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Activities and Assignments Collection

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Working with Conclusions through Logical Fallacies: Finding Faults and Rebuttals

Timothy David Orme

Working with Conclusions through Logical Fallacies: Finding faults and rebuttals

Objectives: Identifying fallacies, working collaboratively in groups, understanding the harm of fallacies, receiving feedback on work in progress

- Quick primer on LOGIC
  - Premises, conclusion, syllogism
- Ask if anyone knows definition of "fallacy"
  - Define (mistaken belief based on unsound logic—focus on unsound logic)
  - Show example: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kIv3m2gMgUU
    - ASK: As a logical argument, is it compelling? Or what's the potential problem in logic?
  - Discuss responses, then show Slippery Slope definition:
    - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yxylBjtzMNQ
    - (first couple minutes)
    - See if the class can change the claim to NOT have a slippery slope fallacy
    - Add in as many other fallacies as you want as examples
  - Discuss Harm of fallacies
    - Loss of trust/ethos, misleading audience, etc.
- Conclude: Even without **naming** the fallacy, you can usually identify the flawed logic with some critical thinking.

Get into groups of two or three and share a paragraph worth of your speech. Look specifically at the conclusion of that line of thought. Does is seem to show flawed logic? Can you take the same evidence and come to different conclusions? How many can you come up with?

Alternately: Get into groups and share a paragraph of your speech. **Leave out the conclusion and only present the evidence.** Have your peers determine their own conclusion based off the evidence presented.