

Unit 16 - Classwork 6: Plato's *Euthydemus* Dialogue (2)

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In order to answer the following questions, read pages 26–40 in Unit 16, and refer to the four valid syllogisms below.

The Disjunctive Syllogism

Premise 1: P or Q,
Premise 2: not-P .
Conclusion: So, Q.

The Hypothetical Syllogism

Premise 1: If P then Q,
Premise 2: If Q then R .
Conclusion: So, if P then R.

Modus Ponens (Affirming the Antecedent)

Premise 1: If P then Q,
Premise 2: P .
Conclusion: So, Q.

Modus Tollens (Denying the Consequent)

Premise 1: If P then Q,
Premise 2: not-Q .
Conclusion: So, not-P.

1. On how *goods* (or *good things*) are necessary for *happiness*, Socrates provided the following hypothetical polysyllogism. Accordingly, fill in the blanks. (See page 31–32 in Unit 16.)

LINE 1	If a person is <i>happy</i> due to having good things, then the person <i>benefits</i> from having good things.	<i>assumption</i>
LINE 2	If a person <i>benefits</i> from having good things, then the person <i>properly</i> uses their goods.	<i>assumption</i>
LINE 3	If a person <i>properly</i> uses their goods, then the person <i>wisely</i> uses their goods.	<i>assumption</i>
LINE 4	If a person <i>wisely</i> uses their goods, then the person <i>uses</i> their goods.	<i>assumption</i>
LINE 5	If a person <i>wisely</i> uses their goods, then the person has wisdom.	<i>assumption</i>
LINE 6	If _____, then _____.	In a hypothetical syllogism, if the premises are Line 1 and Line 2, then Line 6 is the logical conclusion.
LINE 7	If _____, then _____.	In a hypothetical syllogism, if the premises are Line 6 and Line 3, then Line 7 is the logical conclusion.
LINE 8	If _____, then _____.	In a hypothetical syllogism, if the premises are Line 7 and Line 4, then Line 8 is the logical conclusion.
LINE 9	If _____, then _____.	In a hypothetical syllogism, if the premises are Line 7 and Line 5, then Line 9 is the logical conclusion.

2. On the basis of the following polysyllogism, Dionysodorus concluded that Socrates wants Cleinias to die. Accordingly, fill in the blanks. (See page 33 in Unit 16.)

LINE 1	If Socrates wants Cleinias to be wise, then <i>either</i> Cleinias is wise, <i>or</i> Socrates wants Cleinias to be who Cleinias isn't.	<i>assumption (hypothesis)</i>
LINE 2	Socrates wants Cleinias to be wise.	<i>assumption (confession)</i>
LINE 3	Either _____, or _____.	In a <i>modus ponens</i> syllogism, if the premises are Line 1 and Line 2, then Line 3 is the logical conclusion.
LINE 4	Cleinias is not wise.	<i>assumption (observation)</i>
LINE 5	_____.	In a disjunctive syllogism, if the premises are Line 3 and Line 4, then Line 5 is the logical conclusion.
LINE 6	If Socrates wants Cleinias to become <i>who</i> Cleinias isn't, then Socrates wants Cleinias to die.	<i>assumption (hypothesis)</i>
LINE 7	_____.	In a <i>modus ponens</i> syllogism, if the premises are Line 1 and Line 2, then Line 3 is the logical conclusion.

3. According to Euthydemus, *no* proposition is a *false* proposition. (See page 33 in Unit Unit 16.)

On why he thought so, fill in the blanks. (After filling in the blanks for the following syllogisms, answer the question below.)

LINE 1	If <i>some</i> proposition is a <i>false</i> proposition, then <i>some</i> proposition is a proposition about something <i>nonexistent</i> .	<i>assumption (hypothesis)</i>
LINE 2	_____.	<i>assumption</i>
LINE 3	_____.	In a <i>modus tollens</i> syllogism, if the premises are Line 1 and Line 2, then Line 3 is the logical conclusion.

- QUESTION: According to Ctesippus, which line in the argument was a false assumption? Explain your answer.

4. According to Dionysodorus, no propositions are contradictory propositions. (See pages 34–35 in Unit 16.)

On why he thought so, fill in the blanks.

LINE 1	If <i>some</i> propositions are <i>contradictory</i> propositions, then <i>some</i> proposition is a <i>false</i> proposition.	<i>assumption (hypothesis)</i>
LINE 2	_____.	<i>assumption</i>
LINE 3	_____.	In a <i>modus tollens</i> syllogism, if the premises are Line 1 and Line 2, then Line 3 is the logical conclusion.

5. On the basis of how his brother Euthydemus concluded that *no* proposition is a *false* proposition, Dionysodorus concluded that no propositions are contradictory propositions. (See pages 33–35 in Unit 16.)

LINE 1	If <i>some</i> propositions are <i>contradictory</i> propositions, then <i>some</i> proposition is a <i>false</i> proposition.	<i>leading assumption (hypothesis)</i>
LINE 2	If <i>some</i> proposition is a <i>false</i> proposition, then <i>some</i> proposition is a proposition about something <i>nonexistent</i> .	<i>assumption (hypothesis)</i>
LINE 3	_____.	<i>assumption</i>
LINE 4	_____.	In a <i>modus tollens</i> syllogism, if the premises are Line 2 and Line 3, then Line 4 is the logical conclusion.
LINE 5	_____.	In a <i>modus tollens</i> syllogism, if the premises are Line 1 and Line 4, then Line 5 is the logical conclusion.
LINE 6	If _____, then _____.	In a hypothetical syllogism, if the premises are Line 1 and Line 2, then Line 6 is the logical conclusion.
LINE 7	_____.	In a <i>modus tollens</i> syllogism, if the premises are Line 1 and Line 3, then Line 7 is the logical conclusion.