

Critical Thinking

Objections Worksheet 1: Kinds of objections

Here are some claims and objections. List what kind of objection is being made.

1. Claim: *When Ecuador converted its currency to the dollar, the economy became much more stable than it had ever been. The reason that the economy stabilized is because Ecuador converted to the dollar.*

Objection: Ecuador's economy may have simply become stable at that time.

2. Claim: *Mr. Jones was driving only 30 MPH when he struck the plaintiff.*

Objection: The skid marks measured at the crime scene indicate that, given the weight of Mr. Jones' car, he was traveling at least 60 MPH.

3. Claim: *We need to drill for oil in Alaska. Our country needs to become independent of foreign oil, and until we rely more on our own resources, we will always remain dependent upon foreign ones.*

Objection: Drilling for oil in Alaska will destroy the environment.

Objection: No one even knows if there is oil in Alaska.

Objection: Using hydrogen-based cars would free our country of dependence on foreign oil without using Alaska's oil.

4. Claim: *Iraq is in possession of weapons of mass destructions and should be attacked.*

Objection: Any attack against Iraq will most like result in a civil war or a guerilla war.

Objection: UN weapons inspectors have not found any weapons of mass destruction throughout extensive investigations.

Objection: Because a country possesses weapons of mass destructions does not imply that it should be attacked.

Objection: Korea possesses weapons of mass destruction and we are not attacking Korea.

5. Claim: *The Boston Red Sox are going to repeat as World Series champions. They have a very strong team, including the MVP and the second best pitcher in the American League.*

Objection: Being a strong team, having the MVP and a great pitcher are not sure indicators that a team will win the World Series.

Objection: The Giants have a strong team, the National League MVP, and the second best pitcher in the National League and they didn't even make the playoffs.

6. Claim: *This is the best skin care product on the market. It cleans deeply, exfoliates, and adds luster to your skin in only minutes.*

Objection: There are many skin care products on the market that make the same claims.

Objection: There are no studies that indicate that this product is any better than any other.

Objection: FaceShine also cleans deeply, exfoliates, and adds luster.

Objection: Just because a skin care product cleans deeply, exfoliates, and adds luster does not mean that it is the best product available.

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1. Claim: *When Ecuador converted its currency to the dollar, the economy became much more stable than it had ever been. The reason that the economy stabilized is because Ecuador converted to the dollar.*

Objection: Ecuador's economy may have simply become stable at that time.
[**Necessary connection**]

2. Claim: *Mr. Jones was driving only 30 MPH when he struck the plaintiff.*

Objection: The skid marks measured at the crime scene indicate that, given the weight of Mr. Jones' car, he was traveling at least 60 MPH. [**Contrary evidence**]

3. Claim: *We need to drill for oil in Alaska. Our country needs to become independent of foreign oil, and until we rely more on our own resources, we will always remain dependent upon foreign ones.*

Objection: Drilling for oil in Alaska will destroy the environment. [**Objection of consideration**]

Objection: No one even knows if there is oil in Alaska. [**Lack of evidence**]

Objection: Using hydrogen-based cars would free our country of dependence on foreign oil without using Alaska's oil. [**Counterexample**]

4. Claim: *Iraq is in possession of weapons of mass destructions and should be attacked.*

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Objection: Just because a skin care product cleans deeply, exfoliates, and adds luster does not mean that it is the best product available. [**Necessary connection**]