

Logic 1 — Workshop: what is an argument?

Logic · Lesson 1 · Workshop sheet

One lesson, worked alone, about 45 minutes. Tick each step. You need this sheet, your Lesson 1 handout, and the four codes below.

Step	min
☐ 1 · Key terms. Terms quiz (code 3), one round: definition → term. Under 10 of 14? Read the handout's key terms once, then a second round.	5
☐ 2 · Recall the Core unit. Exercise 1 on the workshop page (code 1), from memory, before scrolling on.	3
☐ 3 · Stage 1 — the case first. Read the Surgisphere case, do Exercise 2, then write your side in your notebook: two or three sentences, side and one reason. Stage 3 needs this.	7
☐ 4 · Stage 2, Part A — premises and conclusion. Exercises 3–5. Scroll the tables away before each.	10
☐ 5 · Part B — deductive/inductive, logos/ethos/pathos. Exercises 6–7. One question for Exercise 6: could the premises be true and the conclusion false?	6
☐ 6 · Part C — premise or rule. Exercise 8. Then Part D, Exercises 9–10. Exercise 10's key says <i>cannot say yet</i> ; that is the point.	7
☐ 7 · Stage 3 — your reply, with the tools. Exercise 11 from memory; rewrite your Stage 1 paragraph in three sentences; run the self-check.	5
☐ 8 · Compare. Only now open the model paragraphs (code 2) and mark your paragraph 1–4 against the checklist.	2

New in this lesson

- ▶ An argument is premises offered as *reasons to believe* a conclusion. Find the conclusion first: what am I meant to accept?
- ▶ “Because” is not enough: an explanation gives the cause of something already accepted; an assertion gives nothing. Ask what the “because” is *for*.
- ▶ Deductive: the premises guarantee it. Inductive: they support it and it goes beyond them.
- ▶ A premise is what the argument rests on; a rule is what it moves by. The Tortoise's trap: writing the rule in as a premise does not make the argument move.

If you get stuck

- ▶ Exercises 3–4: cover the passage, ask “what is the speaker trying to get me to accept?”, uncover, check for *so* / *because*.
- ▶ Exercise 5: does anyone doubt the claim after “because”? If not, it is an explanation.
- ▶ Exercise 8: could the sentence be true or false on its own? Then it is a premise. Is it a *pattern* with letters in it? Then it is a rule.
- ▶ Stage 3: a reason that names the retraction names an outcome. Name what the letter *demand*ed.
- ▶ Anything else: ask me.



1 · Workshop page



2 · Model paragraphs



3 · Key terms quiz



4 · This sheet

All at salvemec.ch/toktok/core/ · On the back: which exercise went wrong at the first try. Next lesson starts there.