

CS 100 - Homework 2

Deadline:

11:00 am (the beginning of class) on **Friday, September 7, 2018**.

Purpose:

To think a bit about the most common barriers to critical thinking, to practice distinguishing between natural language sentences that are and are not statements (in a critical thinking sense), and to recognize statements that are in the form of ought imperatives.

How to submit:

- Submit your work for this homework **ON PAPER** (with answers legibly hand-written or typed)
 - **I will accept your work on paper ONLY**, unless special arrangement is made. You may turn it in at the beginning of class, or into the Math/Computer Science department office (on the 3rd Floor of BSS, with instructions to place it into my mailbox) **BEFORE** the due date and time, in order to receive credit.
 - Make sure **your name** is at the **top of each page** of the document!

Problem 1 - 10 points

In Chapter 1 of the course text, there is a list of some of the most common barriers to critical thinking; we gave such a list in class, also, in Week 2 Lecture 1.

In your opinion, which of the common barriers to critical thinking in this list have the potential to be most harmful to society? List **five** of these that you think have the potential to be the most harmful to society.

(Note -- the only wrong answers here are listing something NOT given in this list, or giving less than five! But I am curious to see which get listed most in class, and the class' choices might make for an interesting bar graph.)

Problem 2 - 60 points

(adapted from course text, Exercise 2.1, Part (I))

Determine whether, in typical contexts, the following sentences are or are not statements (in critical thinking terms). For each, an answer of **statement** or **not a statement** is sufficient.

- 2-1. Can vegetarians eat animal crackers?
- 2-2. What do you say we stop at the next rest stop?
- 2-3. Ted Williams is the greatest hitter in baseball history.
- 2-4. Let's party!
- 2-5. Keep off the grass.
- 2-6. I hope Peter likes his new job.
- 2-7. Great!

- 2-8. What will it profit a man, if he gains the whole world and forfeits his life?
- 2-9. What a crock!
- 2-10. Purple hair is more attractive than teal hair.
- 2-11. Give us this day our daily bread. (said in prayer)
- 2-12. Abraham Lincoln was the first president of the United States.
- 2-13. Holy cow!
- 2-14. If Sally calls, tell her I'm at the library.
- 2-15. Can't you see that pornography demeans women?
- 2-16. Please print your name legibly.
- 2-17. You want mayo on that, right?
- 2-18. Capital punishment is wrong.
- 2-19. Give me a call if you have trouble downloading that file.
- 2-20. I'll have a cheeseburger and fries, please. (said to a fast-food employee)

Problem 3 - 30 points

(adapted from course text, Exercise 2.1, Part (II))

Determine whether each the following passages do or do not contain "ought imperatives". For each, an answer of **has ought imperative** or **no ought imperative** is sufficient.

- 3-1. Turn off your engine when waiting to pick up the kids. Idling longer than ten seconds in park uses more gas than restarting the car. (Al Gore)
- 3-2. Don't bother buying premium gas if your car specifies regular. It won't make your car go faster or operate more efficiently – and it's about 14 percent more expensive. (Consumer Reports)
- 3-3. I never use a whistle in practice. I want the players to get used to reacting to my voice just like in a real game. (Mike Krzyzewski)
- 3-4. If you play [poker] enough, accept that from time to time you are going to go bust, because from time to time, everyone, even the best of the best, does. (Doc Holliday)
- 3-5. Borrow money from pessimists – they don't expect it back. (Steven Wright)
- 3-6. If you do not get your first meal service choice, please do not be distressed, as all entrees taste very much the same. (flight attendant)
- 3-7. In batting practice you must make a point of leaving the bad pitches alone. You don't want your reflexes to get into bad habits. (Mickey Mantle)
- 3-8. Up, sluggard, and waste not life; in the grave will be sleeping enough. (Benjamin Franklin)
- 3.9. Associate not with evil men, lest you increase their number. (George Herbert)
- 3-10. O Lord, won't you buy me a Mercedes Benz? My friends all drive Porsches; I must make amends. (Janis Joplin)