Introduction to Logical Reasoning

Workshop on Making Inferences from Categorical Statements

Part I: Assume that the following categorical statement is true:

All philosophers are logicians.

Draw the Venn diagram representing this statement:

Given the truth of this categorical statement, what can you say about the other categorical statements listed: are they true, false, or undetermined? Use a Venn diagram to justify each of your answers. These should be fairly straightforward to answer.

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1. All logicians are philosophers.

2. Some philosophers are not logicians.

3. No philosophers are logicians.

4. Some philosophers are logicians.

5. Some logicians are philosophers.

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Part II: Assume that the following categorical statement is true: Some journalists are mediocre hacks. Draw the Venn diagram representing this statement:

Given the truth of this categorical statement, what can you say about the other categorical statements listed: are they true, false, or undetermined? Use a Venn diagram to justify each of your answers. Some of these may require a little more thought.

1. Some journalists are not non-mediocre hacks.

2. Some non-mediocre hacks are journalists.

3. Some non-journalists are non-mediocre hacks.

4. All non-mediocre hacks are journalists.