

Logic Assignment

While reading Plato's *Apology* for Tuesday, write a report that shows at work in this dialogue an instance of as many as you can find of the logical terms that you have learned so far in this course. In other words, an ideal submission will have one instance, but no more than one instance, for each of the following terms:

Consistency	Conclusion	truth by adage
contradiction	deduction	truth by consensus
contraries	validity	truth by authority
conditional statements	sound argument	rash generalization
antecedent	affirming the antecedent	counterexample
consequent	denying the consequent	<i>ad hoc</i> clause
necessary and sufficient conditions	denying the antecedent	Socratic fallacy
iff	affirming the consequent	family resemblance term
assertion	formal fallacy	analogy, arguments from
argument	hypothesis	disanalogy
premise	dictionary definition	

Here are some models of what you should do, drawn not from *Apology*, lest I exhaust some of your potential examples, but from the writings of another Greek philosopher we shall read this semester, Melissus:

1. *Conditional statement*: "if it came to be, it is necessary that before it came to be it was nothing." (Melissus #1) This is a statement of the form "if p , then q ," although the 'then' is missing, as sometimes happens in English.
2. *Antecedent, and Sufficient Condition*: "it came to be," (Melissus #1). This is the p , or first part, of the conditional statement above. If it is true, the consequent will be true. In other words, it is a sufficient condition for the consequent.
3. *Consequent, and Necessary Condition*: "it is necessary that before it came to be it was nothing" (Melissus #1). This is the q , or second part, of the conditional statement above. If it is false, the antecedent will be false. In other words, it is a necessary condition for the antecedent.

Here is how to proceed. Begin with a statement of the term you have in mind. Next, quote a passage that is an instance of this term, citing it (in Plato's case, by Stephanus number: e.g., 10a4, or 13d5–8). Finally, explain why this passage is an instance of the term in question. As you see in my models, some passages illustrate multiple logical terms.

In some cases, a little more explanation may be required in order to show how the passage you have chosen is an instance of the term. However, I am not looking for an essay. Instead, consider this a terse demonstration of two skills: your mastery of the basic concepts of logic, and your ability to see these concepts at work in the philosophical writings of the Greeks.

Although Warburton does write clearly, some of these terms can be difficult to master for beginners. Thus, if you are having trouble understanding any of them, bring questions to our review session, which will be held in the IDC classroom from 5–6pm on Monday, and then after the IDC for another half-hour or so.