

## Critical Thinking

### Arguments and Assertions

#### Worksheet 3

1. Most first year students confuse their own opinions with arguments.

Argument      Assertion

2. Global warming is a huge problem that needs to be solved before it is too late.

Argument      Assertion

3. Men are liars. I can't stand them. I'm never going to trust another man again. I am so angry! I can't believe that he did that to me.

Argument      Assertion

4. The only hope of establishing world peace is to completely destroy terrorism.

Argument      Assertion

5. "Cutting into our national forests to generate dollars for California businesses is not the answer. We are a wealthy state with an abundance of resources and opportunity; I have to believe there is a way to solve the budget crisis without cutting into our beautiful forests." (*Los Angeles Times, November 28, 2004, letter to the editor*).

Argument      Assertion

6. "We must protect the California forests. Whether we like it or not, our civic responsibility requires the preservation of our natural resources, not only for our enjoyment, but for future generations. In addition, these forests provide clean drinking water to more than 60 million Americans, not to mention sustaining animal and plant life for millions more species. If there are no forests, no roadless vistas in which to hike, snowshoe, camp or merely stare at the stars around a campfire, then we will truly have lost our compass and the respect of both past and future generations." (*Los Angeles Times, November 28, 2004, letter to the editor*).

Argument      Assertion

7. "As a recent Midwestern transplant, I relish the opportunity for exploring nature's wonders that lie before me in California in such close proximity to home. The state's geography is its most attractive feature, and I believe our governor should do all he can to protect it. Not supporting the roadless area rule is treading on dangerous ground, and I would hate to see our cherished forests and wildlife suffer for short-term benefits. While we're all contributing to the world's eighth-largest economy, it's nice to know we have a vast 'intact' environment in which to recharge our batteries. Without the beaches, mountains, and forests, I could make a strong case for returning to the Midwest." (*Los Angeles Times, November 28, 2004, letter to the editor*).

Argument      Assertion

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#### Worksheet 3 Answers

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