

PRACTICE EXERCISES

1 – 21: Select the statement that is a valid conclusion from the following premises, if a non-trivial valid conclusion is warranted. If none of the given conclusions is warranted, select the option that indicates so.

1. If you pet that wolverine, he will tear off your fingers. You are not missing any fingers.

- A. You petted that wolverine.
- B. You didn't pet that wolverine.
- C. Check your toes.
- D. None of these is warranted.

2. All carpenters are patient. Gomer isn't a carpenter.

- A. Gomer isn't patient.
- B. Some carpenters aren't patient.
- C. Gomer is a painter.
- D. None of these is warranted.

3. I won't go to school or I will live off campus. I'm going to school.

- A. I'm living off campus.
- B. I'm living on campus.
- C. I'd rather live in a tent than on campus.
- D. None of these is warranted.

4. If we go to the concert, you will drive. You are driving.

- A. We are going to the concert.
- B. We aren't going to the concert.
- C. If we don't go to the concert, you won't drive.
- D. None of these is warranted.

5. If you park in the wrong spot, you'll get a parking ticket. You didn't park in the wrong spot.

- A. You didn't get a parking ticket.
- B. You got a parking ticket.
- C. The attendant gave you a ticket because your car is ugly.
- D. None of these is warranted.

6. All misers are skinflints. All skinflints are cheapskates. Cheapskates never donate to Public Broadcasting pledge drives. Gomer donates to public broadcasting pledge drives.

- A. Some cheapskates aren't misers.
- B. Gomer isn't a miser.
- C. Gomer dusts his furniture with Pledge.
- D. None of these is warranted.

7. All school-crossing guards are cautious. Socrates isn't cautious.

- A. Socrates was a Greek philosopher.
- B. Socrates is dead.
- C. Socrates isn't a school-crossing guard.
- D. None of these is warranted.

8. All conspiracy buffs are suspicious by nature. Aristotle is suspicious by nature.

- A. Aristotle is a conspiracy buff.
- B. Aristotle isn't a conspiracy buff.
- C. Aristotle conspires in the buff.
- D. None of these is warranted.

- 9.** All junkyard dogs are mean. All junkyard dogs are ugly.
A. All ugly dogs are mean. B. All mean dogs are ugly.
C. Some mean dogs are ugly. D. None of these is warranted.
- 10.** If I quit school, then I'll buy a car. If I get a good job offer, then I'll quit school.
A. If I don't buy a car, then I didn't get a good job offer.
B. If I get a don't good job offer, then I won't buy a car.
C. If I buy a car, then I got a good job offer.
D. None of these is warranted.
- 11.** All party-animals are rowdy. Plato is a party-animal.
A. Plato is rowdy. B. People who aren't party-animals aren't rowdy.
C. Plato wears a cool toga. D. None of these is warranted.
- 12.** All life insurance salespeople are persistent. Gomer is not persistent.
A. Some life insurance salespeople are not persistent.
B. All persistent people are life insurance salespeople.
C. Gomer does not sell life insurance.
D. None of these is warranted.
- 13.** All lyre-strummers are lyrical. All epic poets are lyre-strummers. Homer was an epic poet.
A. Homer was lyrical. B. Homer was married to Marge.
C. Homer was Gomer's cousin. D. None of these is warranted.
- 14.** All poodles bark. All dogs bark.
A. All poodles are dogs B. Some dogs are poodles.
C. Some poodles bark. D. None of these is warranted.
- 15.** All alligators are reptiles. All reptiles are cold-blooded.
A. All cold-blooded animals are reptiles. B. All alligators are cold-blooded.
C. Some alligators eat people. D. None of these is warranted.
- 16.** All school-crossing guards are dedicated public servants. No scoundrels are dedicated public servants. If you carry a ping-pong paddle STOP sign, then you are a school-crossing guard. All terrible people are scoundrels.
A. All school-crossing guards are terrible people.
B. All dedicated public servants carry ping-pong paddle STOP signs.
C. No terrible people carry ping-pong paddle STOP signs.
D. None of these is warranted.

17. (Adapted from Lewis Carroll) No promise-breakers are trustworthy. All wine-drinkers are communicative. If you aren't a promise-breaker then you are honest. All pawnbrokers are wine-drinkers. Communicative people are trustworthy.
- A. All pawnbrokers are untrustworthy.
 B. If you aren't honest then you aren't a pawnbroker.
 C. If you aren't a promise-breaker then you are communicative.
 D. None of these is warranted.
18. If I sell some of my books then I'll pay the rent. I didn't pay the rent.
- A. Some of my books are sold. B. All of my books are sold.
 C. None of my books is sold. D. None of these is warranted.
19. If you wear dark glasses then you look mysterious. If you wear dark socks with sandals then you look dorky. If you look dorky then you don't look mysterious.
- A. If you wear dark socks with sandals then you don't wear dark glasses..
 B. If you look dorky then you wear dark glasses.
 C. If you don't wear dark glasses then you wear dark socks with sandals.
 D. None of these is warranted.
20. If your house has termites, then you can't sell it. If your house has passed inspection then you can sell it.
- A. If you can sell your house, then it has passed inspection.
 B. If your house doesn't have termites then it has passed inspection.
 C. If your house has passed inspection then it doesn't have termites.
 D. None of these is warranted.
21. All of my classes are cancelled or some of my plans are cancelled. None of my plans is cancelled.
- A. Some of my classes aren't cancelled. B. None of my classes is cancelled.
 C. All of my classes are cancelled. D. None of these is warranted.

ANSWERS TO PRACTICE EXERCISES

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| 1. B (contrapositive reasoning) | 2. D (fallacy of inverse) |
| 3. A (disjunctive syllogism) | 4. D (fallacy of converse) |
| 5. D (fallacy of inverse) | 6. B (transitive reasoning/direct reasoning) |
| 7. C (contrapositive reasoning) | 8. D (fallacy of converse) |
| 9. D (false chain) | 10. A (transitive reasoning) |
| 11. A (direct reasoning) | 12. C (contrapositive reasoning) |
| 13. A (transitive or direct reasoning) | 14. D (false chain) |
| 15. B (transitive reasoning) | 16. C (transitive reasoning) |
| 17. B (transitive reasoning) | 18. C (contrapositive reasoning) |
| 19. A (transitive reasoning) | 20. C (transitive reasoning) |
| 21. C (disjunctive syllogism) | |