

Fallacy Practice Worksheet #1. For each question below identify the fallacy from the given list. Answers are provided at the end of the worksheet.

- | | |
|---|---|
| A. Hasty Generalization (Small Sample) - Ch. 10; | H. Wishful Thinking (Ch. 5); |
| B. Biased Sample - Ch. 10; | I. Rationalizing (Ch. 5); |
| C. False Analogy; | J. Scare Tactics (Ch. 5); |
| D. Argument from Popularity; (Ch. 5) | K. Ad Hominem (Personal, Circumstantial, or |
| E. Two Wrongs (Ch. 5); | Inconsistency) (Ch. 6); |
| F. Red Herring (Ch. 5); | L. Genetic fallacy; |
| G. "Factual Claims are Relative" fallacy (Fallacy | M. Strawman |
| of Relativism or Subjectivism) (Ch. 6); | N. None |

- 1) If it is Strawman identify the argument that is being distorted;
- 2) If False Analogy state the crucial dissimilarity in the two things being compared; also identify the sample and target.
- 3) If it is a Generalization identify the sample and target
- 4) If it is Red Herring, identify the original topic and the new, unrelated topic.
- 5) For Fallacy of Relativism/Subjectivism, identify the factual claim.

Fallacies:

1. _____ Your personality is like a door: it opens and closes all the time.
2. _____ David: I'm going to vote for Peter Camejo because I don't think that Davis is all that different from Simon and I'm concerned about the environment and wages. Didi: But if you vote for Camejo you will pull votes away from Davis and Simon may then defeat Gray Davis.
3. _____ Gravetomb epitaph: "Sometimes we have few choices. For example, air. Either you breathe or you die."
4. _____ Person #1: I didn't study for my last quiz but I'll still do ok because I'm going to do all the extra credit stuff and I'll certainly study for the next quiz. Person #2: You are in big danger because if you never study for your quizzes then you'll never get a good grade.
5. _____ That student was rude to me and disruptive. I'm going to lower their grade.
6. _____ "Give the baby his pacifier so he'll stop crying. Every time I give him the pacifier he stops crying."
7. _____ Those awful Democrats! They want to increase government spending on education again. This is the same outfit that gave us \$10,000 toilets and government regulations up the yin-yang.
8. _____ Drunk drivers are like cold-blooded murderers. The weapons are different but the result is the same. So drunk drivers who kill someone in an auto accident should receive the death penalty.
9. _____ "It says here that smoke from wood-burning stoves, no matter how airtight they're supposed to be, gets into your house and is a health hazard."
"No way. We just spent close to a thousand dollars on this new stove; what you're reading can't be true."
10. _____ Let gays join the military? Give me a break. God created Adam and Eve, not Adam and Steve.