

Argument Forms (in standard argument form)
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****Inductive Arguments****

1. Enumerative Induction (also known as: Inductive Generalization)

P: Many x.

C: Therefore, all x.

2. Statistical Syllogism

P: Most A are B.

P: x is an A.

C: x is a B.

3. Causal Arguments

a future effect is inferred from a cause

P: x (cause).

P: x usually causes y.

C: y (effect).

OR

a past cause is inferred from an effect

P: y (effect).

P: x usually causes y.

C: x (cause).

4. Arguments from Analogy

x and y are the things being compared

A and B are the features x and y have in common

P: x is A and B.

P: y is A.

C: Therefore, y is B.

OR

P: x and y are A.

P: x is B.

C: Therefore, y is B.

5. Inference to the Best Explanation (Abductive Argument)

C explains why A and B are true.

P: A

P: B

C: C

Deductive Arguments

1. Deduction with Universal Generalization

P: All A are B.

P: x is an A.

C: Therefore, x is a B.

2. Modus Ponens (Affirming the Antecedent)

P: If A, then B.

P: A.

C: Therefore, B.

3. Modus Tollens (Denying the Consequent)

P: If A, then B.

P: Not B.

C: Therefore, not A.

4. Hypothetical Syllogism

P: If A, then B.

P: If B, then C.

C: Therefore, if A, then C.

5. Disjunctive Syllogism

P: Either A or B.

P: Not A.

C: Therefore, B.

OR

P: Either A or B

P: Not B

C: Therefore, A