

Answer "true" or "false" to the following statements. (8pts)

- 1.) Theoretical definitions are definitions that make usage more precise by eliminating vagueness. _____ F _____
- 2.) According to Hurley, intent never plays a role in someone's committing an informal fallacy. _____ F _____
- 3.) All formal fallacies are unsound arguments. _____ F _____
- 4.) One's performance on tasks like categorizing an object as an instance of a concept often reflects to how typical one finds the object to be of the category. _____ T _____
- 5.) Fallacies of grammatical analogy all involve a false implicit or explicit assumption that a whole and its parts share the same properties. _____ T _____
- 6.) Verbal disputes cannot arise when individuals agree upon the definition of a term. _____ T _____
- 7.) Concepts allow one to think about individual objects as members of a group of objects sharing the same properties. _____ T _____
- 8.) Extensional meaning is the same as cognitive meaning. _____ F _____

Identify the sort of definition offered in each of the passages below. By stating your reasons for identifying the definition as being of one or another particular sort, you make it easier for me to assign partial credit. (4pts)

- 7.) Men are self-centered pigs.

Persuasive Definition: This definition tries to define men in negative emotional terms.

- 8.) According to the university policy on cheating and plagiarism, "Plagiarism is defined as the act of using the ideas or work of another person or persons as if they were one's own, without giving credit to the source. Such an act is not plagiarism if it is ascertained that the ideas were arrived at through independent reasoning or logic or where the thought or idea is common knowledge."

Precising Definition: This definition takes an existing term and provides a more precise meaning that removes vagueness and clarifies its applicability for a specific purpose.

State which, if any, of the informal fallacies; accident, amphiboly, appeal to force, appeal to the people (direct), appeal to the people (indirect) bandwagon, appeal to the people (indirect) snobbery, appeal to the people (indirect) vanity, appeal to pity, argument against the person abusive, argument against the person circumstantial, argument against the person tu quoque, begging the question, complex question, composition, division, equivocation, false dichotomy, missing the point, red herring, straw man, or suppressed evidence that the passage most clearly commits. Explain why that fallacy is committed. If no fallacy is committed, write no fallacy. (20pts)

- 9.) Either you know something is true or you know it is false. We don't know that it is true there will be a flu epidemic this year. Therefore, we must know that it is false there will be a flu epidemic this year.

False Dichotomy: You could fail to know something without thereby knowing that it is false.

- 10.) Economist Robert Reich has argued that the widening income gap in the United States undermines the health of the economy and US competitiveness. But Reich is a professor at University of California—a school where I man was allowed to attend class naked. We cannot take his views seriously.

Argument against the person abusive: The argument attacks Reich because of his current university affiliation, using that affiliation as the reason to reject his argument.

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11.) All of the homework assignments in Wallis class are easy. Therefore, Wallis' class must be easy.

Fallacy of Composition: The arguer infers that a property (easiness) of the parts (homework assignments) is also a property of the whole (the class).

12.) It's true that the witness identified my client as the murderer. However, the witness has admitted to taking drugs when he was young and to having engaged in premarital sex. Surely we cannot trust such a person's testimony.

Argument Against the Person Abusive: Having behaved when younger in a manner that many people would consider lapses in prudent judgment does not undermine the evidential value of their having witnessed someone committing a crime.

13.)



Every baby has a right to a mommy and a daddy. Vote yes on proposition 8 and outlaw same sex marriage.

This argument could plausibly count as either Begging the Question or Red Herring. The argument plausibly begs the question in that it assumes that same sex marriage would negatively affect the lives of babies—a claim that is as contentious as the conclusion. The argument might also plausibly count as a Red Herring in that the arguer has diverted attention away from the rights of adults to marry to a claim about the rights of children.