

Evaluate - Objections

[for [PEE writing assignment](#)]

OVERVIEW

This assignment requires you to imagine and explain two specific objections to your argument. Not only will this exercise prepare you for your interview and the final draft of your writing assignment; engaging in critical self-reflection ensures we are in the best position to make a convincing argument.

What is an Objection?

- An objection is a criticism that challenges the validity, reasonableness, or soundness of your argument.
- Objections can come from:
 - Someone who disagrees with your conclusion.
 - Someone who agrees with your conclusion but disagrees with how you argue for it (e.g., your premises or assumptions).

TASKS

1. Revise Present & Explain

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- Revise sections "Present" and "Explain" (including "Definitions," "Significance," and "Rationales") based on feedback received.

2. Imagine Two Specific Objections To Your Argument

- Imagine and explain two potential objections to your argument.
- Each Objection **MUST**:
 - ✓ Explain how the critique threatens your argument's validity, reasonableness, or soundness.
 - ✓ Specifically identify the part(s) of your argument being challenged.
- Objection 1: SELECT ONE from below...
 - [OPTION 1] Soundness: Argue that a factual or moral premise is untrue.
 - ✓ Provide empirical support or a thought experiment to demonstrate the falsity of the claim.
 - [OPTION 2] Justification: Criticize the justification of a conditional or disjunctive statement.
 - ✓ Use specific examples or course content to counter the support given.
- Objection 2:
 - Reductio Ad Absurdum (RAA):
 - ✓ Assume your conclusion is true.
 - ✓ Show that this assumption leads to an unacceptable or absurd implication.

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✓ Present this in standard form (P1, P2, P3, C).

3. Submit: Upload your completed assignment as a .doc/.docx/.pdf file to Canvas Discussion.

DEADLINE

11:59 pm (PST), Friday

FORMAT & [GRADING](#)

- "PRESENT": ≥ 3 sentences
- "EXPLAIN": 3 paragraphs (1 paragraph for definitions, 1 paragraph for significance, 1 paragraph for rationales)
- "EVALUATE": 2 paragraphs (1 paragraph for each objection) + RAA in standard form (≥ 3 sentences)
- WORKS CITED: ≥ 8 sources
- Total: ~5 pages (excluding works cited)

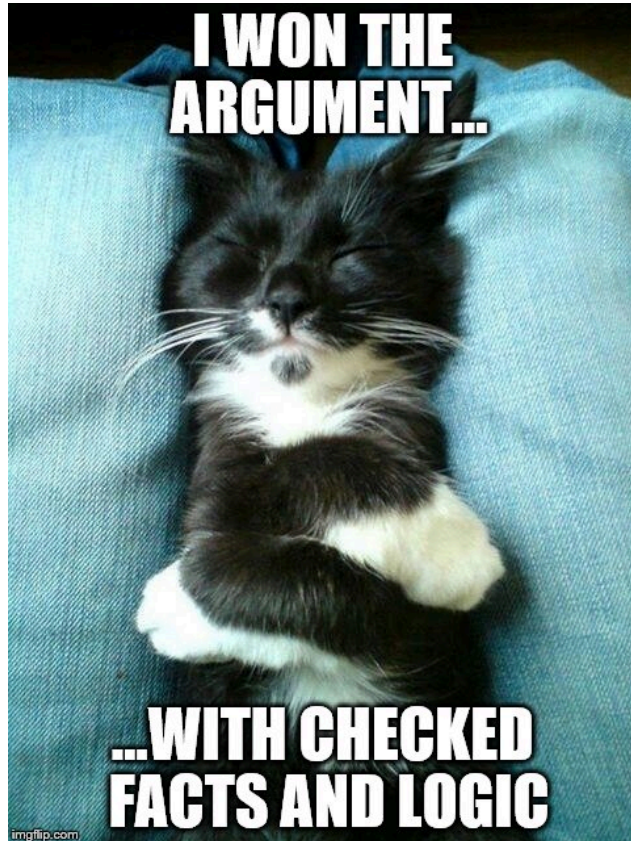
HAVING TROUBLE?

- Tips for Success
 - Clarity: Use clear introductory sentences for each paragraph. Avoid personal pronouns.

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- Conciseness: Be as concise as possible and say only what needs to be said.
- Charity: Present the strongest version of each objection (avoid straw man arguments).
- Originality: Consider...
 - [Fallacious reasoning](#)
 - [Unstated Assumptions](#) / [Implicit Premises](#)
 - [Disanalogies](#)
 - [Equivocation](#)
- [STUDENT EXAMPLE\(S\)](#)

Instructor Notes



2.3 Rationales

To effectively justify your argument, make sure you completed each of the following in your rationales section:

1. Identify and clearly state each premise.

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- **Content:** Each premise should be a distinct statement that supports the conclusion.
- **Structure:**
 - **Conditional Statements:** If-then statements (e.g., "If P, then Q").
 - **Example:** "If it rains, then the ground will be wet."
 - **Disjunctive Statements:** Statements that offer a choice between two or more options (e.g., "Either A or B is true").
 - **Example:** "The light is either on or off."
- **Evidential Support:** For factual premises, provide supporting evidence (e.g., citations, observations).

2. Identify and clearly state the conclusion.

- The conclusion is the main point the argument aims to prove.

3. Assess the validity of the argument.

- **Validity:**
 - An argument is valid if and only if, assuming all the premises are true, the conclusion must also be true.
 - In other words, if the premises were to be true, it would be impossible for the conclusion to be false.

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- **Note:** Validity does not guarantee the truth of the premises or the conclusion.