

LSAT Blog's Flawed Arguments Worksheet

This isn't a comprehensive list of every flaw you'll see on the LSAT (that would take too long to put together!)

However, it's a good intro to *some* types of flawed arguments you'll see.

These examples are all based on flaws that you see in real LSAT questions.

YOUR MISSION: Write down what's wrong with each.

21 Flawed Arguments

1. Ice cream sales increase in the summer. Violent crime also increases in the summer. Therefore, ice cream causes violent crime.

2. Before women got the vote, there were no nuclear weapons. Therefore, women's suffrage led to the development of nuclear weapons.

3. "I can't believe you attended that protest. Why don't you support our country?"

4. You get cancer and seek treatment. With health being your only concern, you decide to go the hospital that has the highest cancer patient survival rates.

5. Bill: "I believe that downloading is morally wrong."

Dave: "Of course you would say that, you're a record company executive."

6. My teacher said that I had to read the textbook if I wanted to pass the exam. I have read the textbook, so I will definitely pass the exam.

7. If Robert Moses hadn't built all those roads and bridges in New York City, traffic congestion today would be even worse.

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8. Before every major revolution, a country experiences economic decline. Therefore, economic decline leads to revolutions.

9. "I'll only believe in evolution when a monkey gives birth to a human."

10. Every heroin user started using drugs by smoking marijuana. Therefore, marijuana is clearly a gateway drug and leads to heroin use.

11. Every time you illegally download a song produced by a major record label, you're stealing money from the recording industry.

12. "What do you mean your wedding cake tasted bad? I gave you samples to try before you ordered it."

13. "Lawyers are a bunch of thieves. I was on a ski trip with some lawyers, and my wallet was stolen."

14. This new car features the finest engine, axle, and electrical system. It must therefore be the best car on the market.

15. Beth must be an excellent attorney. She graduated from Harvard Law School.

16. No "rational explanation" has ever been offered to explain the results of voodoo. There are many eyewitness accounts of zombies, trances, and curses. Therefore,

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voodoo must have supernatural, rather than rational, causes.

17. "You can't fail me! I spent 250 hours on that project and missed every party this quarter."

18. Japanese DVD players are clearly the best. After all, they outsell American players 2-to-1.

19. John is not qualified to make suggestions about our penal system. As an ex-convict, he would always take the criminals' side.

20. "I kept drinking because I was losing my job."

21. "I've seen several news reports recently of terrorists bringing bombs on planes. However, the chance of having 2 bombs on my flight are much lower than the chance of having only 1. For this reason, I'll bring my own bomb on board."