

COMS 120—Debate

STUDY GUIDE

CH.1—INVITATION TO ARGUE

Plato

Aristotle: three artistic proofs

CH. 2—INDUCTIVE ARGUMENT

Toulmin

Inductive reasoning

Support: authority, sign, cause, analogy, examples, statistics.

CH. 3—FALLACIES

Hasty generalization, *post hoc ergo propter hoc*, appeal to ignorance, *ad populum*, false dilemma, slippery slope, begging the question, *ad verecundium*, straw man, equivocation, *non sequitur*, *ad hominem*, *tu quoque*.

CH. 4—OVERVIEW OF PARLI

Types of propositions: fact, value, policy

Types of resolutions: straight, metaphorical

Presumption, burden of proof, burden of rejoinder

Questions and objections.

CH. 6—PROPOSITIONS OF FACT AND VALUE

Determining fact and value resolutions, criteria for each, burdens and stock issues of each, opposition strategies: clash and off-case.

CH. 7—PROPOSITIONS OF POLICY

Recognizing policy resolutions, general burdens of government, policy stock issues, criteria for policy. Opposition strategies: clash, counterplans, disadvantages.

Parametricize

CH. 8—REFUTATION

Flowing

Speaker responsibilities

CH 9—PRESENTING YOUR ARGUMENT

Nonverbal delivery: eye contact, facial and body control, vocal variety, appearance.

BILL OF RIGHTS

The contents of Amendments 1 through 10.

COMS 120—SAMPLE EXAM QUESTIONS

1. Deductive reasoning
 - a. considers examples and draws a conclusion.
 - b. takes a general principle and applies it to a specific example.
 - c. asserts that two cases are similar enough that what is true for one will be true for the other.
 - d. is reasoning from authority.
2. The *Ad Verecundiam* fallacy
 - a. argues that because something is popular it must be true.
 - b. is an appeal to inappropriate authority.
 - c. argues argue that a claim is right because it has not been proved wrong.
 - d. says that an initial step will inevitably lead to more and more steps.
3. Jerry is Prime Minister. The resolution states, “This house believes bipartisanship is dead.” In setting up the debate, Jerry must
 - a. uphold the resolution, provide a criteria.
 - b. define critical terms, uphold the resolution.
 - c. define critical terms, provide a criteria, uphold the resolution.
 - d. define critical terms, offer a value, provide a criteria, uphold the resolution.
4. The right to a speedy trial, and the right to confront one’s accusers is guaranteed by which Amendment to the Constitution?
 - a. Second
 - b. Fourth
 - c. Fifth
 - d. Sixth
5. What must you be sure to do when you define a metaphorical resolution?
 - a. You must define each word individually.
 - b. You must parametricize.
 - c. You must keep to the generally accepted meaning of the metaphor.
 - d. You must define “house.”
6. True or false, rebuttal is the act of attacking your opponents’ arguments.
7. True or false, a value proposition asks whether a conditions is more true than not.
8. True or false, the criteria tells the Speaker of the House what he or she should look at when determining who won the debate.
9. Short answer: List **two** things you should consider when evaluating your opponents’ **examples**.

Answers: 1=b, 2=b, 3=c, 4=d, 5=c 6= F, 7=F, 8=T, 9=Does it support the claim? Is it representative of the whole? Is it sufficiently explained?