

Critical Reasoning, PHIL105.012 Fall, 2009

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Office hours: T 10-11:30; Th, F 3:30-5:00 and other times by appointment

NAME _____

Exercise Set #3 - Hi. Here is the third Exercise Set for this term. It is due by the end of the day **Tuesday, November 17**. You can hand your finished work in at class-time that day, or place it in my mailbox in the English and Philosophy Department, or slip it under my office door any time up until 5:00pm. Emailed work will be considered on time if sent before midnight that night. Please follow all the instructions carefully, and let me know if you'd like me to clarify anything, or if you have any questions.

Ex. 3.1 Questions - *Instructions:* Based only on the text and discussion from this class, answer the three questions below in a clear and detailed way, in at least about 6-8 sentences each, in your own words as much as possible. (10 points each)

1. Explain carefully what Reasoning by Analogy is, and the difference between literal and literary analogies. Give an original example of an analogical argument.

2. State Mill's three principles for drawing causal inferences clearly and carefully. Then give an original example of how someone would use any one of these three principles in order to give weight to a specific causal hypothesis.

3. Explain carefully how judgments about the credibility and independence of sources of evidence complicate assessments of inductive arguments.

Exercise 3.2 Inductive Fallacies – Instructions: The arguments in this section are all fallacies like the first seven presented in Chapter 6. Look at each carefully and decide which of the fallacies from the list for each section best describes the reasoning of each inductive argument. Place the appropriate letter in the space. Note: use each choice at least once. (3.5 points each)

a. <i>Ad Populum</i>	b. Hasty Generalization	c. Accident
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1. ___ Your new pet dog Sparky is very likely to be a high-spirited, aggressive, and energetic puppy. I say this because he’s mostly a terrier, and in general, terriers and terrier-mixes are high-spirited dogs.
2. ___ American cars are the most unreliable in the world. I say so because the two that I have owned constantly were breaking down, but my new Adobe, which was built in Portugal has been great so far.
3. ___ Seeing as they have generally been winning their recent games, the Eagles will likely win their next game.
4. ___ I think the hamburger you just ordered is dangerously laden with chemicals and preservatives because most of the commercially bred cattle and chickens whose meat we eat are shot up with dangerous chemicals and raised in unregulated conditions on huge agribusiness ranches.
5. ___ I don’t expect that limiting gun-ownership will have any effect on the crime rate seeing as every time we have polled the American people concerning their attitudes about gun-ownership and crime, the overwhelming majority of people say they do not believe there is any connection between them.
6. ___ Most animals from the zoo have “Property of the Zoo” stamped on them. This penguin doesn’t have any markings on it at all, so, it is probably not from the zoo.
7. ___ There’s nothing really wrong that matters so much about a little plagiarism here and there in your assignments in college. Pretty much everybody does it.
8. ___ Most Italian Americans are related to mobsters if they aren’t mobsters themselves. Just look at how many of the Italian Americans you see on TV shows are!
9. ___ In a recent survey of business majors, 75% said they were more concerned about paying their credit card bills than the state of the world and the actions of their government. Hence, college students today are more concerned with their own financial matters than with world affairs.
10. ___ There is absolutely no good reason for ever granting parole to convicted murderers. Anyone knows that.

a. <i>Post Hoc</i>	b. Slippery Slope	c. Genetic Fallacy	d. Apples and Oranges
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1. ___ Women are half the world’s population, they do two-thirds of the work, earn one-tenth of its income, and own one one-hundredth of its property. But women have always played a subservient role to men, hence there is no reason to change that now.

2. ___ Drexel has a new Philosophy Major but students should not expect much from its. Here’s why—Drexel started in 1891 as part of a nationalistic effort to use higher education to jump start American competition with Europe in applications of engineering and industry to economic and international affairs.

3. ___ Cigarette smoking is like eating a powerful poison several times a day. You would not want to take a spoonful of arsenic into your mouth every few minutes, it follows that you should not want to put that cigarette into your mouth either.

4. ___ Activism to defend personal liberty has always been closely linked with the desire to expand democracy and freedom. So, I think the group LibertyWorks, which advocates symbolically dumping instant coffee into the Delaware River, is actually interested in expanding democracy and freedom.

5. ___ The fighting in Ukraine broke out a week or two following the meetings French President Sarkozy held with the Russian security and military high command. It follows that Sarkozy holds some responsibility for the lives lost in that conflict.

6. ___ If one were to listen to only one kind of music or eat only one type of food for his or her entire life, it would get pretty dull and drive you crazy. It would also deprive you of essential nutrients that variety assures. In the same way, it seems to me exclusive sexual relationships only wear us out and deny to us some of the essential vitamins, if not the nutrients, required for a stimulating and well-rounded life. That is why I am against marriage.

7. ___ Given that the U.S. economy began consecutive years of sustained vigorous economic expansion just after the beginning of the first Clinton administration in 1992, we have the Democrats to thank for getting the US economy out of its last recession.

8. ___ If you aren’t in the habit of thinking about things, it’s best not to start. Here’s why—once you start, you’re bound to discover all kinds of intolerable and unbearable things are happening in the world. And that will make it impossible for you to accept the petty distractions and delusions most of us use to help us cope. And that will make you sullen, cynical, hopeless, and morose.

9. ___ A parent who neglects his or her child would be liable to prosecution if that child were harmed or harmed others in ways that could have been prevented by their actions. It follows that the U.S. government should be tried for reckless endangerment in the case of the decaying of the U.S. passenger airline fleet.

10. ___ It’s obvious that the main reason The Beatles broke up was John’s relationship with Yoko Ono. The band broke up right after John and Yoko got back together after having relationship troubles and a brief separation.