Elements of Deductive and Inductive Reasoning

Name

Institution Affiliation

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The deductive reasoning begins with a hypothesis or a general hypothesis and evaluates the prospects to reach a particular logical deduction. The main elements of the deductive reasoning include argument, first premise, second premise, and inference. An argument forms the basis of reasoning, and it must be present for one to make deductive reasoning. An argument is several statements encompassing one or several premises and a single conclusion. The premise alludes to a statement that offers support or reason for the conclusion. In an argument, there can be single or several premises. The premise justifies the argument to verify it. In a deductive argument, the premises can be multiple or just a single one depending on the nature of an argument. The inference is like a decision made in an argument. It is a concluding statement that shows what the arguing party wishes to convince the audience. This is the point that the speaker is trying to prove in an argument. In the argument, the conclusion can only be a single one.

Inductive reasoning makes extensive generalizations from particular thoughts. Its main elements include data and conclusions. In this approach, there must be data that is analyzed in order to come up with the desired outcomes. The data, in this case, is perceived as the raw information that is processed in order to produce the desired outcome. The other important element is the generalizations or the deductions made from the data. This approach analyzes data to come up with a conclusion. Therefore, without data and conclusion, inductive reasoning cannot exist.

In a legal setting, deductive reasoning denotes shifting from generalized to individualize-that from the rule's statement to its execution to a specific legal case. The majority of the law books highlight the inductive reasoning as then procedure of moving from particular to the general. Therefore, it assumes a primary duty in legal reasoning. However, the use of logic is not sufficient in complicated cases. In the law settings, the lawyers utilize the inductive reasoning to establish a correlation between the available facts, the presented evidence, and the conclusion. The central fact is frequently based on statistics and generalizations, with the inference that an inference is most likely to be true even though that is not obvious (*Atkins v. Virginia*, 2002). Therefore, both deductive and inductive reasoning is critical in legal settings. The elements are tested on the LSAT exams by identifying the flaws and strengths among the element of both inductive and deductive reasoning (*In re Harton*, 2003). The two approaches of logical reasoning are used in biblical settings to make some conclusions about various issues. We acknowledge that Jesus is Lord, and we trust that God resurrected him after he was killed on the cross. Because Jesus died because of our sins, we are saved. In this case, logical reasoning has been used to come up with a conclusion. Therefore, the elements of logical thinking are essential in analyzing a particular argument and come up with a logical conclusion.

References

*Atkins v. Virginia*, 536 U.S. 304, 122 S. Ct. 2242, 153 L. Ed. 2d 335, (2002).

*In re Harton*, 577 S.E.2d 334, 156 N.C. App. 655 (Ct. App. 2003).