

LOGIC PORTFOLIO

Intent

To further demonstrate your understanding of the logic principals and to illustrate the practical nature of the skills covered, you are to compile and submit a portfolio of examples with analyses. The assignment has two components: find several examples and analyze each of them.

Finding Examples

From the list at the bottom of this sheet, find a total of five examples each of which must be different—that is, you may not have five of the same type. You may take examples from books, magazines, newspapers, web pages, etc.—in fact, from anything published for mass circulation, except logic books or textbooks. Examples may be advertisements, articles, letters to the editor, opinion pieces, editorials, cartoons, etc.

Provide a copy (a photocopy is acceptable) of the entire piece you are analyzing—or if very long, at least enough to make the context intelligible—highlighting the sentences and parts of most relevance. Clearly identify the source of each item; giving at least the name of the publication, date of publication, and page reference (or web link).

Analysis

For each example, identify in which category you would place the example and defend your decision with a paragraph or two, using complete sentences. Also, define and symbolize the argument where appropriate. If you make some "assumptions", detail them. If it is correct use of logic, state why. If it is a misuse of logic, explain why.

Examples must be chosen according to the following groupings:

Laws of Logic (at least one)

- Law of Detachment (modus ponens)
- Law of Contraposition (modus tollens)
- Law of Syllogism (Hypothetical Syllogism)
- Disjunctive Syllogism
- A valid quantified syllogism

Fallacies (at least one)

- Fallacy of the Converse (Fallacy of affirming the consequent)
- Fallacy of the Inverse (Fallacy of denying the antecedent)
- An invalid quantified syllogism

Logic Statements (at least one)

- Double negatives
- An *only if* wording for a conditional
- A wording of a conditional other than *if-then*
- An obvious misstatement