

**Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research  
Faculty of Letters and Foreign Languages  
University of Abbas Laghrour- Khenchela  
Department of English Language and Literature**



**Time Allotted: 1:30h**

**Student's name:**

**Level: Master 1**

**Study Skills Exam**

**Task 1:** Briefly explain the three fundamental components that constitute a strong and effective argument.

1. **Claim:** A clear statement or position that the writer or speaker wants to prove or support.
2. **Evidence:** Facts, examples, statistics, or expert opinions used to support the claim.
3. **Reasoning:** The explanation of how the evidence supports the claim, showing logical connections and addressing counterarguments

**Task 2:** Below are some weak arguments related to learning. Identify the type of fallacy in each (Slippery Slope, Appeal to Emotion, Ad Hominem, False Cause, Hasty Generalization), and explain why it is a weak argument.

1. Don't listen to Mary's opinion on active learning techniques; she's just a new teacher with no real classroom experience.

**Fallacy:** Ad Hominem

**Explanation:** This argument attacks the person (Mary) instead of addressing her ideas or the validity of her opinion

2. I tried a group project once and it was chaotic, so group work in education is just a waste of time.

**Fallacy:** Hasty Generalization

**Explanation:** It draws a broad conclusion based on one personal experience, which does not represent all group work

3. Ever since we switched to online learning, students' test scores have dropped. Online learning must be a major factor in this decline.

**Fallacy:** False Cause

**Explanation:** This argument assumes a direct cause-and-effect relationship without considering other possible factors.

4. If we let students use smartphones in class, next thing you know they'll be ignoring all lessons and just playing games all day.

**Fallacy:** Slippery Slope

**Explanation:** It suggests an extreme outcome without evidence that one action will inevitably lead to the other.

5. If you don't support increasing the budget for extracurricular activities, you're depriving students of opportunities to grow and thrive!

**Fallacy:** Appeal to Emotion

**Explanation:** It tries to manipulate emotions rather than present logical reasons to support the budget increase.

**Task 3:** Read the following statement. Identify whether it is *True* or *False*. If it is *False*, correct the statement.

1/An ad hominem fallacy attacks the argument, not the person False

An ad hominem fallacy attacks the person, not the argument.

2/ Editorialization is an emotional and personal type of conclusion True

3/A hasty generalization is a fallacy in which a conclusion is drawn from too little evidence, often leading to incorrect assumptions True

4/A "slippery slope" fallacy occurs when one asserts that a small event will lead to extreme and often exaggerated consequences without proper evidence True

5/Editorialization is the best type of conclusion for technical or formal writing False  
Editorialization is not appropriate for technical or formal writing, which should be objective and evidence-based

6/In academic presentation, visual aids should always contain large blocks of text to ensure the audience can read and understand the material False

Visual aids should be concise and contain minimal text to enhance understanding and maintain audience engagement

7/In the conclusion of a presentation, it is acceptable to introduce new ideas or concepts that were not previously discussed False

New ideas should not be introduced in the conclusion; it should summarize and reinforce previously discussed points.

Good Luck!

