

Introduction to Logical Reasoning

Workshop on Argument Parsing

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Part I, Problem 1 Solution

C Campaign finance reform is needed because
PI
many contributions to political campaigns
1 are morally equivalent to bribes.

Part I, Problem 2 Solution

In spite of the fact that electrons are physical entities, ^Cthey cannot be seen. ^{P1}For electrons are too small to deflect photons.₁

Part I, Problem 3 Solution

C The defendant is guilty. P1 The reasons being ¹he
confessed to stealing the jewels, he was²
present at the scene of the crime, and his³
fingerprints are on the safe.

Part I, Problem 4 Solution

- 1 If Qatar wins the Asian Cup, then the fans from Bahrain will shout obscenities. So you C
- should leave your children at home because C
- 2 Qatar is going to win it! PI

Part I, Problem 5 Solution

¹ Either Jones fired a shot at the mayor, or he
was at home talking a bath. Clearly Jones was²
not at home taking a bath, so he must have
fired a shot at the mayor. CI C

Part 2, Problem 1 Solution

¹Married people are healthier and more economically stable than single people,
and children of married people do better²
on a variety of indicators. Marriage is ³
also a socially responsible act. ^CThus,

^Cthere ought to be some way of spreading
the principle of support for marriage
throughout the tax code.

Part 2, Problem 2 Solution

¹Either the Internet is killing journalism or
journalists are adapting. But the Internet has²
widened the audience of news consumers and
³put more news at people's fingertips, and if⁴
these two things are true, then the Internet is
not killing journalism. ^CSo, the Internet is not
killing journalism; journalists are adapting. ^C

Part 2, Problem 3 Solution

¹The newest news dispenser, the runaway Internet, makes a journalist out of anybody who has a modem. It values²speed and sensation above accuracy.

³New media will not accept our standards.

We are foolish to treat them as if they have.

This is a grim time for newspapers.

Part 2, Problem 4 Solution

- 1 It is the non-Internet media that have made the most notorious journalistic errors of late: the bogus eyewitness account of a Monica-Clinton tryst, the incrimination of Richard Jewell [falsely accused by the media for bombing the 1996 Summer Olympics], the digital capping of [septuplets father] Bobbi McCaughey's teeth, the serial publication of plagiarized and fictional stories in The New Republic and, just three days after the Drudge speech, [American comedian] Bob Hope's "death." It's past time to retire the Internet as a scapegoat for journalistic ills.
- 2 It's a medium, not a
- 3 message, and it can be used as irresponsibly or as honorably as a printing press or a TV network can. 4

Next Class...

We will discuss the relationship between arguments (as we have defined them in this class) and disputes.