

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
1 many contributions to political campaigns are
morally equivalent to bribes.

Part I, Problem 2 Solution

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

Part I, Problem 3 Solution

C The defendant is guilty. PI The reasons being ¹he
confessed to stealing the jewels, ²he was present
at the scene of the crime, and ³his 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 should leave your children at home because Qatar is going to win it!
- 2

Part 2, Problem 1 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.

^CThis is a grim time for newspapers.

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 put more news at people's fingertips,³
and if these two things are true, then the
⁴Internet is not killing journalism. ^{CI}So, the
⁵Internet is not killing journalism. ^{CI}Therefore
journalists are adapting. ^C

Part 2, Problem 3 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. It's a medium, not a message, and it can be used as irresponsibly or as honorably as a printing press or a TV network can.
- 2 3 4 C

Next Class...

We will look at how to construct a visual representation of an argument, known as an argument diagram (or an argument map).

Also, please don't forget to turn in your response to the Workshop #2 Questionnaire on your way out.