

Name: _____ Date: _____

Clear Minds vs. Messy Logic: 11th Grade Critical Thinking Quiz

Demonstrate proficiency in advanced reasoning by navigating 10 challenging scenarios involving syllogistic logic and subtle rhetorical maneuvers.

1. A defense attorney argues: 'If my client were at the crime scene, his GPS would show it. His GPS does not show he was there; therefore, he was not at the crime scene.' Which logical structure is being used?

- A. Modus Tollens
- B. Affirming the Consequent
- C. Modus Ponens
- D. Denying the Antecedent

2. In formal logic, an argument is considered 'sound' if it is valid and all of its premises are actually true.

- A. True
- B. False

3. A politician states, 'We must either increase the military budget or accept that our nation will be invaded tomorrow.' This reasoning represents a ____.

- A. Slippery Slope
- B. False Dichotomy
- C. Red Herring
- D. Circular Argument

4. During a debate on city planning, a speaker says: 'My opponent's plan for more bike lanes is flawed because he was once cited for a traffic violation.' What fallacy is this?

- A. Tu Quoque
- B. Appeal to Authority
- C. Ad Hominem Circumstantial
- D. Ad Hominem Abusive

5. Which of the following best describes 'Inductive Reasoning' in a scientific context?

- A. Moving from a general law to a specific prediction with 100% certainty
- B. Drawing a probable conclusion based on a set of specific observations
- C. Ignoring evidence that contradicts a previously held hypothesis
- D. Proving a mathematical theorem through a series of logical steps

6. Consider: 'No philosophers are billionaires. Some researchers are philosophers. Therefore, some researchers are not billionaires.' This is an example of a ____.

- A. Categorical Syllogism
- B. Hasty Generalization
- C. Post Hoc Fallacy

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D. Equivocation

7. The 'Post Hoc Ergo Propter Hoc' fallacy assumes that because Event A happened after Event B, Event B must have caused Event A.

- A. True
- B. False

8. A philosopher argues: 'If a society values freedom, it allows dissent. This society allows dissent, so it must value freedom.' Why is this argument logically invalid?

- A. It is a valid Modus Ponens structure
- B. It commits the fallacy of Affirming the Consequent
- C. It uses a Red Herring to distract the audience
- D. It is a Sound Argument but not a Valid one

9. When an arguer misrepresents an opponent's position to make it easier to attack, they are engaging in the ____ fallacy.

- A. Appeal to Ignorance
- B. No True Scotsman
- C. Straw Man
- D. Genetic Fallacy

10. Which of the following is a key requirement for a 'Disjunctive Syllogism' to result in a certain conclusion?

- A. At least one premise must be an inductive generalization
- B. The major premise must offer mutually exclusive options
- C. The conclusion must be based on an appeal to emotion
- D. The argument must eliminate all but one possibility