

AP Lang and Comp

Argumentative Essay Unit

Ms. Moser 2015-2016

Syllogism

Syllogism is a three-part set of statements; a major statement or premise, a minor statement or premise and a conclusion that is deduced.

It's a deductive approach to reasoning.

ALL MEN ARE MORTAL

JOHN IS A MAN

THEREFORE, JOHN IS MORTAL.



Logic--another thing penguins aren't good at.

Inductive

Reasoning

Making broad

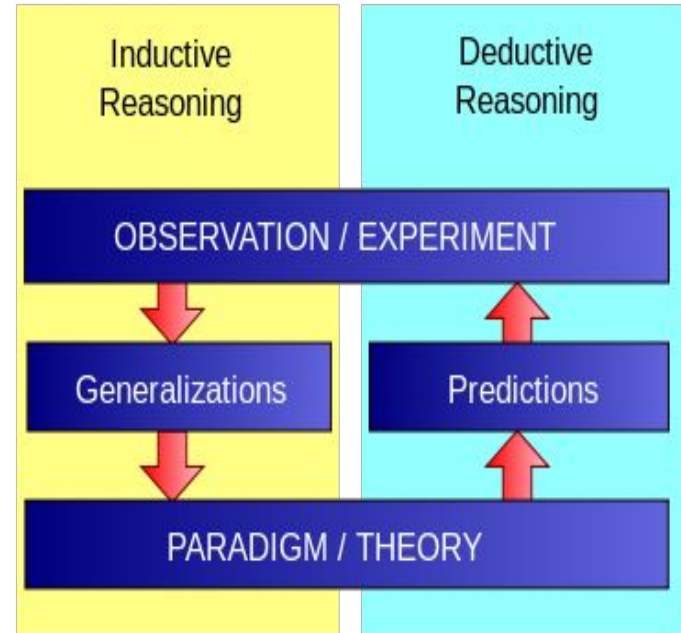
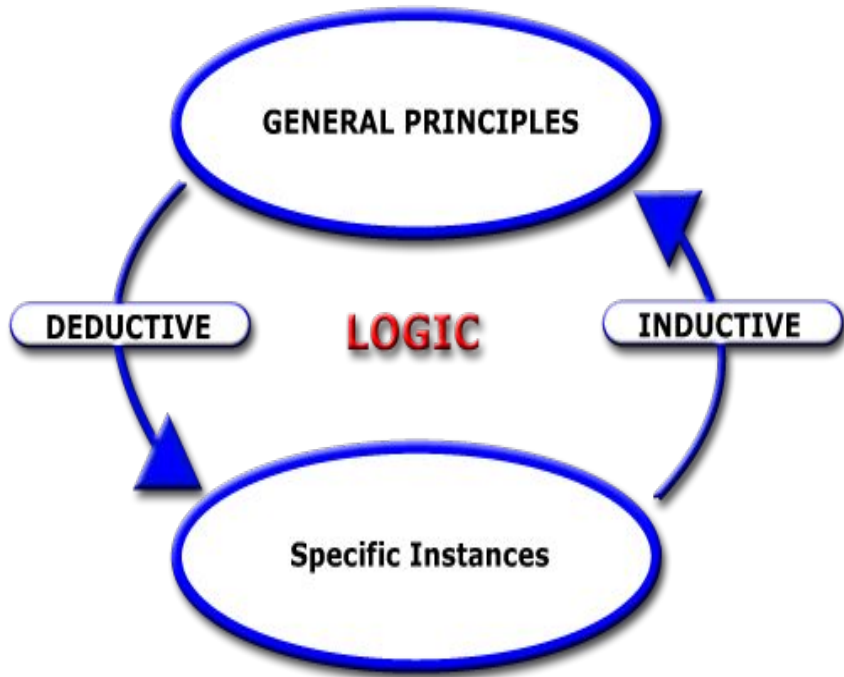
generalizations from

specific observations

Deductive

Reasoning

Making specific
observations based
on broad
generalizations.



Inductive vs Deductive Reasoning

Fallacies of Reasoning

Ad Hoc

A “for this” argument

If one or more premise is false, then a valid logical argument can't be had.

Ad Hoc or Special Pleading

It is the arbitrary introduction of new elements into an argument in order to fix them so that they appear valid. A good example of this is the ad-hoc dismissal of negative test results.

Believer: I know he committed the crime because I can read his mind--I have ESP.

Nay-sayer: ESP is not an actual occurrence in human beings. It's never been documented in any trial.

Believer: That's because ESP can't happen in the presence of skeptics.

Begging the Question

also known as
Circular Reasoning

- **Definition:** The evidence for the argument is just a reworded version of the same argument.
- **Example:** Students should not be allowed to park in lots now reserved for faculty because those lots should be for faculty only.

Circular Reasoning

Examples:

These movies are popular because they make so much money. They make a lot of money because everyone likes them. Everyone likes them because they are so popular.



Monday

Opener

Notes

Peer evaluation/submit best
argument assignment

Fallacies of Reasoning

Hasty Generalizations

Bandwagon

Strawman

Post Hoc

Logic Daily Opener

I can prove to you that $2=1$

If $A=B$

Multiply by A on both sides, you get $A^2=AB$.

Subtract B^2 from both sides, you get $A^2-B^2=AB-B^2$.

Factor both sides, you get $(A+B)(A-B)=B(A-B)$.

Divide by $(A-B)$ on both sides, you get $A+B=B$.

Because $A=B$, therefore $B+B=B$,

If $2B=B$, then $2=1$.

Should I try to take Potter's place next
year?

Hasty Generalization

•**Definition:** Making assumptions about a whole group or range of cases based on a sample that is inadequate (usually because it is atypical or just too small).

Stereotypes about people ("frat boys are drunkards", "grad students are nerdy,") are common examples of the principle underlying hasty generalization.

A few people's experiences are not enough on which to base a conclusion.

Hasty Generalization

My dad smoked all his life and hasn't gotten cancer, I don't think smoking can be that bad for you.

Bandwagon

- **Definition:** To attempt to sway or persuade an individual or group to “get on board” by appealing to the group mentality in all humans.

- **Example:** Come to Elvis’s birthplace. Fifty million Elvis fans can’t be wrong!

Of course they can. The merit of Elvis is not related to how many people like him or his music.

Bandwagon



"Officer, I didn't do anything wrong. Everyone around me was going the same speed."

**| All the really smart people take AP Literature.
You should take it too.**



Strawman

- **Definition:** To anticipate and respond in advance to the arguments that an opponent might make. The arguer sets up a wimpy version of the opponent's position and tries to score point by knocking it down.
- **Example:** What women in her right mind would support total equality with men. No women wants the right to go to war or the right to pay alimony!

Oversimplifying the issue. Equality does not mean for every situation, but many people would agree with it.

Strawman

- It might sound like you are combating the argument, but you aren't. You've just beat the strawman, a much easier argument to knock down.



STRAWMAN

Your argument did not address my own, but nice try.

Post Hoc Ergo Propter Hoc

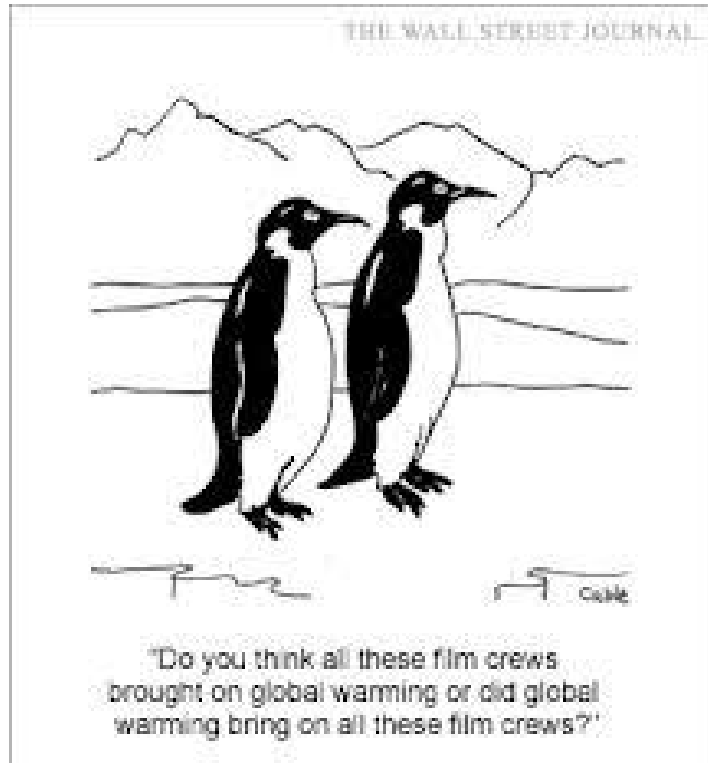
- **Definition:** After the fact, therefore because of the fact.

These are arguments that assume a faulty causal relationship.

One event following another in time doesn't mean that the first event caused the second.

- **Example:** On June 15, 2006 Dick Cheney claimed our success in Iraq is why terrorists haven't struck the U.S. again. But Cheney has no actual proof that any attacks have been thwarted. Perhaps the terrorists are just biding their time?

Post Hoc Ergo Propter Hoc



Tuesday/ Wednesday

Class Work

Opener

Toulmin's Model

Notes

Red Herring

Slippery Slope

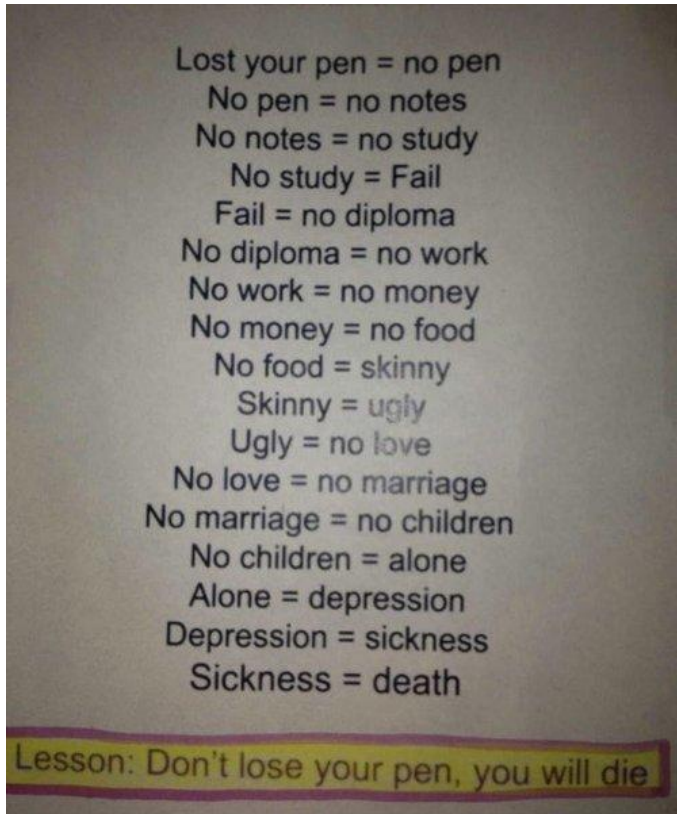
Ad Homenim

Slippery Slope

Definition: If “A” happens, then “B” will happen, and then “C, D, and E” will certainly happen, so don’t do “A”.

•**Example:** “If we force grade school kids to wear uniforms, then next it will be high school students, and pretty soon college students and then all workers will be required to wear uniforms.”

Slippery Slope



- “Once marriage is no longer confined to a man and a woman, it is impossible to exclude virtually any relationship between two or more partners of either sex—even non-human ‘partners.’”
 - But society can take one step (legalizing same sex marriage) without taking any other steps (legalizing polygamy, bestiality, or incest)
 - As an example, setting the legal age for marriage, without parental consent, at age at 18 hasn't spawned a movement for legal marriage at age 15.
 - As another example, being allowed to marry a 1st cousin didn't produce a clamor to marry brothers and sisters.

Slippery Slope in Advertising

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NZ80SVOHKoo>



Ad Hominem

- **Definition:** “To the Man”

Attacking the person instead of their argument.

–You refute someone’s claim by questioning their character or past actions.

- **Example:** Senator Jones was a conscientious objector during the Vietnam War, so his proposal to limit military spending has no merit.

Ad Hominem

PERSONAL ATTACK FALLACY



Can we let a shrimp like this run our great country?



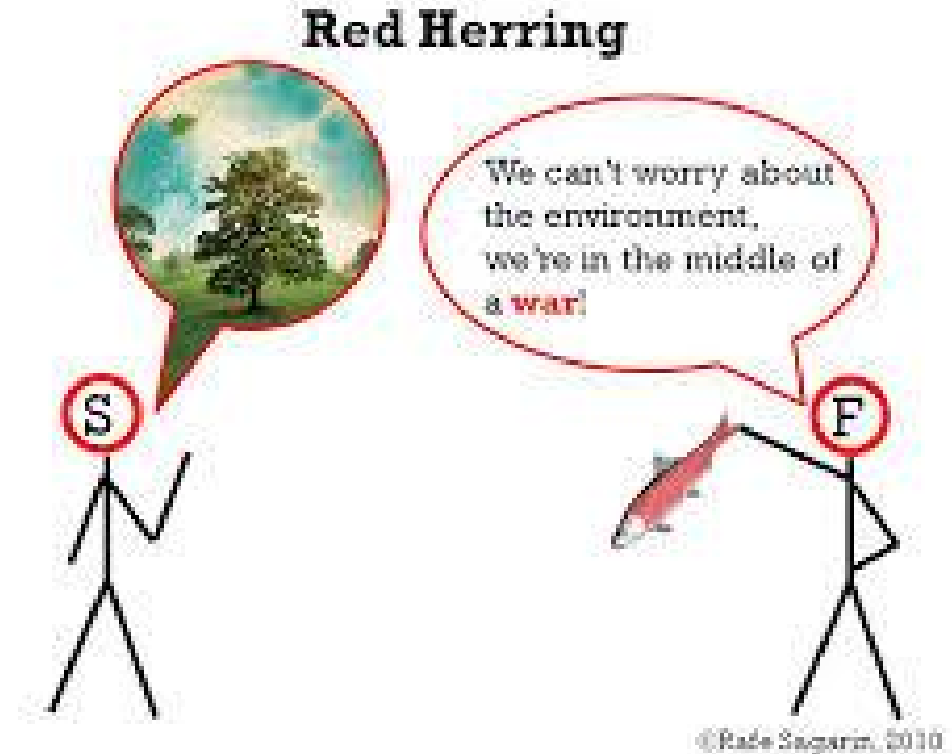
Red Herring

- **Definition:** An argument that focuses on an irrelevant issue to detract attention from the real issue.

- **Example:** Reporters are out to get the president, so it's no wonder we are hearing rumors about these scandals.

Red Herring

The term comes from the sport of fox hunting in which a dried, smoked herring, which is red in color, is dragged across the trail of the fox to throw the hounds off the scent.



Thursday

Book Groups
Multiple Choice Test
Turn in essays

Grab a laptop and log in to Google
Classroom

Friday

Finish test

Turn in four responses

Critique partner's arguments

Get books

Either/or Fallacy

Non-sequitur

Appeal to Authority

Reductio Ad Absurdum

Monday

Opener

Terms

Articles of Week

Textbook reading

Homework:

Create two slides demonstrating



Either/or (False Dilemma)

- **Definition:** Reducing a complicated issue to black and white choices. Most issues have a number of choices for resolution.

- **Example:** You either believe in the right to bear arms or you think all guns should be banned.

Either/or (False Dilemma)

Either you're with us, or
you're against us.

(No, I can be neutral!)



Non-sequitur

- **Definition:** An argument where the conclusion does not follow from the premises or evidence on which it is based.

–Meaning “not sequential or it does not follow”

- **Example:** “How can I be racist? I drive a Prius!” says Julia Louise Dreyfuss’ character in the TV show *The New Adventures of Old Christine*

Non-sequitur

–Mary loves children, so she will make an excellent school teacher.



Appeal to Authority

- The *ad verecundiam* fallacy consists of an appeal to irrelevant authority, that is, an ‘authority’ who is not an authority in the field of question (or at least one we have no reason to believe to be such an authority).

- Oprah says that she won’t eat beef, therefore you shouldn’t eat beef.

Appeal to Authority

Anna Nicole Smith was the celebrity spokesperson for Trim Spa. Is she an expert on diet and nutrition?

- Did the fact that she was a paid endorser affect her opinion of the product?
- Did she have any extra help such as a personal trainer?
- Could the other drugs she was taking have produced her weight loss?



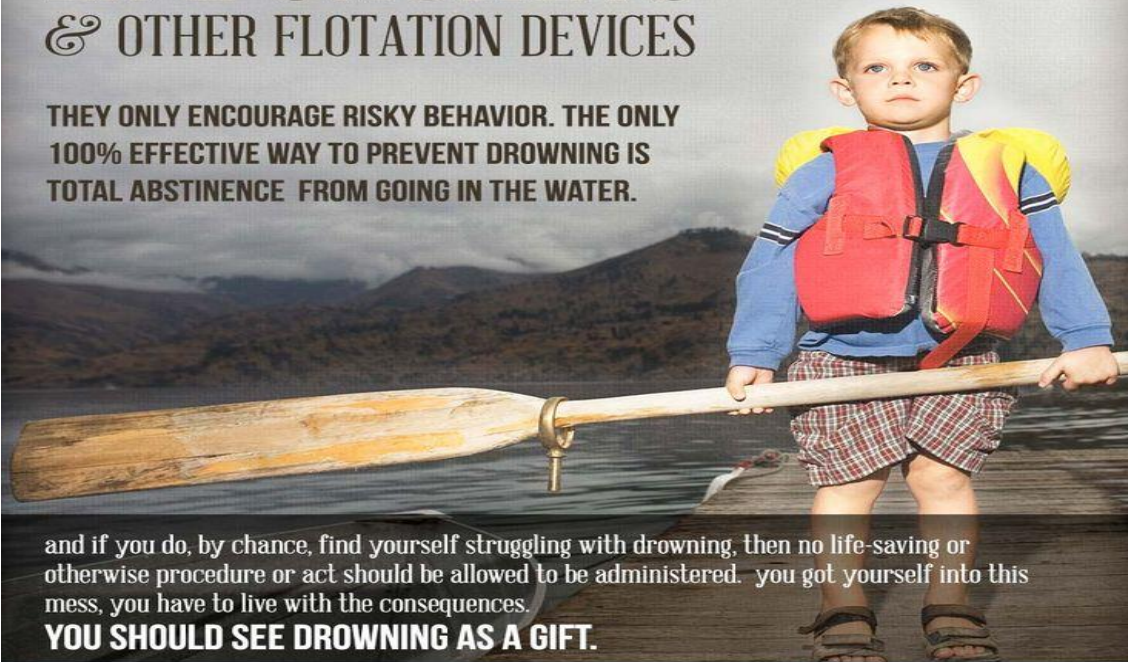


Reductio Ad Absurdum

Reductio ad absurdum is the technique of reducing an argument or hypothesis to absurdity, by pushing the argument's premises and conclusions.

WE SHOULD BAN LIFE JACKETS & OTHER FLOTATION DEVICES

THEY ONLY ENCOURAGE RISKY BEHAVIOR. THE ONLY
100% EFFECTIVE WAY TO PREVENT DROWNING IS
TOTAL ABSTINENCE FROM GOING IN THE WATER.



and if you do, by chance, find yourself struggling with drowning, then no life-saving or otherwise procedure or act should be allowed to be administered. you got yourself into this mess, you have to live with the consequences.

YOU SHOULD SEE DROWNING AS A GIFT.

ALSO, IF YOU WERE FORCIBLY **PUSHED** INTO THE WATER, **DON'T WORRY**. IF IT WAS A LEGITIMATE PUSHING, **YOUR BODY WILL FIND A WAY TO SHUT OUT ALL THE WATER AND SURVIVE THE DROWNING.**

Tuesday/ Wednesday

Opener
Terms
Textbook
4 Arguments

Scare Tactics

Overly Sentimental Appeals

Dogmatism

Stacking the Deck

Scare Tactics

A play on people's fears, mostly through the use of exaggerated dangers.

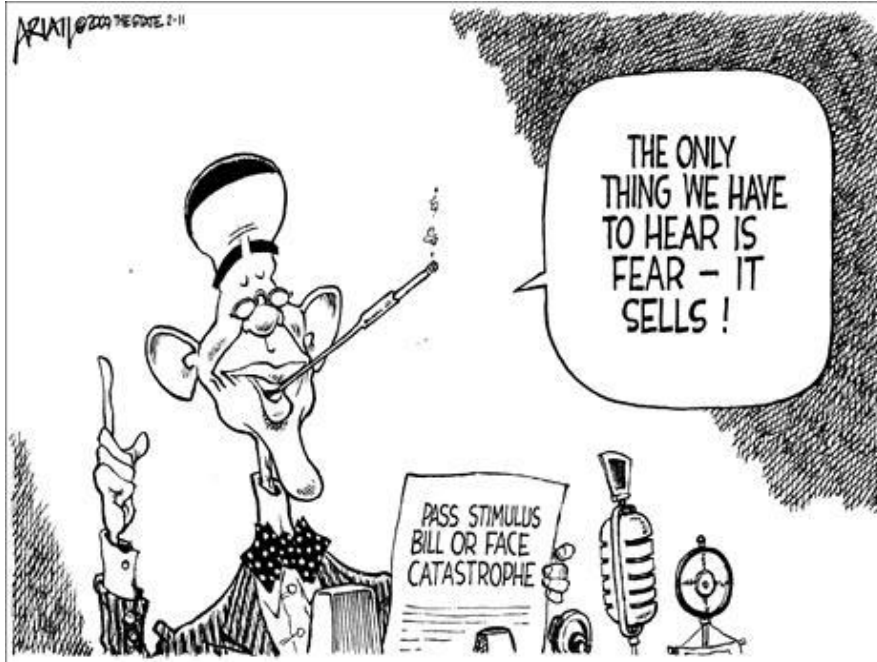
Example:

If we allow people from the religion of Islam into our country, we will increase deaths due to terrorism.

Fact: Since the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, Americans have been no more likely to die at the hands of terrorists than being [crushed to death by unstable televisions and furniture](#).

Washington Post, Nov 23, 2015

Scare Tactics



Overly Sentimental Appeals

The use of tender emotions to distract readers from the facts.

How many vaccines will your child get?

AT BIRTH	6 MONTHS	15 MONTHS
→ HepB	→ RV	→ DTaP - each shot has 3 vaccines
ONE MONTH	→ DTaP - each shot has 3 vaccines	18 MONTHS
→ HepB	→ Flu	→ Flu - annually throughout lifetime
TWO MONTHS	→ Hib - each shot has 2 vaccines	→ HepA
→ RV	→ PCV - each shot has 8 vaccines	4-6 YEARS
→ DTaP - each shot has 3 vaccines	→ IPV	→ DTaP - each shot has 3 vaccines
→ Hib - each shot has 2 vaccines	12 MONTHS	→ IPV
→ PCV - each shot has 8 vaccines	→ HepA	→ MMR - each shot has 3 vaccines
→ IPV	→ Hib - each shot has 2 vaccines	→ Varicella
4 MONTHS	→ PCV - each shot has 8 vaccines	11-12 YEARS
→ RV	→ MMR - each shot has 3 vaccines	→ MCV
→ DTaP - each shot has 3 vaccines	→ Varicella	→ Tdap
→ Hib - each shot has 2 vaccines		→ HPV - 3 doses
→ PCV - each shot has 8 vaccines		
→ IPV		

Too many.

Your child may receive up to **81** vaccines by six years of age.

Vaccination injects bacteria, viruses, genetic material and many other biological and toxic chemicals (mercury, aluminum, formaldehyde, acids) deep into the child's body, where they have access to internal organs (including the brain). The results are a host of illnesses that were rare or non-existent before mass vaccination. These conditions include, but are not limited to, the following:

Autism, juvenile diabetes, juvenile rheumatoid arthritis, reading problems, language difficulties, asthma, allergies, attention deficit disorder (ADD), ADHD, brain tumors, cancer, osteosarcoma, lupus erythematosus, dyslexia, abnormal behavior, deafness, hearing impairment, autoimmune diseases, hyperactivity, death, inflammatory bowel disease, irritable bowel disease, juvenile arthritis, brain inflammation, infantile spasms, seizures, epilepsy, convulsions, increased intracranial pressure, demyelinating disease, AIDS (crib death), Asperger's syndrome, pervasive developmental disorder, vision problems, otitis media (ear infection), upper respiratory tract infection, vomiting, fever, loss of IQ, points, gastroenteritis, rash, cramp, hives, eczema, colitis, choking, holding breath, thrush, wheezing, pneumonia, bronchitis, influenza, vomiting, conjunctivitis, facial swelling, irritable child, permanent brain damage, encephalopathy (brain inflammation), sepsis, arthralgias (painful joints), nausea, headache, cardiac arrhythmias, syncope (fainting), cranial nerve paralysis, anaphylaxis, Guillain-Barré syndrome, Kawasaki disease (inflammation of heart and blood vessels), skin diseases, skin rashes, kidney disorders (including kidney failure), shingles, tuberculosis, carpal tunnel syndrome, paralytic disease, aseptic meningitis, Hodgkin's Disease and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, atopic dermatitis, skin conditions

Vaccines

DTaP/Tdap	Diphtheria, tetanus & pertussis
Flu	Influenza
HepA	Hepatitis A
HepB	Hepatitis B
Hib	Haemophilus influenzae type b
HPV	Human papillomavirus
IPV	Inactivated poliovirus
MCV	Meningococcal
MMR	Measles, mumps & rubella
PCV	Pneumococcal conjugate
RV	Rotavirus gastroenteritis
Varicella	Chickenpox

Make an informed choice.

Note: These numbers, based on the 2009 CDC recommended schedule, are conservative as they do not include shots that are recommended for certain populations and there are currently over 200 additional vaccines in development.
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Images

The collage features four distinct images. The top-left image shows Barack Obama interacting with a young child, with a black circle highlighting the pair. The top-right image is a dog adoption advertisement for a beagle, featuring the text 'Will you love them? Your support makes a difference.' and a 'Donate Today!' button, with a red arrow pointing to the text. The bottom-left image is a screenshot of a website for 'Save a Bottle', showing a white dog and a blue water bottle, with the text '1 bottle = \$1 TO SAVE WILDLIFE' and a red arrow pointing to the text. The bottom-right image shows Mitt Romney smiling and holding a child, with a black circle highlighting the pair.

Stacking the Deck

Presents only positive information

Leaves out any negative information

Poker metaphor-you deal yourself

the perfect hand so you can't lose.

Part 3: Card Stacking



In this example, in addition to revealing the woman's weight loss, the "after" photograph also reveals card-stacking efforts. In the second photo, the subject's hair is styled differently, and she is wearing makeup and jewelry.

Dogmatism

Arguing your opinion, especially when it is unwarranted or arrogant. Largely based on insufficiently examined premises.

