

**Worksheet Exercise 1.6.B.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Cogent Arguments**

Class \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Part B.** The following are all inductive arguments. Determine whether these arguments are cogent arguments by answering the three indicated questions with yes or no.

Question 1. Are all the premisses true? (Use your best judgment.)

Question 2. Is the inductive connection a strong one? (Use your best judgment.)

Question 3. Is the argument cogent? (base this on Q.1 and Q.2)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. College tuition is much more expensive now than two generations ago. So, fewer students are able to attend college now than two generations ago.   | Are all prems true? _____<br>Is connection strong? _____<br>Is the arg cogent? _____ |
| 2. Most college students today have a strong sense of social responsibility. Most people think that Senator Obama has a platform that represents social responsibility and that the Sen. McCain has a platform that represents national security. People generally vote for candidates that agree with their view of things. So, most college students today will vote for Senator Obama. | Are all prems true? _____<br>Is connection strong? _____<br>Is the arg cogent? _____ |
| 3. Despite some gloomy prospects, the younger generation still seeks the American Dream, and they realize that achieving it will be more difficult than it was for the previous generations. But they also have a hopeful outlook about the possibility of their own success. So, the younger generation will succeed in achieving the American Dream.                                    | Are all prems true? _____<br>Is connection strong? _____<br>Is the arg cogent? _____ |
| 4. Many people nowadays are aware of the various health hazards that exist in their everyday lives, such as cigarette smoking, substance abuse, processed foods, environmental pollution, lack of exercise, and they also know how best to avoid such hazards and have changed their lives accordingly. So, these people will enjoy healthier lives.                                      | Are all prems true? _____<br>Is connection strong? _____<br>Is the arg cogent? _____ |
| 5. Some people have jobs that actually require them to meet specific goals, and if they do not meet those goals, they will lose their jobs. One of your friends has a job with specific performance expectations. So, your friend will lose his job, if he does not meet those expectations.  | Are all prems true? _____<br>Is connection strong? _____<br>Is the arg cogent? _____ |
| 6. When people begin to consider their retirement, they usually worry more about the market performance of their retirement funds. Some of your acquaintances have mentioned their concern about the poor performance of the stock market. So, they are probably thinking about retiring soon.  | Are all prems true? _____<br>Is connection strong? _____<br>Is the arg cogent? _____ |

>> Continued on back side >>

7. Americans now find European vacations to be very expensive, because the price of everything in euros when converted to dollars costs much more than in the U.S. A number of American families are planning vacations in Europe next year. So, they must be expecting that the value of the euro will go down substantially against the dollar next year.
- Are all prems true? \_\_\_\_\_  
Is connection strong? \_\_\_\_\_  
Is the arg cogent? \_\_\_\_\_
8. Most people are confident about their present state of health, and yet, they buy health insurance, if they are able to do so. Now, people wouldn't do that, if they didn't think that they needed health insurance. So, while most people think that they will not actually undergo costly medical procedures in the near future, most people do think that this is a real possibility.
- Are all prems true? \_\_\_\_\_  
Is connection strong? \_\_\_\_\_  
Is the arg cogent? \_\_\_\_\_