

Argument Terms

Argument

An argument is found where one or more statements (premises) are intended to prove or support another statement or claim (conclusion)

Deductive

Intention is for conclusions to follow from premises with certainty (i.e., with perfect, airtight logic)

Valid

Invalid

To determine validity and strength ask whether the conclusion logically follows from premises alone?

Inductive

Intention is for premises to give support to the of the conclusion (i.e., intended to render conclusion likely or probable.

Strong

Weak

Sound

Sound: valid deductive argument with all true premises

Unsound

Unsound: valid but premises are not true

Unsound

Unsound: any invalid argument is also unsound

Cogent

Cogent: strong inductive argument with all true premises

Uncogent

Uncogent: strong but premises are not true

Uncogent

Uncogent: Any weak argument is also uncogent