

Philosophy 240, Kenny Easwaran  
Midterm 2, Sample 1

November 8, 2017

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Section: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Validity. Make up an argument with the described premises and conclusion, or say why such an argument is impossible. (10 pts each)

(a) Invalid, with two true premises, and a false conclusion.

**Donald Trump is president. Every president has been a man.  
Therefore, Donald Trump got more votes than Hillary Clinton.**

(b) Valid, with one true premise, and a false conclusion.

**Impossible, because a valid argument cannot  
have true premises and a false conclusion.**

(c) Invalid, with two true premises, and a true conclusion.

**Rats have four legs. Cats have four legs. Therefore, dogs have four legs.**

2. Translations (10 pts each)

(a) Translate the following sentences from English into the formal language of Tarski's World.

i. c is a cube, and it's large if a is.

**$Cube(c) \wedge (Large(a) \rightarrow Large(c))$**

ii. Either a or b is small, and one is a tetrahedron if and only if the other is.

**$(Small(a) \vee Small(b)) \wedge (Tet(a) \leftrightarrow Tet(b))$**

iii. If a is a medium dodecahedron, then neither c nor d is.

**$(Medium(a) \wedge Dodec(a)) \rightarrow \sim((Medium(c) \wedge Dodec(c)) \vee (Medium(d) \wedge Dodec(d)))$**

(b) Give ordinary English translations of the following sentences in the formal language of Tarski's World.

i.  $\text{Small}(a) \leftrightarrow \neg \text{Cube}(a)$

**a is small if and only if it is not a cube.**

ii.  $(\text{Cube}(a) \vee \text{Tet}(a)) \rightarrow \text{Large}(a)$

**If a is either a cube or a tet then it is large.**

iii.  $(\text{Small}(b) \wedge \text{Dodec}(b)) \wedge (\text{Dodec}(c) \rightarrow \text{Small}(c))$

**b is a small dodecahedron, and c is a dodecahedron only if it's small too.**

3. Complete the following two incomplete proofs. Fill in the rule used on each line, and which prior lines it depends on. (20 pts each)

1	$\neg B \vee C$	
2	$\neg B$	
3	$B$	
4	$\perp$	<u><math>\perp</math> Intro 2,3</u>
5	$C$	<u><math>\perp</math> Elim 4</u>
6	$B \rightarrow C$	<u><math>\rightarrow</math> Intro 3-5</u>
7	$C$	
8	$B$	
9	$C$	<u>Reit 7</u>
10	$B \rightarrow C$	<u><math>\rightarrow</math> Intro 8-9</u>
11	$B \rightarrow C$	<u><math>\vee</math> Elim 1, 2-6, 7-10</u>

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2	$\neg \neg(A \wedge B)$	
3	$A \wedge B$	<u><math>\sim</math> Elim 2</u>
4	$B$	<u><math>\wedge</math> Elim 3</u>
5	$\neg B$	
6	$\perp$	<u><math>\perp</math> Intro 4,5</u>
7	$\neg \neg B$	<u><math>\sim</math> Intro 5-6</u>
8	$\neg \neg(A \wedge B) \rightarrow \neg \neg B$	<u><math>\rightarrow</math> Intro 2-7</u>

4. If the probability that  $a$  is a tet given that it is small is  $1/8$ , and the probability that it is a tet given that it is *not* small is  $1/2$ , and the probability that it is small is  $.8$ , then what is the probability that it is small given that it's a tet? (20 pts)

Small(a)	Tet(a)	probability
T	T	$.8 \times 1/8 = .1$
T	F	$.8 - .1 = .7$
F	T	$.2 \times 1/2 = .1$
F	F	$.2 - .1 = .1$

Since  $P(A \text{ given } B) = P(A \wedge B) / P(B)$ , it is also true that  $P(A \wedge B) = P(A \text{ given } B) \times P(B)$ . Thus, we can use the given information to calculate lines 1 and 3 of the table. (The other two lines get the amount that is left over.)

$$P(\text{Small}(a) \wedge \text{Tet}(a)) / P(\text{Tet}(a)) = .1 / (.1 + .1) = 1/2$$

Thus, the probability that  $a$  is small given that it's a tet is  $1/2$ . 2

(Note: I used two different methods for the probability question on the two samples, but they are both ways of getting the same information, and either method will work for either problem.)