

## Fallacy Study Guide

Slippery Slope – Appeal to Fear	Arguing that one bad thing will result in many other bad things.
Confusing Fact with Opinion	Asserting opinions as though they were facts, or discrediting facts as opinions.
Red Herring	Distracting listeners with sensational, irrelevant material
Myth of the Mean	Using an average to hide the problem
Flawed Statistical Comparison	Using percentage increases or decreases to distort reality
Defective Testimony	Omitting when a statement was made or a speaker's credentials; quoting out of context.
Ad Hominem	Attacking the person rather than the point under discussion
Begging the Question	Flowery language or just restating the proposition.
Shaky Principle	Not being able to defend or support the proposition at issue.
Omitted Qualifier	Confusing probability with certainty by asserting a conclusion without qualification
Post Hoc Ergo Proctor Hoc	Assuming because one event follows another that the first event caused the second event.
Non Sequitur	Reasoning in which principles and observations are unrelated to each other or to the conclusion drawn.
Hasty Generalization	Drawing conclusions based on insufficient or non-representative observations.
Faulty Analogy	Comparing things that are dissimilar in some important ways.
Either Or (False Dichotomy)	Framing choices so that listeners think they only have two exclusive options.
Straw Man	Belittling or trivializing arguments to refute them easily.
Ad Populum - Bandwagon	Everyone else is doing it therefore it must be ok.
Appeal to Tradition	This is the way we have done it in the past.
Tu Quoque	Stating that you are justified because your opposition did the same thing. (Two wrongs do not equal a right)