

Arguments

PHIL 203
Critical Thinking
Lecture Three

Schematized Argument

e₁. Premise

e₂. Premise

e₃. Premise

...

e_n. Premise

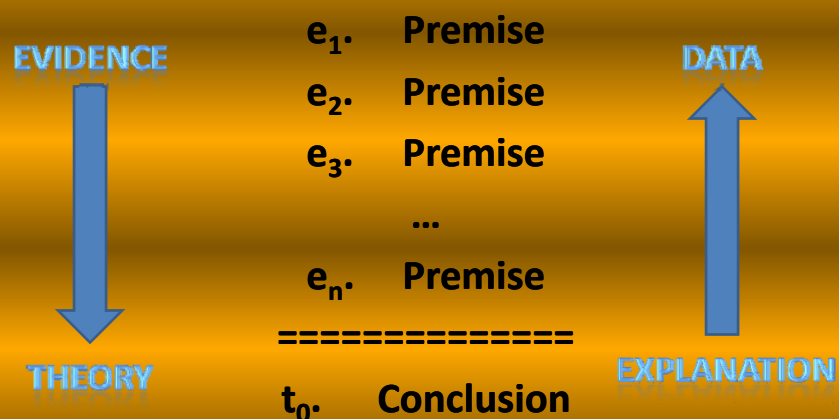
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t₀. Conclusion

Logical Connection

- What does it mean to say that the conclusion follow from the premises?
- What does it mean to say that the evidence supports the conclusion?
- Deductive arguments
 - Validity: *If* the premises are true, the conclusion *must be* true
 - Mathematics
- Statistics and probability
- Inductive arguments

Schematized Argument



Group Exercise

- Article from *New York Times*
- Your cousin
- Schematize the argument
- Find the conclusion first
- 5 to 8 pieces of evidence

My Schematization

- e₁. The *Supreme Court Economic Review* issued a retraction of Mr. O'Neill's article.
- e₂. "Substantial portions" of the article, the editors wrote, were "appropriated without attribution."
- e₃. Details of the similar passages.
- e₄. Other articles by O'Neill have similar problems.
- e₅. Mr. O'Neill voluntarily stepped away from tenure.
- e₆. Mr. O'Neill attributes the similar passages to "poor work method," and not "keep[ing] appropriate track of things."
- e₇. One of the authors of a source article admires Mr. O'Neill and does not believe he would copy such banal points.
- e₈. Republican congressional leaders and the President knew of the charges and have accepted Mr. O'Neill's explanation.
- =====
- t₀. Mr. O'Neill plagiarized from the book review in his *Supreme Court Economic Review* article.