

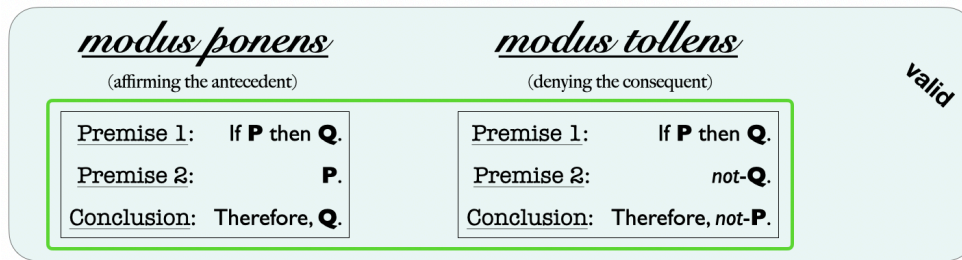
**Chapter 11 - Assignment 3: Leucippus and Melissus**

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In order to answer the following questions, read pages 25—32 in Chapter 11.

1. Melissus of Samos and Leucippus the atomist disagreed about physics.
  - (i) Melissus and Leucippus *disagreed* about whether or not something can move from one place to another.
    - (a) Which one of those two philosophers believed that *something* can move from one place to another?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
    - (b) Which one of those two philosophers believed that *nothing* at all can move from one place to another?
  
  - (ii) Melissus and Leucippus *disagreed* about whether or not a void exists.
    - (a) Which of those two philosophers believed that *some* void exists?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
    - (b) Which of those two philosophers thought that *no* void exists?
  
2. Melissus and Leucippus agreed on a certain hypothesis. What hypothesis did their share? [Hint: It's a conditional statement (or 'if-then' statement).]

3. Out of all of the syllogisms that have a conditional statement as a premise, the two most well-known syllogisms are *modus ponens* and *modus tollens*.



- (i) With the information provided, construct a *modus ponens* argument.

Premise 1: If something changes place, then something moves through a void.

Premise 2: \_\_\_\_\_.

Conclusion: *Therefore*, \_\_\_\_\_.

- (ii) With the information provided, construct a *modus tollens* argument.

Premise 1: If something changes place, then something moves through a void.

Premise 2: \_\_\_\_\_.

Conclusion: *Therefore*, \_\_\_\_\_.

- (iii) Which argument supports what Melissus believed about motion?

- (iv) Which argument supports what Leucippus believed about motion?

4. Zeno of Elea and Leucippus the atomist disagreed about whether or not something is the smallest thing of all.

(i) According to Zeno, why is there no such thing as a smallest thing?  
(Hint: Think of Zeno's dichotomy paradox.)

(ii) According to Leucippus, how do *atoms* resolve Zeno's dichotomy paradox?

5. According to Leucippus, what are the only two kinds of things that exist?

(i) \_\_\_\_\_

(ii) \_\_\_\_\_