

Poisoning the well

A fallacious argument that attempts to discredit a person or a source in advance of that person's argument.

Post hoc fallacy

Occurs when a debater assumes that because one thing predates another, the first must have caused the second.

Preparation time

The time allotted to each team for preparation during the debate (eight minutes in Karl Popper debate).

Presumption

The assumption that current policies will be maintained until someone makes a case that another policy is a better option.

Presumption (evidence)

A statement concerning what people ordinarily expect to happen in the course of normal events.

Problematic premise

A fallacious argument that fails to meet the acceptability criterion. It includes begging the question and the fallacy of incompatibility.

Proposition

A final claim made by a debater and supported by a combination of claims.

Proposition of definition

Asserts that a certain definition should be applied to a certain category of things.

Proposition of description

Asserts a proper way to describe an object or a number of objects.

Proposition of evaluation

Attaches a value to any object.

Proposition of relationship

Assert a certain relationship between objects.

Proposition of similarity

Asserts that two objects are similar to each other.

Reasoning

The process used to connect evidence to the claim. See *also* warrant.

Rebuttal speeches

The speeches in the debate that challenge and defend arguments introduced in the constructive speeches.

Red herring

A fallacious argument that shifts the focus from the original argument.

Refutation

The process of attacking and defending arguments.

Research

The process of locating and selecting evidence in preparation for debate.

Reservation

An exception made to a claim. A reservation usually involves a situation in which the arguer does not wish to maintain the claim.

Simple argument structure

A single claim leading from a single piece of evidence following along a single warrant.

Simple policy proposition

A proposition that urges adoption of a certain policy.

Simple value proposition

Attaches a value to a single object.

Slippery slope argument

An argument that connects a series of events in a causal chain that ultimately leads to disaster or calamity. Slippery slope arguments are fallacies if the series of events is improperly connected.

Standard of acceptability

Determines whether the evidence is acceptable to those who judge the argument.

Standard of relevance

Determines whether the evidence is relevant to the claim it supports.

Standard of sufficiency

Determines whether all of the evidence taken as a whole is sufficient to support the claim.

Standards of a logically good argument

Standards are acceptability, relevance, and sufficiency.

Stasis

A system devised to determine the key issues of clash in a topic. These key issues can be used to develop a system of research.