question C. Slippery slope
D. Missing the Point E. Appeal to Pity
- 3) One of the following may not result in the fallacies of Grammatical Analogy.
- A. An erroneous transference of attributes from a class to the members of the class
B. An erroneous transference of attributes from the parts to the whole
C. Illegitimate transference of attributes from the premises to the conclusion
D. Assuming that just because the members possess a certain quality, the class also possesses it necessarily
E. None of the above
- 4) Identify the argument that does not belong to the group.
- A. Mekelle University staffs have requested a better cafeteria service. But most of these staffs are not to be found in the university compound during working hours. The academic staffs do not even care to observe working hours; while the administrative staffs pretend to be at their office but they’re gone before you know it.
- B. The fact that no one has any knowledge about the whereabouts of the legendary Garden of Aden can lead us to conclude that it does not exist.
- C. If Ethiopians are intelligent, then they would be employed in NASA. In fact many Ethiopians are employed in NASA. Therefore, it follows that Ethiopians are intelligent.
- D. The Burkina Faso coach has alleged that we didn’t lose in the four matches we played in Mbombela Stadium and if we get the chance to play in this stadium I assure you we will win the cup.

- E. Has Beshir Al Assad stopped bombarding his own people?
- 5) All arguments that commit the fallacies of presumption share the following characteristics except one
- A. Such arguments are usually found to be valid.
 - B. Fallacies falling under this category more or less contain one or more false premises
 - C. Though the way the presumption is expressed differs from one to the other, all of these fallacies presume that a conclusion has been proved while it's just postulated.
 - D. All fallacies of presumption tend to conceal an evidence which is of paramount importance for accepting the conclusion.
 - E. They all are informal fallacies.
- 6) Which one of the following is true?
- A. While Red Herring always makes conclusion about the original argument, Straw Man usually prefers to keep silent on that respect.
 - B. Straw Man manages to distort the original argument by stretching the argument to its most extreme end whereas the method of Red Herring is confined to ignoring the whole matter.
 - C. Both Red Herring and Straw Man tend to lead the reader or listener off the original argument though they do it in a manner that is somehow different.
 - D. Both fallacies involve emotional appeal towards the reader or the listener.
 - E. All except A
- 7) One among the following can be considered to be different in terms of the relationship between the premise and the conclusion.
- A. All constitutionally guaranteed rights are outcomes of fierce struggle. All fierce struggles involve the use of ammunition. Therefore, all constitutionally guaranteed rights involve the use of ammunition.
 - B. If Ethiopia joins the African Union then Eritrea will cease to be the member of the Union. Eritrea ceased to be the member of the African Union some time ago. Therefore, Ethiopia joined the African Union.
 - C. Democratic countries will be governed by elites or they will be deprived of their freedom. Obviously democratic countries are not governed by elites which leads us to conclude that they're deprived of their civil as well as political freedom.

- D.** If the existence of an omnipresent being implies the existence of God then Satan exists. Needless to say that God's existence is implied by the existence of an omnipresent being. Therefore, one can safely conclude that Satan exists.
- E.** All empiricists are lovers of sight and sound. No lovers of sight and sound are reliable rationalists. No empiricists are reliable rationalists.
- 8)** "Ethiopia's policy toward Somali was surely mistaken because prominent physician claimed so, he had grave misgivings about it." This argument commits the fallacy of;
- A.** Against the person **B.** Missing the point **C.** Straw man
- D.** Commits no fallacy **E.** Unqualified authority
- 9)** One of the following fallacies is said to be valid.
- A.** Weak analogy **B.** False bifurcation **C.** Amphiboly
- D.** Equivocation **E.** False cause
- 10)** "Socrates' philosophy should be dismissed since Socrates was found guilty by the court of Athens and sentenced to death for dishonesty." The argument commits the fallacy of;
- A.** Ad hominem **B.** Hasty generalization **C.** Appeal to force
- D.** Equivocation **E.** Commits no fallacy
- 11)** "Napoleon became a great emperor because he was too short." The fallacy committed is;
- A.** Red Herring **B.** Appeal to pity **C.** False cause
- D.** Equivocation **E.** Commits no fallacy
- 12)** "You know that God is a just and loving God because God is God and cannot be unjust or unloving."
- A.** Begging the Question **B.** Accident **C.** Red Herring
- D.** Equivocation **E.** Suppressed Evidence
- 13)** One of the following is correct about the fallacies of suppressed evidence and begging the question.
- A.** Suppressed Evidence omits a key premise that may support the given conclusion.
- B.** Begging the Question omits key evidence that may outweigh the given conclusion.
- C.** Begging the Question omits a key premise that may support the given conclusion.
- D.** Suppressed Evidence makes an argument invalid making the reasoning circular.
- E.** A and C
- 14)** Which one is wrong regarding the fallacy of False Dichotomy?
- A.** It is one among the fallacies of presumption.

- B.** It occurs when an arguer presents two alternatives which are practically mutually exhaustive.
- C.** It occurs when it is possible to have a third alternative other than what are presented by the disjunctive statement.
- D.** All arguments in which the fallacy of false dichotomy is committed, the premises presume what they purport to prove.
- E.** The argument committing this fallacy is valid but unsound.

15) Which one of the following statements is true?

- A.** A mere fact that a given sample is small necessarily implies that an argument commits Hasty Generalization.
- B.** If any argument contains chain of reactions, then it certainly commits the fallacy of Slippery Slope.
- C.** Whenever an argument arrives at a conclusion after making certain analogy between two objects or events, it commits the fallacy of Weak Analogy.
- D.** If any argument shows transference of an attribute from a whole to its parts, we are sure that it commits the fallacy of Division.
- E.** If a given argument violates any one of the rules of validity, then it necessarily commits a fallacy.

16) Identify the wrong one from the following statements.

- A.** Fallacies in general have the tendency to make a bad argument appear good.
- B.** If any argument contains a fallacy, it is either unsound or uncogent.
- C.** In order to identify informal fallacies one needs to analyze the content of the argument.
- D.** Formal fallacies are a matter of unclear expressions while informal fallacies are a matter of invalid form.
- E.** A fallacious argument, one way or the other, has logically questionable connection between premises and conclusion.

17) Which one of the following type of fallacies is different from others in its source of logical error?

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| A. Appeal to Ignorance | B. Hasty Generalization | C. Slippery Slope |
| D. Missing the Point | E. Weak Analogy | |

18) “We must decide between a healthy environment and a healthy economy. Surely, we want to live in a healthy environment. Therefore, we should pay no attention to a healthy economy.”

The fallacy committed in the above argument is;

- A. False Dichotomy B. Straw Man C. Suppressed Evidence
D. Appeal to Ignorance E. Slippery Slope

19) “We can’t believe what Stacey says about pork being unclean. After all she is a Jew and she is not allowed to eat pork.” Which fallacy is committed in the argument?

- A. *Ad hominem* circumstantial B. “you too” C. *Ad hominem* abusive
D. Appeal to people E. Appeal to pity

20) “You should get a driver’s license because everyone does.” The name of the fallacy committed in this argument is;

- A. *Argumentum ad Misericordiam*
B. *Argumentum ad Baculum*
C. *Argumentum ad Populum*
D. *Argumentum ad Ignorantiam*
E. Red Herring

21) “Before rejecting my opinion son, you should remind yourself of who houses you, feeds you and pays your university fees.” The arguer commits the fallacy of:

- A. Appeal to Ignorance B. Appeal to Force C. Composition
D. Appeal to People E. Slippery Slope

22) “Teenage parties sometimes deteriorate all the way down and become uncontrolled promiscuity; so on no account will my teenager be allowed to go to a party no matter what the circumstances.” The arguer commits the fallacy of:

- A. Slippery slope B. False dichotomy C. Missing the point
D. Straw man E. Division

23) The fallacy that occurs when an arguer bases an inductive argument on an insufficient observations or an unrepresentative sample is known as:

- A. Hasty Generalization B. Oversimplified cause C. Missing the Point
D. Appeal to Unqualified Authority E. Weak Analogy

24) “New, improved and desired by all the best people, you too should join the rush to smoke “Wheezers.” The fallacy committed here is;

- A. Bandwagon B. “you too” C. Snobbery

D. Vanity

E. Unqualified Authority

- 25) “The school’s orchestra is the best in the state so the sax player must be the best in the state.”

The fallacy committed in the above argument is:

A. Composition

B. Division

C. Equivocation

D. Amphiboly

E. No fallacy

- 26) The evaluation of the argument, “Selamawit argues that within the past few months alone, I have heard about four Ethiopian women who have killed themselves—one in Virginia, another one in Dallas, then two weeks ago a girl whom I know very well in Atlanta (I am still in shock), and just six days ago a mother of four beautiful children in Riverside, California. We may conclude that the overwhelming majority of Ethiopian women are currently committing suicide in all over the American land,” proves:

A. A deductively unsound argument

B. An inductively strong argument

C. A deductively invalid argument

D. An inductively weak argument

E. A deductively sound argument

- 27) If the evaluation of a certain argument reveals that it is an uncogent argument, what can one certainly say about this argument?

A. It is a strong argument containing all true premises.

B. It is both weak and has one or more false premises.

C. It is a deductive invalid argument.

D. It might be a strong argument having one or more false premises.

E. All arguments of this sort are weak.

- 28) “Aristotle is the most famous philosopher in Western civilization. Because his philosophy (with modification) became the official philosophy of the Catholic Church. This came about because Aquinas and others based their philosophies on Aristotle’s philosophy. They did this because Aristotle was the most famous philosopher in Western civilization.” The type of fallacy which is committed here is said to be;

- A. Non causa pro causa
- B. Oversimplified cause
- C. Post hoc ergo propter hoc
- D. Ad verecundiam
- E. None of the above

29) Identify the incorrect correlation of the Latin name to the English name of the fallacies enumerated below:

- A. Argumentum ad Verecundiam-Appeal to Unqualified Authority
- B. Ignoratio Elenchi-Appeal to Ignorance
- C. Argumentum ad Baculum-Appeal to Stick
- D. Petitio Principii-Begging the Question
- E. Argumentum ad Misericordiam- Argument against the Person

30) From the following arguments identify the one that commits the fallacy of Begging the Question.

- A. I do not believe that Dr. Zewdu is a trust-worthy physician. Two of my friends were his patients, and he incorrectly diagnosed both of their cases.
- B. We should strongly oppose gay marriage. Many respected people, such as actor Mill Gibson, have publicly stated their opposition to it.
- C. Everyone should make honey a part of his/her diet. I have been taking a spoonful of honey every day for a year, and it has kept me from having a cold during all that time.
- D. Students whose GPA is less than 2.0 should not graduate because students who fail to score a GPA of below 2.0 cannot graduate.
- E. I do not like the idea of abortion either, but I think it is better than having some poor woman kill herself trying to raise eleven or twelve children.

PART II: TRUE OR FALSE ITEMS (1 point each)

1. Widespread acceptance of an idea is not proof of its validity.
2. The fallacy of Missing the Point is different from that of Red Herring and Straw Man in that in Missing the Point the conclusion is irrelevant to the premises from which it is drawn.
3. The truth value of the conclusion in an inductive argument is neither certainly true nor false.

4. If a given argument contains a fallacy of weak induction, it presents insufficient yet logically relevant reason for believing the conclusion.
5. “Converse Accident” is a quick generalization in which care has been taken to see if a statistics warrants a generalization about the subject of that sample.
6. Although all the premises of valid deductive arguments contain their conclusions in some sense, in “Begging the Question” fallacy they assert the conclusion in a disguised way.
7. It is possible to appropriately construct an argument from authority by mentioning the person who has sufficient expertise in the subject matter in question.
8. If an argument from analogy depends on a causal or systematic relationship between certain attributes, and there is good reason to believe that this relationship exists, then the argument commits the fallacy of weak analogy.
9. If an arguer cites a statement by a qualified expert in support of a conclusion and the statement reflects the strong bias of its author, then the arguer commits no fallacy.
10. The failure of an argument to pass the test of validity necessarily renders it fallacious.

PART III: MATCHING ITEMS (1 point each)

<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>
1. Class statement 2. General statement 3. Passage lacking an inferential 4. Sound argument 5. Non causa pro causa	A. Consists in genuine statements whose truth values are always true. B. Fallacy of weak induction C. An attribute is predicated distributively D. Always involves two arguers E. An attribute is predicated collectively F. Fallacy of ambiguity G. Non argument

PART IV: IDENTIFY THE TYPE OF FALLACIES COMITTED IN THE FOLLOWING ARGUMENTS. Write only the letter that best matches the arguments below from the following table (1 point each)

A. Slippery Slope	B. Straw man	C. Petitio Principii	D. Appeal to Pity
E. Bandwagon	F. Equivocation	G. Accident	H. Division

1. Some people claim that Ethiopia's education policy should have focused more on the social sciences. But these people want to promote humanism in the country. Humanism as you know is a kind of thought which promotes the exploitation of nature for the sole benefit of human beings. It argues in favor of the advancement of man at the expense of the environment. Clearly we should oppose what these people are saying.
2. Since the exercise of unrestricted freedom is dangerous it follows that it is harmful to allow people unlimited liberty.
3. In his book "Democracy in America", Alexis De Tocqueville argued that one of the most ordinary weaknesses of the human intellect is to seek to reconcile contrary principles and to purchase peace at the expense of logic. But if all of us were to adopt logic in our lives and become philosophers then there will not be anyone who will be engaged in the practical and the productive sciences and then the country will have more talk and less work. Finally, the country's complete collapse will be inevitable.
4. I don't know why you won't accept my argument as a proof, since you admit that it is valid and since all of my friends in this class agree that it is absolutely convincing.
5. Because my client has had a hard life, rejected by his parents and left school early you must recognize that he should not be guilty of the theft he is accused of.

QUESTIONS ON CHAPTER 6: CATEGORICAL PROPOSITION

Answer the following questions based on the Modern (Boolean) Squares of Opposition

1. What is the Contradictory and Logically undetermined form of the proposition: "*Some policemen are not honest people*" ?
2. Symbolize the following statement by drawing a Venn Diagram: *Some sculptors are not painters.*
3. Evaluate the validity of the following statement by using the modern square of opposition and by drawing Venn diagram:
It is false that all meteor showers are common spectacles.
Therefore, no meteor showers are common spectacles.

Multiple choice questions

1. A diagram that illustrates the necessary relations that prevail between the four kinds of standard-form categorical propositions as interpreted from the Boolean standpoint.

A. Categorical Proposition	C. Modern Square of Opposition
B. O Proposition	D. Traditional Square of Opposition
2. The attribute of a categorical proposition by which it is either affirmative or negative.

A. Quantity	C. Copula
B. Quality	D. Parameter
3. A formal fallacy that occurs when the conclusion of an argument depends on an incorrect application of the sub alternation relation.

A. Illicit Contraposition	C. Illicit Conversion
B. Illicit Sub-alternation	D. Illicit Subcontrary
4. A diagram that illustrates the necessary relations that prevail between the four kinds of standard-form categorical propositions as interpreted from the Aristotelian standpoint.

A. Categorical Proposition	C. Traditional Square of Opposition
B. I Proposition	D. Modern Square of Opposition
5. An attribute possessed by a term in a categorical proposition if and only if the proposition makes a claim about all the members of the class denoted by the term.

A. Distribution	C. Contraposition
B. I Proposition	D. Obversion
6. The attribute of a categorical proposition by which it is either universal or particular.

A. Quality	C. Quantity
B. Obversion	D. Quantifiers
7. A categorical proposition having the form "All S are P".

A. I Proposition	C. O Proposition
B. E Proposition	D. A Proposition
8. A proposition that relates two classes (or categories).

A. Categorical Proposition

C. E Proposition

B. O Proposition

D. A Proposition

9. A proposition/statement that makes an assertion about every member of its subject class.

A. Singular Proposition (statement)

C. Negative Propositions (statements)

B. Universal Propositions (statements)

D. Particular Propositions (statement)

10. In a standard-form categorical proposition, the term that comes immediately after the copula.

A. Predicate Term

C. Quantifiers

B. Parameter

D. Subject Term

11. A proposition that has one of the following forms: "All S are P" "No S are P" "Some S are P" "Some S are not P".

A. Modern Square of Opposition

C. Standard-Form Categorical Proposition

B. Traditional Square of Opposition

D. Categorical Proposition

12. In standard-form categorical propositions, the words "all," "no," and "some".

A. Quality

C. Quantifiers

B. Parameter

D. Quantity

13. An argument having a single premise.

A. Immediate Inferences

C. Distribution

B. Illicit Conversion

D. Predicate Term

14. In standard-form categorical propositions, the words "are" and "are not".

A. Conversion

C. Quantity

B. Copula

D. Quality

15. A fallacy that occurs whenever an argument is invalid merely because the premises lack existential import.

A. Distribution

C. Existential Import

B. Quantifiers

D. Existential Fallacy

16. The relation that exists between statements that necessarily have opposite truth values.

A. Contraposition

C. Subcontrary Relation

B. Contrary Relation

D. Contradictory Relation

17. A categorical proposition having the form "No S are P".

A. I Proposition

C. O Proposition

B. E Proposition

D. A Proposition

18. An attribute of a categorical proposition by which it implies that one or more things denoted by the subject term actually exist.

A. Existential Import

C. Distribution

B. Quantifiers

D. Existential Fallacy

19. A categorical proposition having the form "Some S are not P".

A. I Proposition

C. O Proposition

B. A Proposition

D. E Proposition

20. A diagram consisting of two or more circles used to represent the information content of categorical propositions.

A. Quality

C. Quantifiers

B. Venn Diagrams

D. Quantity

21. A phrase that, when introduced into a statement, affects the form but not the meaning.

A. Quantity

C. Quantifiers

B. Quality

D. Parameter

22. Valid from the Boolean standpoint.

A. Conditionally Valid

C. Contrary Relation

B. Unconditionally Valid

D. Subcontrary Relation

24. A proposition/statement that denies class membership.

A. Universal Propositions (statements)

C. Affirmative Propositions (statements)

B. Particular Propositions (statement)

D. Negative Propositions (statements)