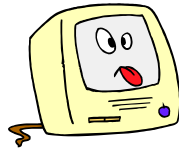




Help With: Faulty Logic



These arguments display faulty logic or are otherwise suspect as evidence. Why?

1. *False Analogy.* Our university should not require written essays. Oxford does not require written essays and the students there do just fine without them.
2. *False Premise.* Everyone wants to get married someday. A good self-concept is important in attracting a husband or wife. Therefore, everyone should develop a good self-image.
3. *Red Herring.* Pizza Stomach-Ache is a great restaurant: you can see how shining clean the kitchens are and how good-looking the waitresses are!
4. *Ad Hominem.* Dr. Mack A. Lee is an incompetent biology professor. He constantly gets into auto accidents.
5. *Bandwagon.* I had to stick my finger in the light socket, mom! All the cool kids were doing it!
6. *Appeal to Pity.* Look at this 14-year-old child who has run away from home, pregnant, abandoned, and penniless. Can you still claim that sex education should be taught in school?
7. *Dated Evidence.* A survey of 500 doctors taken just before World War II found that a majority felt that smoking posed no health risks at all.
8. *Either / Or Fallacy.* Either we continue to build our military or we will fall prey to the Taliban (or Chinese or Indians or Iranians or whoever that week).
9. *Water is Wet Fallacy.* Coors is the natural beer, made from grains and water!
10. *Coincidence Fallacy.* All the teenagers at this school who like hip-hop are poor students and have piercings and tattoos. Thus hip-hop music leads to piercings, tattoos, and poor grades.
11. *Biased Evidence.* Dr. Samuel Adams, a spokesperson for Quisling Pulp & Paper, explained that forests are actually healthier without trees.
12. *Circular Argument.* A Greek salad is healthier than pizza because it is better for you.
13. *Cherry-Picking.* Hitler was an excellent leader. Under his government, Germany built the autobahn and introduced the highly efficient and profitable Volkswagen.
14. *Equivocation.* "Icelanders are lazy." "But look at Greta! She has two jobs and does charity work!" "Then she must not really be an Icelander, because Icelanders are lazy."
15. *Expert Fallacy.* According to Bill Gates, tigers evolved from grasshoppers.
16. *Sample Error.* The five engineers we surveyed prove that 80% of experts believe that the city water supply is safe.
17. *Slippery Slope Fallacy.* What if we allowed you to return your book to the library late? Then soon no one would obey any laws anywhere and civilization would fall into anarchy!