

Name: _____

**Philosophy 29—Critical Reasoning
Midterm Exam A
November 5, 1997**

True/False (2 pts. each)

Print "T" if the statement is true, otherwise print "F"

- _____ Observations and the conclusions inferred from them are usually equally reliable.
- _____ If an argument is bad, the conclusion must be wrong.
- _____ Observation reports by the observer are generally to be preferred over others' reports of these observation reports.
- _____ The word "because" usually indicates that the next sentence is the conclusion of an argument.
- _____ For purposes of evaluating the credibility of a source, a statement is less credible if the statement maker knows that his or her reputation is at risk.
- _____ A deductively valid argument can have false premises and a true conclusion.
- _____ A proposition and its double negation are logically equivalent.
- _____ A conclusion can also be a reason for another conclusion.
- _____ A deductively valid argument can have true premises and a true conclusion.

Section 2. Fill in the blanks (3 pts. each)

1. What fallacy labels best describe the following?
 - (a) You are giving reasons why the referee's decision was a bad one because you are for the Lakers. So I don't accept your conclusion. _____
 - (b) Carl Sagan says, "Asics are the best shoes to wear when thinking about astronomy." _____
2. The *then* part of a conditional is called the _____.
3. If an argument has a conditional proposition as a premise and the affirmation of the antecedent of the conditional as a premise, then it is deductively valid to conclude _____.
4. Write whether each of the following is an observation or a conclusion:
 - (a) The physicist says, "This is the particle track of an electron." _____
 - (b) The physicist says, "The particle track on this film curves to the right." _____
5. Write the contrapositive of the proposition: If John is tall, then John is qualified for the basketball team. _____
6. An argument is deductively invalid if _____
7. When examining an argument, there are three things you must do. These are:
 - (a) _____
 - (b) _____
 - (c) _____

Answer Key for Exam A

True/False (2 pts. each)

Print "T" if the statement is true, otherwise print "F"

- False Observations and the conclusions inferred from them are usually equally reliable.
- False If an argument is bad, the conclusion must be wrong.
- True Observation reports by the observer are generally to be preferred over others' reports of these observation reports.
- False The word "because" usually indicates that the next sentence is the conclusion of an argument.
- True For purposes of evaluating the credibility of a source, a statement is less credible if the statement maker knows that his or her reputation is at risk.
- True A deductively valid argument can have false premises and a true conclusion.
- True A proposition and its double negation are logically equivalent.
- True A conclusion can also be a reason for another conclusion.
- True A deductively valid argument can have true premises and a true conclusion.

Section 2. Fill in the blanks (3 pts. each)

1. What fallacy labels best describe the following?
 - (a) You are giving reasons why the referee's decision was a bad one because you are for the Lakers. So I don't accept your conclusion. _____
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 - (a) The physicist says, "This is the particle track of an electron." _____
 - (b) The physicist says, "The particle track on this film curves to the right." _____
5. Write the contrapositive of the proposition: If John is tall, then John is qualified for the basketball team. _____
6. An argument is deductively invalid if _____
7. When examining an argument, there are three things you must do. These are:
 - (a) _____
 - (b) _____
 - (c) _____

Name: _____

**Philosophy 29—Critical Reasoning
Midterm Exam B
November 5, 1997**

True/False (2 pts. each)

Print “T” if the statement is true, otherwise print “F”

- _____ For purposes of evaluating the credibility of a source, a statement is less credible if the statement maker knows that his or her reputation is at risk.
- _____ A deductively valid argument can have false premises and a true conclusion.
- _____ Observations and the conclusions inferred from them are usually equally reliable.
- _____ The word “because” usually indicates that the next sentence is the conclusion of an argument.
- _____ A conclusion can also be a reason for another conclusion.
- _____ If an argument is bad, the conclusion must be wrong.
- _____ A deductively valid argument can have true premises and a true conclusion.
- _____ A proposition and its double negation are logically equivalent.
- _____ Observation reports by the observer are generally to be preferred over others’ reports of these observation reports.

Section 2. Fill in the blanks (3 pts. each)

1. What fallacy labels best describe the following?
 - (a) You are giving reasons why the referee’s decision was a bad one because you are for the Lakers. So I don’t accept your conclusion. _____
 - (b) Albert Einstein says, “Reeboks are the best shoes to wear when thinking about physics.” _____
2. An argument is deductively invalid if _____
3. The *then* part of a conditional is called the _____.
4. If an argument has a conditional proposition as a premise and the affirmation of the antecedent of the conditional as a premise, then it is deductively valid to conclude _____
5. Write whether each of the following is an observation or a conclusion:
 - (a) The physicist says, “This is the particle track of an electron.” _____
 - (b) The physicist says, “The particle track on this film curves to the right.” _____
6. When examining an argument, there are three things you must do. These are:
 - (a) _____
 - (b) _____
 - (c) _____
7. Write the contrapositive of the proposition: If John is tall, then John is qualified for the basketball team. _____

Answer Key for Exam B

True/False (2 pts. each)

Print "T" if the statement is true, otherwise print "F"

- True For purposes of evaluating the credibility of a source, a statement is less credible if the statement maker knows that his or her reputation is at risk.
- True A deductively valid argument can have false premises and a true conclusion.
- False Observations and the conclusions inferred from them are usually equally reliable.
- False The word "because" usually indicates that the next sentence is the conclusion of an argument.
- True A conclusion can also be a reason for another conclusion.
- False If an argument is bad, the conclusion must be wrong.
- True A deductively valid argument can have true premises and a true conclusion.
- True A proposition and its double negation are logically equivalent.
- True Observation reports by the observer are generally to be preferred over others' reports of these observation reports.

Section 2. Fill in the blanks (3 pts. each)

1. What fallacy labels best describe the following?
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 - (c) _____
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Name: _____

**Philosophy 29—Critical Reasoning
Midterm Exam C
November 5, 1997**

True/False (2 pts. each)

Print "T" if the statement is true, otherwise print "F"

- _____ Observation reports by the observer are generally to be preferred over others' reports of these observation reports.
- _____ The word "because" usually indicates that the next sentence is the conclusion of an argument.
- _____ Observations and the conclusions inferred from them are usually equally reliable.
- _____ If an argument is bad, the conclusion must be wrong.
- _____ A conclusion can also be a reason for another conclusion.
- _____ For purposes of evaluating the credibility of a source, a statement is less credible if the statement maker knows that his or her reputation is at risk.
- _____ A proposition and its double negation are logically equivalent.
- _____ A deductively valid argument can have false premises and a true conclusion.
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Section 2. Fill in the blanks (3 pts. each)

1. The *then* part of a conditional is called the _____.
2. When examining an argument, there are three things you must do. These are:
 - (a) _____
 - (b) _____
 - (c) _____
3. If an argument has a conditional proposition as a premise and the affirmation of the antecedent of the conditional as a premise, then it is deductively valid to conclude _____.
4. Write the contrapositive of the proposition: If John is tall, then John is qualified for the basketball team. _____
5. An argument is deductively invalid if _____.
6. Write whether each of the following is an observation or a conclusion:
 - (a) The physicist says, "This is the particle track of an electron." _____
 - (b) The physicist says, "The particle track on this film curves to the right." _____
7. What fallacy labels best describe the following?
 - (a) You are giving reasons why the referee's decision was a bad one because you are for the Lakers. So I don't accept your conclusion. _____
 - (b) Carl Sagan says, "Asics are the best shoes to wear when thinking about astronomy." _____

Answer Key for Exam C

True/False (2 pts. each)

Print "T" if the statement is true, otherwise print "F"

- True Observation reports by the observer are generally to be preferred over others' reports of these observation reports.
- False The word "because" usually indicates that the next sentence is the conclusion of an argument.
- False Observations and the conclusions inferred from them are usually equally reliable.
- False If an argument is bad, the conclusion must be wrong.
- True A conclusion can also be a reason for another conclusion.
- True For purposes of evaluating the credibility of a source, a statement is less credible if the statement maker knows that his or her reputation is at risk.
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Section 2. Fill in the blanks (3 pts. each)

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