

Critical Thinking

Midterm Study Guide

In preparation for the midterm, it is recommended that you review the following concepts and terms (relevant review exercises from the book are in italics):

- Identifying arguments and their components (ch. 1) *1-6*
 - Identifying what is at issue in a set of claims (ch. 1) *1-7*
 - Distinguishing between subjective and non-subjective claims (ch. 1) *1-3, 1-4*
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- Formal validity and soundness, and inductive strength (ch. 2): *2-8 (#s1-10)*
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- Identifying and critiquing vagueness/generalities in claims (ch. 3) *5-27*
 - Assessing vagueness/generalities in context (ch. 3) *3-5*
 - Identifying and distinguishing between three types of definition: Example, synonym, analysis (ch. 3) *3-4*
 - Identifying and distinguishing between three types of ambiguity: Semantic, syntactic, and grouping (ch. 3) *3-8*
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- Identifying rhetorical devices in written discourse: Euphemism, dysphemism, rhetorical analogy, rhetorical definition, stereotype, innuendo, loaded question, sarcasm, weaseler, downplayer, hyperbole, proof surrogate (ch. 5) *5-10, 5-11, 5-21*
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While preparing for the midterm, it is *strongly* recommended that you review the weekly quizzes that have been given up to this point. The book exercises listed above will serve as a useful resource if you feel like you need practice in a particular area. Finally, don't forget to take advantage of my office hours if you feel that you need one-on-one assistance. I'm more than happy to do what I can to help!