EXERCISES 5.5 (Sections 2-2.2.5)

A. Indicate whether the following passages contain an argument(s). If one or more arguments are present, indicate whether the form of the argument is: denying a disjunct, affirming an inclusive disjunct, affirming an exclusive disjunct, affirming the antecedent, denying the antecedent, denying the consequent, affirming the consequent, tri-conditional, or some other form. If a disjunction is present, indicate whether or not it is a false dichotomy.

1. If Tyler gets an A on the final, he will pass the course, and I’m sure he will get an A on the final. So Tyler will pass the course.

   Affirming the Antecedent

2. If Bobby doesn’t come to class, Laura will be upset. But Bobby will come to class, so Kartik will not be upset.

   Some other form.

3. If Anthony takes the job as a financial consultant, he will have to move to New Jersey. He’ll never move to New Jersey, so he’ll never take the job.

   Denying the Consequent

4. If hell freezes over, then the Atlanta Falcons will win the Super Bowl and if they win the Super Bowl, then I’m a monkey. That means that if hell freezes over, then I’m a monkey.

   Tri-conditional.

5. If Bobby doesn’t come to class, Laura will be upset. But Bobby will come to class, so Laura will not be upset.

   Denying the Antecedent.

6. That dome must be made of gold or bronze and gold is way too expensive to be used to cover such a large surface so it must be made of bronze.

   Denying a disjunct. Might well be a false dichotomy but we don’t have enough info to know.

7. If Keela gets a set of Volrath pans for Christmas she will be thrilled. And I bet she would cook us up some really good stuff to eat. We should get her those pans.

   Some other form.

8. If ‘twas brillig, and the slithy toves did gyre and gimble in the wabe, then Jay has slain the Jabberwock. It was brillig, and the slithy toves did gyre and gimble in the wabe. Come to my arms, my beamish boy! O frabjous day! Callooh! Callay! Jay slew the Jabberwock! (This example is drawn from Lewis Carroll’s poem “Jabberwocky.”)

   No argument.


   No argument.

10. “1. We are sometimes mistaken in our perceptual beliefs.

    2. If we are sometimes mistaken in our perceptual beliefs, then it is always logically possible that our perceptual beliefs are false.

    3. If it is always logically possible that our perceptual beliefs are false, then we never know that any of our perceptual beliefs are true.

    Therefore

    4. We never know that any of our perceptual beliefs are true.”

Affirming the Antecedent and Tri-conditional.


Some other form.

12. “If Bonds and Clemens had not been linked to performance-enhancing drugs, they would sail through the voting process [for election to the Baseball Hall of Fame] and maybe challenge Tom Seaver’s record of being named on 98.84 percent of the ballots. But because they have been accused of using illegal drugs to enhance their performances, the path to Cooperstown, N.Y., will be littered with endless debates.” Jack Curry, “Election 2013 (or Later): Debates Already in Swing,” *The New York Times*, December 21, 2007, p. C12.

Denying the Consequent.

13. “Passports will not be necessary for Americans entering the United States by land until mid-2009, a year later than planned, if a budget bill passed by Congress is approved by President Bush. A provision of a budget bill pushes back the plan by the Department of Homeland Security to require passports from border crossers from Canada, Mexico and the Caribbean as a way of strengthening national security. Senator Patrick J. Leahy, Democrat of Vermont, said he expected Mr. Bush to sign the bill, despite the administration’s insistence on carrying out the passport requirement next summer. The passport requirement has been a sore point in border states.” Associate Press web report, December 21, 2007.

No argument.

14. “Walk down the hall in any building on your campus where...professors have their offices... Do you see any bearded, disheveled.., men wearing rumpled pants and smoking pipes, hunched over their computers and mumbling to themselves? How about disheveled.., women wearing rumpled shirts, smoking pipes, hunched over their computers and mumbling to themselves? Researchers hard at work? No. Stereotypes of what [professors] look like and do? Yes. What you are more likely to see in the halls of your classroom building... are men and women...hard at work. They are committed to find the answer to just another piece of the great puzzle that helps us understand [things] a little bit better that the previous generation...” Neil Salkind, Exploring Research, 6th ed. (Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Prentice Hall, 2006) p. 1.

No argument.

15. “I venture to say that here the rule holds without exception: that every simple idea has a simple impression that resembles it, and every simple impression has a corresponding idea. The idea of red that we form in the dark differs only in degree of intensity, not in nature, from the impression of red that strikes our eyes in sunshine. You can satisfy yourself that I am right about this by going over as many of your simple impressions and ideas as you like; it’s impossible to prove my point by going over all of them! But if anyone should deny this universal resemblance between simple impressions and simple ideas, I don’t know how to convince him except by asking him to show a simple impression that doesn’t have a corresponding idea, or a simple idea that has no corresponding impression. If he doesn’t answer this challenge - and it’s certain that he can’t - then his silence and our own observation will suffice to establish our conclusion.” David Hume, *A Treatise of Human Nature*, Book 1, Part 1, Section 1, originally published in 1739. This version from Jonathan Bennett’s edition, [http://www.earlymoderntexts.com](http://www.earlymoderntexts.com), April 2007.

Some other form.