

# The Fallacy Detective Thirty Eight Lessons On How To Recognize Bad Reasoning Nathaniel Bluedorn

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## Mastering Logical Fallacies Simon and Schuster

From Douglas Adams, the legendary author of one of the most beloved science fiction novels of all time, *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, comes a wildly inventive novel—in trade paperback for the first time—of ghosts, time travel, and one detective's mission to save humanity from extinction. Quirky and bumbling private investigator Dirk Gently stumbles upon a ghost, millions of years old, wandering the earth and disturbing its people. Dirk soon discovers this phantom yearns for more than a good haunting: it is desperately trying to go back in time to prevent its own death. But this ghost was no ordinary person, and helping it save itself just might change the modern world as we know it. And not in a good way... Endlessly entertaining, Dirk Gently's Holistic Detective Agency proves that, indeed, "few writers have had such an infectious prose style as Adams" (*The Observer*). As Dirk Gently tries to solve the mysteries of the universe and the human soul, readers will have their own mystery to solve: Where did the time go?

The Basics of Critical Thinking Christian Logic  
George Whitefield preached to many people in the United Kingdom, America and beyond. It is estimated that he spoke more than 18,000 sermons during his life.

George Whitefield Createspace Independent Publishing Platform

An essential tool for our post-truth world: a witty primer on logic—and the dangers of illogical thinking—by a renowned Notre Dame professor Logic is synonymous with reason, judgment, sense, wisdom, and sanity. Being logical is the ability to create concise and reasoned arguments—arguments that build from given premises, using evidence, to a genuine conclusion. But mastering logical thinking also requires studying and understanding illogical thinking, both to sharpen one's own skills and to protect against incoherent, or deliberately misleading, reasoning. Elegant, pithy, and precise, *Being Logical* breaks logic down to its essentials through clear analysis, accessible examples, and focused insights. D. Q. McInerney covers the sources of illogical thinking, from naïve optimism to narrow-mindedness, before dissecting the various tactics—red herrings, diversions, and simplistic reasoning—the illogical use in place of effective reasoning. An indispensable guide to using logic to advantage in everyday life, this is a concise, crisply readable book. Written explicitly for the layperson, McInerney's *Being Logical* promises to take its place beside Strunk and White's *The Elements of Style* as a classic of lucid, invaluable advice. Praise for *Being*

Logical "Highly readable . . . D. Q. McInerney offers an introduction to symbolic logic in plain English, so you can finally be clear on what is deductive reasoning and what is inductive. And you'll see how deductive arguments are constructed." —Detroit Free Press

"McInerney's explanatory outline of sound thinking will be eminently beneficial to expository writers, debaters, and public speakers." —Booklist "Given the shortage of logical thinking, And the fact that mankind is adrift, if not sinking, It is vital that all of us learn to think straight. And this small book by D.Q. McInerney is great. It follows therefore since we so badly need it, Everybody should not only but it, but read it." —Charles Osgood

Starting Out with Alice John Wiley & Sons

Rebus is juggling four cases trying to nail one killer - who might just lead back to the infamous Bible John. And he's doing it under the scrutiny of an internal inquiry led by a man he has just accused of taking backhanders from Glasgow's Mr Big. As if this wasn't enough, there are TV cameras at his back investigating a miscarriage of justice, making Rebus a criminal in the eyes of a million or more viewers. Just one mistake is likely to mean an unpleasant and not particularly speedy death or, worse still, losing his job.

**The Cartoon Introduction to Philosophy** Calvin Campus Store / Calvin Press

Frequently cited as the number one fear among A proven, gimmick-free lesson guaranteed to business executives, public speaking doesn't make anyone a better speaker and come naturally to most people. Pitching an idea, presenter. selling a product, or presenting a program doesn't have to be a stomach-clenching experience to be struggled through. It can be an opportunity to relish and a chance to shine in front of a group. Whether you are selling an idea to two colleagues in a conference room or presenting a major corporate strategy to a ballroom filled with shareholders, the key to success is a clear, confident, memorable presentation. With *The 7 Principles of Public Speaking*, Richard Zeoli makes the common sense, gimmick-free program he's offered to business leaders and political candidates available to everyone. Whether you are looking to position yourself as an industry expert, extend your sphere of influence, or gain the support and backing of vital constituencies, *The 7 Principles of Public Speaking* will give you the tools you need to achieve your goal. If you are a polished professional, it will help you hone your skills. If you are a novice communicator, it will help you overcome obstacles and convey your message with confidence, poise, and persuasiveness.

Whodunits David C Cook

This fun and informative introduction to the history of philosophy and its key figures and movements, from stoicism to existentialism, is for any child asking "what is philosophy?" Questions like "who am I?", "why does the world exist?" and philosophical theories from Plato to Sartre are made easy to understand using clear examples, timelines, and at-a-glance

facts. If your child is curious about the world and the thinkers who shaped it, the Children's Book of Philosophy is for them.

### **Electronics for Kids** Routledge

The student edition of the popular *A Practical Guide to Culture* by John Stonestreet and Brett Kunkle delivers a hopeful message to readers ages 15–25 who live every day with increasing cultural pressure. These young people struggle to navigate contemporary challenges to their Christian faith and values, but will be encouraged to emerge as leaders. In *A Student's Guide to Culture*, Stonestreet and Kunkle write in a highly relational style, sharing insight and experience. Jumping off from the original version, this guide includes all-new discussion questions and stories that remind young readers that they can live differently and be a light in a culture that sometimes feels overwhelming.

### World History Detective Level 1 Penguin

"An illustrated introduction to the major subjects of Western philosophy, guided by Heraclitus"--

### *Eric Sloane's Weather Book* CF4kids

The vital resource for grading all assignments from the Introduction To Logic course, which includes: Instructional insights enhanced with worksheets and additional practice sheets Special chapter reviews at the beginning of each new chapter worksheet created to help students and teachers grasp the scope of each section. OVERVIEW: Welcome to the world of logic. This logic course will both challenge and inspire students to be able to defend their faith against atheists and skeptics alike. Because learning logical terms and principles is often like learning a foreign language, the course has been developed to help students of logic learn the practical understanding of logical arguments. To make the course content easier to grasp, the schedule provides worksheets and practice sheets to help students better recognize logical fallacies, as well as review weeks for the quizzes and the final. The practice sheets in the back of the book offer practical study for both the final exam and for actual arguments you might encounter online or in the media. FEATURES: The calendar provides daily sessions with clear objectives and worksheets, quizzes, and tests, all based on the readings from the course book.

### **The Fallacy Detective** Scholastic Inc.

"Everybody argues; not everybody knows how to argue." This phrase is incredibly accurate. You see, logical fallacies are everywhere. They can be used to manipulate people or turn an argument sour, derailing it from the get-go. This book will give you the tools to fight logical fallacies and make your arguments completely bulletproof logically.

### Dirk Gently's Holistic Detective Agency National Academies Press

Written by four members of the Calvin College philosophy department, *The Little Logic Book* is a valuable resource for teachers and undergraduate students of philosophy. In addition to providing clear introductions to the modes of reasoning students encounter in their philosophy course readings, it includes a nuanced description of common informal fallacies, a narrative overview of various philosophical accounts of scientific inference, and a concluding chapter on the ethics of argumentation. The book features engaging dialogues on social, philosophical and religious issues based on the styles of argument taken up in the chapters. In additions to core concepts, distinctions, explanations, rules of inference, methods of assessment, and examples, *The Little Logic Book* provides philosophical commentary that will stimulate discussion of the assumptions and implications of various kinds of human reasoning. Free downloadable exercises are available from the publisher.

### **Study Power** Bloomsbury Publishing

*The Fallacy Detective* has been the best selling text for teaching logical fallacies and introduction to logic for over 15 years. "Can learning logic be fun? With *The Fallacy*

*Detective* it appears that it can be. I thoroughly enjoyed this book and would recommend it to anyone who wants to improve his reasoning skills."--Tim Challies, curriculum reviewer "Cartoon and comic illustrations, humorous examples, and a very reader-friendly writing style make this the sort of course students will enjoy."--Cathy Duffy, homeschool curriculum reviewer "I really like *The Fallacy Detective* because it has funny cartoons, silly stories, and teaches you a lot!"--11 Year Old What is a fallacy? A fallacy is an error in logic a place where someone has made a mistake in his thinking. This is a handy book for learning to spot common errors in reasoning. - For ages twelve through adult. - Fun to use -- learn skills you can use right away. - Peanuts, Dilbert, and Calvin and Hobbes cartoons. - Includes *The Fallacy Detective Game*. - Exercises with answer key.

### **Being Logical** Chelsea Green Publishing

In the second edition of this witty and infectious book, Madsen Pirie builds upon his guide to using - and indeed abusing - logic in order to win arguments. By including new chapters on how to win arguments in writing, in the pub, with a friend, on Facebook and in 140 characters (on Twitter), Pirie provides the complete guide to triumphing in altercations ranging from the everyday to the downright serious. He identifies with devastating examples all the most common fallacies popularly used in argument. We all like to think of ourselves as clear-headed and logical - but all readers will find in this book fallacies of which they themselves are guilty. The author shows you how to simultaneously strengthen your own thinking and identify the weaknesses in other people arguments. And, more mischievously, Pirie also shows how to be deliberately illogical - and get away with it. This book will make you maddeningly smart: your family, friends and opponents will all wish that you had never read it. Publisher's warning: In the wrong hands this book is dangerous. We recommend that you arm yourself with it whilst keeping out of the hands of others. Only buy this book as a gift if you are sure that you can trust the recipient.

Logical Fallacy Monsters *The Fallacy Detective* *The Fallacy Detective* has been the best selling text for teaching logical fallacies and introduction to logic for over 15 years. "Can learning logic be fun? With *The Fallacy Detective* it appears that it can be. I thoroughly enjoyed this book and would recommend it to anyone who wants to improve his reasoning skills."--Tim Challies, curriculum reviewer "Cartoon and comic illustrations, humorous examples, and a very reader-friendly writing style make this the sort of course students will enjoy."--Cathy Duffy, homeschool curriculum reviewer "I really like *The Fallacy Detective* because it has funny cartoons, silly stories, and teaches you a lot!"--11 Year Old What is a fallacy? A fallacy is an error in logic a place where someone has made a mistake in his thinking. This is a handy book for learning to spot common errors in reasoning. - For ages twelve through adult. - Fun to use -- learn skills you can use right away. - Peanuts, Dilbert, and Calvin and Hobbes cartoons. - Includes *The Fallacy Detective Game*. - Exercises with answer key. *The Thinking Toolbox: Thirty-Five Lessons That Will Build Your Reasoning Skills*

"Amateur weather forecasters (which includes just about everyone) will find this volume an informative and entertaining account of the why and how of the weather." — *The Nation* In simple language, Eric Sloane explains the whys and wherefores of weather and weather forecasting — and does it in a style that's universally appealing. With humor and common sense shining through in a book that's also lively and informative, Sloane shows readers how to predict the weather by "reading" such natural phenomena as winds, skies, and animal sounds. This beautifully illustrated and practical treasure trove of climate lore will enlighten outdoorsmen, farmers, sailors, and anyone else who has ever wondered what a large halo around the moon

means, why birds "sit it out" before a storm, and whether or not to take an umbrella when leaving the house.

**Introduction to Logic (Teacher Guide)** Master Books  
Logic seems like a simple thing. And yet, somehow, mistakes in logic happen all the time. But how do these mistakes, these "fallacies," happen? Maybe they are caused by a lack of knowledge. Maybe they are caused by a lack of critical thinking. Maybe they are caused by small monsters that live in people's heads, encouraging them to believe someone's lies, or maybe pick the easy, deceitful way to win a difficult argument. This book is about those monsters.

**Black and Blue** Critical Thinking Books & Software

"This is a book for every thinking person, the perfect antidote to today's culture wars."—Hope Jahren The creators of *An Illustrated Book of Bad Arguments* return with this desperately timely guide to how words can trick us. Learn to "hear" hidden bias, slant, and spin—from an irresistible cast of woodland creatures! Public discourse? More like public discord. The battle cries of our culture wars are rife with "loaded language"—be it bias, slant, or spin. But listen closely, or you'll miss what Ali Almosawi finds more frightening still: words that erase accountability, history, even identity through what they leave unsaid. Speaking as wise old Mr. Rabbit, Almosawi leads us through a dark forest of rhetoric—aided by Orwell, Baldwin, and a squee-worthy cast of wide-eyed woodland creatures. Here, passive voice can pardon wrongdoers, statistics may be a smokescreen, gaslighting entraps the downtrodden, and irrelevant adjectives cement stereotypes. Emperor Squirrel isn't naked; he has a clothes-free sartorial style. Mouse's roof becomes flattened (Elephant's foot just happens to be there at the time). And when keen-eyed Owl claims a foreign shore, he seems to be overlooking someone . . . Fans of Almosawi's *An Illustrated Book of Bad Arguments* couldn't ask for a better primer on the less logical ways that words can trick us. It takes a long pair of ears to hear what's left unsaid—but when you're a rabbit in a badger world, listening makes all the difference.

*An Illustrated Book of Bad Arguments* Weidenfeld & Nicolson  
Turbocharge your reasoning with *Critical Thinking* Just what are the ingredients of a great argument? What is the secret to communicating your ideas clearly and persuasively? And how do you see through sloppy thinking and flim-flam? If you've ever asked any of these questions, then this book is for you! These days, strong critical thinking skills provide a vital foundation for academic success, and *Critical Thinking Skills For Dummies* offers a clear and unintimidating introduction to what can otherwise be a pretty complex topic. Inside, you'll get hands-on, lively, and fun exercises that you can put to work today to improve your arguments and pin down key issues. With this accessible and friendly guide, you'll get plain-English instruction on how to identify other people's assumptions, methodology, and conclusions, evaluate evidence, and interpret texts effectively. You'll also find tips and guidance on reading between the lines, assessing validity – and even advice on when not to apply logic too rigidly! *Critical Thinking Skills for Dummies*: Provides tools and strategies from a range of disciplines great for developing your reflective thinking skills Offers expert guidance on sound reasoning and textual analysis Shows precisely how to use concept mapping and brainstorming to generate insights Demonstrates how critical thinking skills is a proven path to success as a student Whether you're undertaking reviews, planning research projects or just keen to give your brain a workout, *Critical Thinking Skills For Dummies* equips you with everything you need to succeed.

Courier Corporation

Inspire animated discussions of questions that concern kids—and

all of us—with this innovative, interactive book. Open your students' minds to the wonders of philosophy. Allow them to grapple with the questions philosophers have discussed since the ancient Greeks. Questions include: "Who are your friends?," "Can computers think?," "Can something logical not make sense?," and "Can you think about nothing?" Young minds will find these questions to be both entertaining and informative. If you have ever wondered about questions like these, you are well on your way to becoming a philosopher! *Philosophy for Kids* offers young people the opportunity to become acquainted with the wonders of philosophy. Packed with exciting activities arranged around the topics of values, knowledge, reality, and critical thinking, this book can be used individually or by the whole class. Each activity allows kids to increase their understanding of philosophical concepts and issues and enjoy themselves at the same time. In addition to learning about a challenging subject, students philosophizing in a classroom setting, as well as the casual reader of *Philosophy for Kids*, will sharpen their ability to think critically about these and similar questions. Experiencing the enjoyment of philosophical thought enhances a young person's appreciation for the importance of reasoning throughout the traditional curriculum of subjects. The book includes activities, teaching tips, a glossary of terms, and suggestions for further reading. Grades 4-12

**Archer and Zowie** eBookIt.com

"A flawless compendium of flaws." —Alice Roberts, PhD, anatomist, writer, and presenter of *The Incredible Human Journey* The antidote to fuzzy thinking, with furry animals! Have you read (or stumbled into) one too many irrational online debates? Ali Almosawi certainly had, so he wrote *An Illustrated Book of Bad Arguments*! This handy guide is here to bring the internet age a much-needed dose of old-school logic (really old-school, a la Aristotle). Here are cogent explanations of the straw man fallacy, the slippery slope argument, the ad hominem attack, and other common attempts at reasoning that actually fall short—plus a beautifully drawn menagerie of animals who (adorably) commit every logical faux pas. Rabbit thinks a strange light in the sky must be a UFO because no one can prove otherwise (the appeal to ignorance). And Lion doesn't believe that gas emissions harm the planet because, if that were true, he wouldn't like the result (the argument from consequences). Once you learn to recognize these abuses of reason, they start to crop up everywhere from congressional debate to YouTube comments—which makes this geek-chic book a must for anyone in the habit of holding opinions.

*Strengthening Forensic Science in the United States* Random House Trade Paperbacks

A sci-fi adventure for kids, written by an author of *The Fallacy Detective*. Use your imagination to travel into space with an evil microwave and learn the importance of Trash Day. This is a small, but feisty, story about Archer and Zowie: two friends who build a spaceship and travel into deep space on purpose but crash on an alien planet by accident. Then, get into a big argument about it. It is also about the mysterious Teleportee. A device so strange it can crumple up and chew on the whole universe in one googlebillionth of a second. In this book Archer and Zowie will battle dark matter, babysitters, teleporting microwave ovens, big penguin aliens, and even the author of this book to come out on the other side . . . very dirty.