

# PROPAGANDA

## SECTION A – TECHNIQUES OF SELF-DECEPTION

1. **PREJUDICE** – The speaker uses his or her own prejudices to try and convince the hearer against a product, person, etc. Also, the prejudice statement is made with malice.

Example: I don't think you should invite Sally to the Christmas program. After all, her last name is Smith.

Example: We can't elect him! He's a Democrat!

Explanation: In both cases, the speaker demonstrates prejudice against someone.

2. **Academic Detachment** – A person uses this when one faces a decision of two choices. Instead of choosing one of the two sides, the person remains neutral and fails to make a choice.

Example: Tommy wants to eat at McDonald's and James wants to go to Burger King. I'm in charge so I say we're staying home and eating peanut butter sandwiches for dinner.

Example: You want to see *Mask* and she wants to see *Clear and Present Danger*. I hate arguments like this so we'll stay home.

Explanation: In both examples, the speaker refuses to make a decision and "cops out" instead.

3. **Drawing the Line** – This is a situation of many possibilities narrowed down to two choices.

Example: I'm going to the store. What kind of pop do you want, Coke or Pepsi?

Example: Advertisement: There are two kinds of mufflers – Borcan mufflers and any old muffler. Don't be disappointed.

Explanation: In both situations, the speaker only gives you two choices when there are really many possibilities which could be chosen.

4. **Not Drawing the Line** – This is a situation where one is given two or more choices but an exception is found or the speaker goes one step further.

Example: You've got cable and premier TV. Why not add a remote control for just \$2 more a month?

Example: Car Salesman: Lady, you've paid extra for a rear defroster, air conditioner, and sun roof. Why not just pay \$500 more for a brand new CD player installed in the car.

Explanation: In both examples, the speaker tries to get you to go a little bit further with a good thing instead of staying within the limits of the original purchases.

5. **Conservatism** – The speaker wants things to stay the same.

Example: I've been going to Ed's Grocery for 25 years. If you think I'm switching to Foodmart, you're crazy.

**Radicalism:** The speaker wants things to change.

Example: I know Martin has run the club well for five years. But new people have new ideas. A change in leadership just has to be good.

**Moderatism:** The speaker likes to reach a compromise.

Example: The budget freeze is neither a conservative nor liberal proposal but is supported by both Republicans and Democrats.

**6. Rationalization – The speaker makes excuses for an event that happened or for his own short comings.**

Example: Of course I didn't win the tennis match. I injured my foot moving boxes for my father yesterday!

Example: I didn't do well on the test because I didn't get enough sleep last night, Miss Stephenson. Can I have another try at it?

Explanation: Both speakers can't accept what happened so they make excuses.

**7. Wishful Thinking – An idea you proclaim to be true just because you want it to be true.**

Example: I know I'm going to win the chance to date Brad Pitt. I have sent ten entry blanks, and have been his devoted fan for years.

Example: I know I'll be a doctor. After all, don't most doctors have awful handwriting?

Explanation: In both situations, the speaker really believes what they want to happen will happen even though there is nothing concrete to support their belief.

**8. Tabloid Thinking – This speaker tends to stereotype everyone and everything by making generalizations or oversimplifying.**

Example: He's going home from school early? I bet he's in big trouble.

Example: You know how Charley will act. Why, he's one of those long-haired guys. You can't count on them.

Explanation: Both examples show that the speaker automatically groups people based upon his own stereotypical ideas of how things are.

**9. Casual Oversimplification – The speaker takes a cause and effect situation and tries to explain it in over simplistic terms.**

Example: The ozone layer has been affected ever since we sent a man into outer space. That's what you get for messing up our fragile ecosystems

Example: If you want to be successful, simply fall in love with your job.

Explanation: Both speakers take a cause and effect situation that has many sides to it and explain it with a very simple answer.

**10. Inconceivability – The speaker's way of thinking is based on the fact that he will not accept any other answer.**

Example: There's no way he can win the election. How can he possibly win enough states to be elected?

Example: Since Ballhead state in all its history has never won the conference title, I just can't picture them winning it this year.

Explanation: The speakers declare a proposition to be false simply because they do not believe it can happen.

**0. NO TECHNIQUE**

# Propaganda Definitions

## Section A

### You Can Fool Yourself.

#### Techniques of Self-Deception

1. Prejudice

You prejudge before you really learn about a person or group. You often prejudge based on indoctrination, conditioning or some prior experience which could be pleasant or unpleasant. The person who is prejudiced has strong and deep emotional reasons why he or she prejudices.

2. Academic Detachment

When a decision needs to be made, as in a voting situation for example, you give an argument for both sides of an issue but won't commit one way or the other. You refuse to make a commitment or decision when action is demanded.

3. Drawing the Line

You make a sharp distinction or division where it is inappropriate to draw sharp distinctions.

You view things as either Black or White even though the issue isn't that clear cut.

4. Not Drawing the Line

You don't stop at your preset limits; you are always just doing "a little more." You ask "what's the big deal if I have one more."

Your over indulgence is acceptable as long as it's just a small over indulgence.

5. Conservatism, Radicalism, Moderatism

You are Conservative if you ALWAYS prefer what is old and familiar, simply because it is old and familiar.

You are Radical if you ALWAYS prefer the new and revolutionary, just because of its newness.

You are Moderate if you ALWAYS choose the middle of the road or compromise ground; if you always avoid the two extremes.

6. Rationalization

After something happens, you try to think up a good reason why you did what you did.

Most of the time, you know that your reasons are not very creditable or even believable.

7. Wishful Thinking

You want something (in the future) to be true or correct simply because you want it to be so.

8. Tabloid Thinking

You prefer quick summaries and like to "put things in a nutshell." You stereotype people or issues with simple phrases. You have no deep-set emotions toward those people or issues; you just like to describe them with catchy phrases.

9. Causal Oversimplification

You explain a complex event or issue by saying it has only one cause, when MANY causes are really responsible. You are simplifying the cause of an event, not the event itself.

10. Inconceivability

You believe a proposition or plan to be false simply because you can not conceive or consider that the proposition could actually ever happen.

Watch out for '0' or *No Technique*. If the argument is logical or is identified as an opinion then 0 (No Technique) is the correct answer.

## Propaganda Examples – Section A Grouped by Technique

### 0. No Technique

1. Mrs. Pratt knows she was rationalizing. Before we criticize Mrs. Pratt, we should ask ourselves if maybe we rationalize sometimes too.
2. Dr. Williams is one of the most prolific professors at the University. His bibliography of publications is longer than any of his colleagues. (not Ambiguity)
3. When we realize that millions of dollars are spent on commercial art and for illustrations in printed material, we can see how powerful art is as a propaganda device.
4. My friend, Jimmy, says that he likes only two kinds of girls: those with blonde hair and those who don't have blond hair. (not Drawing the Line)
5. In America, if a defendant is not proven guilty, he or she is presumed innocent.
6. In order to qualify for law school, a person must have a test score of at least 700 on the Law School Achievement Test. Helen scored 690. For this reason, Helen was not admitted to law school. (not Drawing the Line)
7. If only David were a woman or a minority, we would hire him. However, our District Office of Civil Rights guidelines are clear – we must hire a woman or minority at this time. I sure hate to lose David. (not Prejudice)
8. Since I do so poorly in math, my parents hired an algebra tutor for me. Although it has taken lots of extra time and work, I have had weekly tutoring sessions and I should do well on the first quarter exam. (not Wishful Thinking)
9. I know that I stopped short of getting my doctorate because I did not write a dissertation. But I had made a decision at the time to focus on raising my children. I do not regret, nor do I second-guess my decision now.
10. Yes, I know that visiting my daughter at college last weekend cost me an opportunity to be named to the local Board of Elections. I was conscious of that potential loss. If I had to do it over again, I would make the same choice.
11. Because there are no signs of Russia's serious desire to negotiate an arms agreement, it's reasonable to think that they have no such desire.
12. I wish now that I had saved my money to buy a new bike. That new one is really neat. Oh, well, I had a great time with my money on that trip I took last summer. It was my choice.
13. Teacher-Advisor to 9th grade boy: "You know, Ron, drinking alcohol regularly can affect you seriously. Men and women who drink lose a lot of time at work and often have troubles with their families. The local Recovery Organizations are filled with people who have messed up their lives by drinking. Even when folks seem to handle drinking OK, it is clear that their work or their schoolwork suffers a lot. I wish that you would reconsider and stop drinking." (not Causal Oversimplification)
14. Whenever I get a chance to pay more money to reduce our mortgage, I do it. In the long run, it saves us a *great* deal of money. It just makes sense.
15. I studied hard for this test. I really know the material. I'm confident I will do well. (not Wishful Thinking)
16. Mattie is tall and strong. She has quick-as-a-cat reflexes. And she has played three years as goalie on a competitive team. We need her as our travel team keeper. (not Prejudice)

**Propaganda Examples – Section A**  
**Grouped by Technique**

17. Yes, our original deadline for deciding on the new computer vendor was today. But we have not yet heard from two of the major companies that we deal with. If we do not wait for their prices, we may not get the best deal for our school. I think we should wait for a couple of more days to receive all the information that will help us make the best decision. (not Not Drawing the Line)
18. Candidate for President: "As we consider foreign policy, we must keep foremost in mind our long-term, unwavering support for the nation of Israel. We have supported Israel since its founding, and we must not stop now." (not Conservatism)
19. Student running for class president: "For the past three years, you have elected my opponent. However, he has done nothing for us. In fact, when asked to account for how our dues money has been spent, he refused to answer. It's time for a change. I promise to spend our dues money wisely and to give you a report on how it is spent down to the penny."
20. The Republican Party in the White House has meant tax cuts for the wealthy in each of the last five Republican administrations. The Republican candidates tell us that is what they stand for this time. We should believe them.
21. Business owner: "I refuse to discuss the issue of equal pay for equal work with Mary. She is not the workers' representative and has no authority to negotiate with us." (not Prejudice)
22. Even though Jerry has gotten into trouble before, there's no way that he could've broken that window. He was out shopping with his mother and wasn't even around when it happened.
23. One of the things that you need to do to be ready for your interview tomorrow is get a good night's sleep. You have practiced your interview and laid out your best clothes and prepared a good résumé. Now, relax and get a good night's sleep to give yourself the best chance at the job.
24. Ad for Atlanta Center for Cosmetic Dentistry: "Dr. King and Dr. Chessman bring a combined 25 years of experience to every case they perform. And they perform thousands of cosmetic dental enhancements every year."
25. High school baseball coach to a player: "Look! I'm tired of you not really making an effort to play baseball and help your team. If you don't try your best during this game, I'm removing you from the team."
- ~~26. Let's wait a few more days before writing that report. We still have a couple of weeks to finish it. Let's make it the best we can. (not Not Drawing the Line)~~

**Propaganda Examples – Section A  
Grouped by Technique**

**1. Prejudice**

1. Students should not be allowed to help make course decisions. Why, they don't even have degrees.
2. Let's not play with Johnny. He's crippled. Handicapped people are no fun anyway.
3. Mom to her daughter: "No, honey, you cannot go out with Musalah tonight. He's some sort of Muslim. I don't want you associating with him."
4. He may live in the United States, but he's an Arab, just like Saddam Hussein. Don't trust him at all.
5. I gotta believe he'll be a great President. He's a Democrat, and he's NOT from the South!
6. I don't vote for Democrats. Clinton can improve the economy, solve problems in foreign countries, and cut the deficit, and I still wouldn't vote for him for reelection.
7. The Medicaid proposal sounds like a good one. But those Northern Republican legislators are pushing it. I cannot see voting for it.
8. Small business owner: "I see that Reynaldo is a Guatemalan. They are all quiet, hard-working, and happy-go-lucky. I don't need to interview him. Go ahead and hire him."
9. Superintendent of Schools Mollie Pitchford: "I am not going to appoint Ronald Benton as principal of Adams High School. All these men think of is sports, and they pamper the coaches."
10. As long as your university recognizes the Morgan Green Alumni Chapter, you will not receive any donations from our company.
11. I used to be a Greg Norman and Lee Trevino golf fan, but I recently learned that Bernhard Langer is a Christian. Now I pull for Langer to win every tournament.
12. Mr. Harrelson, we are sorry to let you know that your application for a position with our firm has been denied. For the past ten years, we have limited our new employees to graduates from the Ivy League schools, plus the University of Chicago. We find that this works best for us. We hope that you will be able to find satisfactory employment elsewhere.
13. It makes no difference that I agree with almost everything that Roger Robinson stands for. I know that he is ethical and honest and has a record of doing what he says he will do. But he is a Republican – he won't get my vote.
14. Little brother to big brother: "Can I play basketball with you and your friends after school today?"  
Big brother: "We don't play with kids your age."
15. Miranda, I cannot go out with Robby. He is really dreamy and super nice to me. But he is an Anglo, and I am Puerto Rican. My Mom and Dad would kill me if I brought him home.
16. Except for the severely handicapped, all people on welfare could find work but are too lazy to do so. So they should not be given welfare out of our hard earned tax dollars. We should do away with welfare except for the severely handicapped.
17. Son: "Dad, why don't we kneel down when we pray?"  
Father: "Because Catholics kneel when they pray. We don't want to be like them."

**Propaganda Examples – Section A**  
**Grouped by Technique**

18. I want to be on the same basketball team as Jerome. He's from the inner city; so he must be good.
19. We are not going to hire Mark Miller for that engineering spot. I know that he has the highest rating of our candidates. But we are going to hire Tam Nguyen instead. Asians just have higher intellects.
20. Daughter to her mother: "You want me to go to the movies with John? No way! He will talk the whole way through the film. After all, he is from an Italian family."
21. I know you like the home in Jonah's Place. But I don't feel comfortable in that neighborhood. Let's move into Admiration Point instead. Most of our Jewish friends are there.
22. I don't care about rave reviews in London and Paris. The Russian Ballet will not dance in my theatre. This is America and I hire American acts.
23. My mom says that my sister can be friends with Jack, but she cannot marry him. We are Italian Catholics, and Jack is an Englishman who has no religion.
24. Sarah, you shouldn't date an Hispanic man. I've dated one before, and they're all the same. They're too persistent, overly emotional, and they always need to have their way. You really don't need that in a relationship, do you?
25. Mother to daughter: "No, you may not go to the party with Francois. I heard the party is not going to be chaperoned, and I certainly don't want you hanging around with a French foreign exchange student unsupervised!"
26. Democratic voter the day after Democratic Senator Paul Wellstone died in a plane crash: "If it had been a Republican Senator, the first question George Bush would have asked would have been, 'Was the pilot a Muslim?' The first question Senator Trent Lott would have asked would have been, 'Was the pilot a Negro?'"
27. Arab terrorists are threatening our way of life. I want to be safe. We need to get rid of all Arabs in the U.S. Racial profiling is the only way to be safe.
28. Senator Robin Morris has more than 20 years of political experience in Washington D.C. I agree with all her ideas for changing our country. However, I just don't know if America is ready to have a woman president. I'll be safe and vote for Vice-President Cushing for president. Running our country is a man's job.
29. Teacher talking to another teacher: "Joe was absent yesterday, the day of the test. When he came back today, I told him, 'How convenient to be absent just the day of the test.' He gave some story about being sick. But when a student misses just the day of a test, I don't believe a word he says about why he was absent. He was just avoiding the test."
30. Choosing a new member for our academic games team is like selecting a fine wine to complement a dinner. It must accentuate the flavors of the meal, work well with all portions of the dish, and, of course, not be overbearing. Likewise, our new member must complement our current teammates and be able to work well with all of them. For these reasons, Francesca should be avoided. With a team of all boys, she will certainly not fit in and will prove to be more of a hindrance than an asset.
31. Teacher: "As soon as he walked into my classroom wearing sneakers, I had a negative opinion of him. In my experience, students who wear sneakers to class find it hard to concentrate."

**Propaganda Examples – Section A**  
**Grouped by Technique**

32. High school girl to a friend: "Jeffrey invited me to go to the school dance this week. I know he's cute and just about the perfect date, but I said no. His family is poor and I really can't be seen dating him. What will my other friends think?"
33. Chief of Police at a news conference: "Any Ethnikians spotted walking in a predominantly Homo Sapiens neighborhood will be stopped for questioning."
34. Mike Archer says he is qualified to be the new football coach because of his background as an assistant coach. However, I don't trust him. He's only 33 – too young to be a major college head coach.
35. You know how Charley will act. Why, he's one of those long-haired guys – you can't count on them.



**Propaganda Examples – Section A**  
**Grouped by Technique**

**2. Academic Detachment**

1. I don't know whether that statement is "prejudice" or "tabloid thinking," so I'll pass on this one.
2. I have a math test and an English test tomorrow. I don't know which one to study harder for, so I'll just wait to see how I do. Next time I'll study harder for whichever subject had the more difficult test.
3. I am so sick of politics in our state, with the reformers on one side and the crooks on the other, that it is really not worth the effort to go to the polls.
4. "Don't bother me, boy," said the Sheriff. "If the Hatfields and the McCoys are shooting it out again, there's nothing for us to do but to keep out of the way."
5. The football coach met with his quarterback on the sidelines prior to a crucial play near the end of a close game. They discussed possible running plays and possible passing plays. The coach told the quarterback to call the play he, the quarterback, thought best.
6. Suburban businessman: "Yes, I have read much of what the so-called militant organizers have written, and I must say that I agree with a lot of it. But I am also sympathetic to the college administrators and government officials who have the responsibility for running this country. I really can't see getting involved in any protests."
7. I was going to vote for Bagert, the Republican candidate. Then he pulled out of the race. I felt betrayed and didn't like either of the remaining candidates, so I stayed home on Election Day.
8. Leslie talking to her sister Jessica: "I don't know; they've both asked me to the dance, and Curtis is kind of cute; but Terry is so good looking. I know I'll just have to decide sooner or later, but I couldn't do it now to save my soul! Tell them I'm not home if either one calls."
9. I'm not sure whether to ask Bubba, who is a football player, to the prom or Lefty, who is the star pitcher of the baseball team. So I think I'll ask my best friend's brother who isn't an athlete at all.
10. If the Democrats' health plan is implemented, I am going to have to pay more for many health services. On the other hand, many of my friends now have no health care and the Democratic plan will help them. I can't figure out what message to send to my Senator. I will let her decide.

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11. Senator Flaxmore's views on Medicare are really worth considering. Congressman Deebop has quite a different point of view and she is a powerful force in the House. I'm not sure who is right. I'm going to let them fight it out.
12. Candidate for Senator: "Economic sanctions against South American nations have a lot of positives. But if we implement such sanctions, it could kill some of our retail business here in the States. My decision will be a tough one when you give me your trust and elect me."
13. My sister Kristy insists that Dr. Payne is the best dentist around. But my husband claims that his dentist, Dr. Molar, is the best. How do I know for sure? My teeth have some pain, but I'm going to wait another six months before I go to see one of them.

**Propaganda Examples – Section A**  
**Grouped by Technique**

14. Our two local Water Management District candidates have each been rotten campaigners. All they do is sling mud at one another. It is hard to find out what either of them stands for. I refuse to vote for either.
15. I've heard so many arguments for and against O. J. Simpson's guilt that I can't make up my mind.
16. Honey, I know that the deadline for kindergarten admission to the Christian Private School is Friday. But the Bernard Private Academy looks great also. We need more time to decide about our son's educational future.
17. Senator Johnson's views on Medicare are really worth considering. Congresswoman Smith has quite a different point of view, and she is a powerful force in the House. I'm not sure who is right. I'll let them fight it out.
18. Middle School student: "Boy, I am struggling with my cigarette smoking! My Mom and Dad really want me to stop and I know that the doctors say it is going to hurt me. But I really like the taste of them and the other kids really think that I am cool when I smoke. Boy, it's tough to know what to do. I just cannot decide right now."
19. When I went to the gift shop, I could not make up my mind which beanie baby I wanted most. Erin was beautiful, but so was Princess. So I decided I would wait to buy one when I had enough money to purchase both.
20. I really want to play on a good team, and although my best friends play for the Tigers, the better athletes are on the Lions. I think I'll wait to see which coach calls me first.
21. With the school elections just days away, I know I have to decide whom to vote for. On the one hand, Mary is one of my best friends. Yet Samantha is better qualified for the position. I do not want to hurt Mary's feelings; so I guess I just will not vote.
22. I know I said I was going to buy a new sofa today, but there was a problem. I did like the leather one with the recliner; however there was another one that had a super soft hide-away-bed. Asking me to choose between the two is like asking you to pick between your favorite college and professional football teams. You just can't do it!
23. Gardener: "I could plant roses in this flowerbed, and it could bloom from spring through fall. On the other hand, I could plant a wide mixture of other flowers in the same area and have a rainbow of colors during the same time span. I'll have to see what my wife thinks. I'll let her decide."
24. Dad said that I could have a treat this weekend, but I ended up not going. The baseball game was great but far away, and the beach party at the lake was going to include some girls I didn't really like.
25. Candice: "Tomorrow is the big election. Are you going to vote for Smith or Jones?"  
Drew: "Well, Smith is a huge advocate of animal rights, and I support that 100%. However, Jones is a strong environmentalist and works hard to clean up our community, and I'm always looking for that in a candidate. So I'm not going to decide now. I'll do it later."
26. I asked my college advisor whether I should take Introductory Calculus or Physics my first semester. She told me, "They're both good. Take either one."

**Propaganda Examples – Section A**  
**Grouped by Technique**

27. My friend David has very little energy. His girl friend tells him to take allergy medicines. His doctor has recommended a prescription drug. I have told him about Juice Plus, a juice and vegetable product. He can't decide what to take and goes around feeling tired all the time.
28. There are so many entrees on the menu. I'm not sure what I want for dinner. I think I'll just pass and get something later.
29. Mother speaking to her children: "I really should go shopping today. The Weather Channel is predicting that a tropical storm will hit us tomorrow morning. I could shop tomorrow; the weather channel isn't always 100% accurate. It would be nice to just stay home and get some work done around the house. What do you kids think I should do?"
30. In most decisions today, the Democrats reject the constitutional principles of moral decency and respect for life. The Republicans who are in power seem to profess those principles but are unwilling to take political risks to support their beliefs. I will not vote for either.
31. I can't decide whether I'd like peanut butter and jelly or peanut butter and bananas for lunch. They both sound so delicious, and they would be awful all mixed together. I'll ask Peyton what she'd prefer; she always makes the best decisions.

**Propaganda Examples – Section A  
Grouped by Technique**

**3. Drawing the Line**

1. Mary fell into the pool. "Sink or swim!" yelled her roommate.
2. Life insurance salesman to client: "Do you want to invest in this \$100,000 whole life policy now to insure your present and provide for your future, or are you going to have to work forever, even after retirement?"
3. College students are either not knowledgeable enough to teach, or so filled with high-sounding facts that they can't explain their ideas to high school students.
4. If you're against the Contra revolutionaries in Nicaragua, you're for Communism.
5. Do you feel Medicare for the aged is right, or are you going to condemn them to an early death?
6. A question asked of Florida citizens about Cubans moving into the state: "Are we going to keep the Cubans out or is our community going to go straight downhill?"
7. A questionnaire distributed to college students contained the question, "Would you rather work with Establishment or protest groups?"
8. Either these secretaries of ours will have to get on the ball, or we'll have to close the office.
9. Representative Richard Gephardt asked fellow candidate Senator Albert Gore the following: "If I get to 52% in the polls in New Hampshire, will you start attacking me like you attacked Governor Dukakis?"
10. School board member: "We can't let them have the raise they're asking for. If we do, every other teachers group in the state will campaign for higher pay and ours will simply campaign again in two years for better benefits. We've got to hold back some."
11. Advertisement: "There are two kinds of mufflers: Borcan mufflers and any old muffler. Don't be disappointed."
12. Boy to girlfriend: "Look, either you go to the movies with me or you will be staying home by yourself."
13. Son, you're either going to school and make something of yourself or you're going to be a beggar all your life.
14. We must fight Russia now or give up all our cherished liberties.
15. When news of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait reached President Bush, his response was immediate and assertive. There is no room for compromise. Iraq must remove its troops, unconditionally, from all Kuwaiti territory, or we will forcibly move them out.
16. The choice in this election is clear. Do we want a progressive and properly run school board, or do we want a return to the politicking days of the good ol' boys and widespread corruption?
17. A vote for me is a vote against higher taxes and for reform of the liberal welfare system. A vote for my opponent is a vote for more taxes and more control by special interest groups.
18. People have to be able to choose their own doctors without any restrictions at all. Any limitation is an unacceptable health care plan.

**Propaganda Examples – Section A**  
**Grouped by Technique**

19. President Clinton should come clean on Whitewater or resign.
20. You have to support the president in trying to keep the Cubans out of America. If you don't, you will destroy all the decent communities of the Southeast.
21. From a radio ad: "Be one of the lucky customers to buy at Wild Bill's Nissan, or go to another dealer and pay too much."
22. Congressman referring to student demonstrations in his district: "If the student protestors can't love their country and accept their government's policies, they should pack up their bags and become citizens of another country."
23. Car salesperson to customer: "These models are selling fast; so if you want this car, you'd better buy it today."
24. We must blockade Cuba at once, or Cuba will soon control Latin America.
25. Mr. Mitchell doesn't remember telling Mr. Dean to pay off Hunt; therefore, Mr. Dean was lying when he said that Mr. Mitchell told him to pay off Hunt.
26. Father to son: "It is your choice. Either get a job or move out!"
27. Mother to daughter while shopping: "You can have either the Tommy Hilfiger jeans or the Nike running shoes."
28. Mother: "I'm sorry you didn't like the dinner I cooked you."  
Son: "Why do you think I didn't like it?"  
Mother: "Because you didn't say you liked it."
29. We interviewed three people for the job, and we need to pick one now. We have waited too long already. Pick one of these three today.
30. I cannot understand the position of some of you residents of Kentucky. The Civil War has begun. You must take a stand either for the Union or the Confederacy. You cannot remain neutral. Make your decision now.
31. In a news conference, the president said, "Over time, it's going to be important for nations to know they will be held accountable for inactivity," he said. "You're either with us or against us in the fight against terror."
32. Mother to daughter: "Either have a family or have a career, but you can't have both!"
33. Ad: "Buy your furniture at 'Rooms To Go.' Anywhere else and you will receive lower quality and higher prices."
34. "America: Love it, or leave it."

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35. U.S. President: "The Middle East will either become free and democratic or it will continue to be the exporter of terrorism."
36. Professor Theodore Post called for an investigation of the university research lab, which receives millions of dollars in funding from the Defense Department. Edward Crawley, the head of the aeronautics department, led an inquiry and initially found no wrongdoing. But after Post challenged this, Crawley recommended a full investigation. That hasn't happened yet. "I'm pursuing this to the end," Post says. "Either they get rid of me, or I get rid of them."
37. School Board member: "Our new superintendent must understand how to use technology to improve education. If you don't know how to use computers to increase student learning, don't bother to apply for the job."

**Propaganda Examples – Section A**  
**Grouped by Technique**

38. Commit to the extra soccer practices and forget your extra study time. If you don't, your team has no chance in the Regional Tournament.
39. Was there a phone call for me, or was it a wrong number again?

**Propaganda Examples – Section A**  
**Grouped by Technique**

**4. Not Drawing the Line**

1. I know I've already had eight beers, but one more won't make any difference in the way I drive.
2. Steve shot and kept one duck more than the limit. He told the Game Warden, "Well, who's going to miss this one duck? You have so many in this area, you don't know what to do with them all."
3. We have already sent 500,000 troops to Vietnam. We have committed ourselves. If things worsen, we will have to send more.
4. Gus, after smoking his first marijuana joint, reasoned that, since he had not been bothered by smoking two packs of cigarettes a day, he would not be affected by smoking marijuana.
5. Open and closed hours at a women's dormitory are perfectly arbitrary. Once you allow men in at all (and nobody objects to that), there is no logical reason why they shouldn't be in at all hours. Let them come and go as they please, I say.
6. I was going to start my diet today, but since there is an all-you-can-eat special in the cafeteria today only, I can wait one more day to begin the torture.
7. It's purely arbitrary to say that a full-time student is one who carries at least 12 hours per quarter. The student who carries 11 hours may do more work. I think all distinctions between part-time and full-time students should be abolished.
8. When Bill had to go to the state tournament with the team, the professor told him it was perfectly all right for him to miss class. So the professor doesn't care whether any of us come to class or not. ???
9. A vote for the Republican candidate is a vote for America.
10. "What difference can one little piece of candy possibly make? I think I'll have one," she said, the day after she decided to diet in order to lose some of her 180 pounds.
11. When caught by the teacher for not doing a reading assignment, Leslie whines that it was late, and she did read all but the last two paragraphs of the whole chapter.
12. After Chris lets the tenth straight pitch cross the plate in batting practice, the coach tells him to get out of the batter's box and let the next batter take a few swings. "One more pitch, Coach," Chris cries; "I promise I'll hit the next one!"
13. Grandmother on a fixed income, opening her mail: "Oh, look, here is another request from the church missionary program. I gave as much as I could last month, but these kids just look so sad and needy. I'll contribute another \$25 this time."
14. Let's wait a few more days before paying the insurance. We still have a week before the due date.
15. State legislator working on an extended session: "This bill has some difficult points that we have to work out. We need a few more days before we can make a decision."
16. The last time the Republicans had the White House, our country went into deep financial debt. The time before that our family lost a lot of real income, too. This year, though, they are promising to change their ways. I think we should both vote Republican in this election, just like we did before.

**Propaganda Examples – Section A**  
**Grouped by Technique**

17. I think it's ridiculous for the Federal government to stop me from getting food stamps just because I make \$16,000 per year. Does that make me rich? The Jones family gets food stamps, and they make \$14,000 per year. They should not have such rules.
18. I think it's ridiculous for you to go around labeling some people as rich and some people as poor. Is someone who makes \$35,000 a year rich? Does \$50,000 make him rich? Does \$28,000 make a person poor?
19. Sam: "Loan me five dollars, please."  
Joe: "No way! You haven't paid back the \$50 I loaned you last week."  
Sam: "Right; so what's five more dollars? Lend it to me."
20. Man ordering at a restaurant: "Now I must order a cheap dinner. Ah, here's a \$5.95 chicken dinner. But wait, for a dollar more I can have a pork dinner that I prefer much more. Wait a minute. For only \$1.50 more, I can have a sirloin steak. Goodness, look at that! Steak *and* shrimp is only a dollar more. That's a bargain. So I'll have the steak and shrimp for \$9.50."
21. Yeah, I know I have to go to the doctor for my back. However, I am extremely busy today. What is one more day?
22. Yes, sir; I know that McCarthy Middle School has already received a new file server, the latest Novell operating system, and 40 new Pentium lab work stations. But our network is really slow. We need to upgrade our network this year to the latest fast Ethernet speeds.
23. Girl to her mother: "I know that I promised you I would stop drinking, but I'm going out with friends tonight, and they will think I'm weird if I don't even have a little. I promise I will stop tomorrow."
24. There's not a dime worth of difference between the Democrats and the Republicans. So vote for the person who looks better on TV.
25. Mother: "I told you, if you came home late one more time you would be grounded for a month."  
Son: "But mom, this time was different. On the way home, Mark ran out of gas, and we had to walk to the nearest gas station to find some help."  
Mother: "Well, I suppose I can let it slide one more time, but next time you'll be grounded for sure!"
26. If only I had more time. Patricia is bugging me to finish my story so that she can put together our community storybook. But I just can't seem to get this final chapter done. I need a couple of more days.
27. President Bush: "My budget includes the largest increase in defense spending in two decades. While the price of freedom and security is high, it is never too high. Whatever it costs to defend our country, we will pay."
28. The Bush administration has pushed for the repeal of a 10-year ban on research and development of "low-yield" nuclear weapons. Opposing the repeal on the Senate floor, Senator Ted Kennedy asked: "Is half a Hiroshima OK? Is a quarter Hiroshima OK? Is a little mushroom cloud OK? That's absurd. The issue is too important. If we build it, we'll use it."



**Propaganda Examples – Section A**  
**Grouped by Technique**

29. I have flown on a commercial jet between New York and London. I have been a passenger on a Concorde supersonic flight between New York and London. They've both been safe. Teleportation Incorporated has announced the sale of tickets for a commercial suborbital flight between New York and London. I have to experience suborbital flight. It's the next step.
30. I've lost all my money in the casino except these last two chips. Why don't I just bet both of them and see if my luck will improve?
31. Writer to editor: "I've been working very hard on this article to make sure I've covered all angles of the story. It's going to be a show stopping piece, I swear! I also know that I'm already three days over the deadline. That's why I'm sure you won't mind giving me two more days to finish this extraordinary article that will knock your socks off!"
32. Customer at a movie theater: "I'd like a medium popcorn, please."  
Cashier: "Would you like to upgrade to a large for only a quarter more?"
33. All my friends have been telling me about *CURVES*, a great workout salon. It is convenient, non-threatening, and for women only. My husband is concerned about the bad effect my increased weight might have on my health. But I've already waited this long. I'll look into it next week and maybe sign up next month.

**Propaganda Examples – Section A**  
**Grouped by Technique**

**5. Conservatism, Radicalism, Moderatism**

1. The budget freeze is neither a conservative nor liberal proposal but is supported by both Republicans and Democrats.
2. I see no reason to use plastic bags in our grocery. Schwegmann's has been using paper grocery bags since 1892.
3. What do you mean, "Extend the city limits and we'll have a bigger tax base?" Why, Point City has never included outskirts before and we won't now.
4. Everything's old fashioned about Old Taylor whiskey. If you have a heart for the past, ask for Old Taylor; you'll never leave it.
5. If elected, I will represent the great majority of Middle America – the people of wisdom and common sense who know how to keep within due bounds.
6. I know Martin has run the club well for five years. But new people have new ideas. A change in leadership just has to be good.
7. Introducing the Brockwell all-electric car! For those who want tomorrow today! For people on the move! For those who are content with nothing less than the latest and best!
8. I'd rather stick with Gordon's advertising plan. His plans earned us \$20,000 per year for the last five years. I know that Frank projects earnings of \$80,000 next year with his plan, but let's try Gordon for another year.
9. We'd better stick with that old style barbed wire fence. It's been on the market for years. I just don't trust this new-fangled electric fence.
10. I think we should stick with our Chrysler Corporation cars. They have been around for 50 years. I think it is a mistake to go for the Mazda cars. I just don't trust those new-fangled cars.
11. Ladies and gentlemen of the Senate: Congress has suggested a 15 cent tax surcharge on a gallon of gas, but Americans have reacted in record numbers with voices of sternest protest to any new tax increases. May I suggest we temper this rash action by only bilking the public for seven cents on a gallon of gas?
12. Elderly man arguing with a Protestant minister who brings forth Biblical evidence to support his beliefs: "I was born a Catholic, I was raised a Catholic, and by gum I'm gonna DIE a Catholic!"
13. Are you for progress, or are you hopelessly stuck in the past? If you want progress, you'll favor this new idea. If you're stuck in the past, then you won't even consider it.
14. Head basketball coach to his assistants: "Sure, I know that Big Country is 7 feet tall and 290 pounds of muscle, and that we don't have anybody that can handle him inside. But we have been a man-to-man defensive team all year. I'm going to stick with what got us here."
15. The schools today are not helping students to learn. Major change is needed, like abandoning tests, loosening rigid schedules, removing the authority of teachers, and abolishing grades in favor of periodic progress reports.
16. Introducing the Kangaroo Caddie Command. The ultimate remote control for those who want tomorrow today. For golfers who are content with nothing less than the latest and the best.

**Propaganda Examples – Section A**  
**Grouped by Technique**

17. From an ad for a funeral parlor: "A lot has changed since 1874 when Smith's was founded. However, Smith's principles of service and support have not changed."
18. Commandant at a military school speaking to the press: "This military institute was founded on the principle of training young men to be leaders, in both the military and the business world. For over 150 years, we have followed those precepts set for us by our founders. To change those traditions now by allowing women to enter would be heresy."
19. Why take a chance? Franklin Investment Corporation has successfully managed the funds of millions of people during its 50-year history. Mail in the postage-paid card or call Franklin today for a free brochure.
20. Financial investor: "Throughout the 1980s my clients got rich with Fidelity Magellan and 20th Century Ultra. I know that the political climate is different now, but I am keeping my people with proven winners."
21. Principal speaking to assistant principal: "Some of our kids are dressing indecently or wearing clothes that are way too fancy. We have to set some standards for clothing here. On the other hand, we have to be careful to give them some room to express themselves by what they wear. Find us a dress code that will allow us to do both."
22. Chairman at a stormy committee meeting: "Let's all calm down. Let's listen to each other. Then we can reach an agreement that we can all live with."
23. Ad: "For over 70 years, one publication has stood out from the crowd as an indispensable resource for business leaders. That publication is *The Harvard Business Review*."
24. Toy manufacturer: "What do you say we update our Classic Monster line of toys this year?"  
Toy salesman: "I don't know. Kids seem to like their monsters to look pretty much the same every year. You know – Dracula in his black cape with vampire teeth dripping blood."  
Manufacturer: "Yeah, but I had this picture of Vampira with a totally new look this year – short orange hair, a leather miniskirt, tennis shoes with black cat emblems, riding a Dirt Devil electric broom. I say we go for it!"
25. From a letter from a lending company: "We have been helping homeowners like you. ~~And we've been doing it for over 50 years. If you need money, pick up the~~ phone and give us a call."
26. Although the library has been on the third floor since the school was built, it is time to change our habits and move it to the basement.
27. Fred: "Mom, I cannot take it any more! I refuse to go to Dr. Gums."  
Mom: "But, honey, he has been your dentist since you got your first tooth."  
Fred: "I know, Mom, but he is a child's dentist, and I am no longer a child. Good grief, I'm 19 years old. Don't I deserve to go to an adult's dentist?"
28. Assistant Football Coach: "I would like to show you some new plays I came up with."  
Head Football Coach: "I'm not interested in any new plays. I haven't changed a play in the past ten years, and we've done pretty well so far."

**Propaganda Examples – Section A**  
**Grouped by Technique**

29. Candidate for mayor: "After traveling the state, I realized that our city is due for some change. Look at our buildings; they're out of the 70's. Moreover, our roads need widening, our sewage system needs to be redone, and our landscape needs updating. Put me in office and the next time you look outside, you'll see a modern city."
30. I cannot believe that we are still teaching reading by that old phonics system. My grandmother was taught that way. We need to switch to the new whole language approach. It is in all the recent language arts magazines. Our students will improve.
31. I think it is a mistake to mourn the disappearance of the traditional world of work. Sure, one has sympathy for the employees laid off in mid-life, but we should focus on the younger generation, the world they will live in, and the attitudes and perspectives they must adopt in order to flourish and thrive.
32. "Coal is a 19th-century fuel that has no place in 21st-century Canada," said Jack Gibbons of the Canadian Clean Air Alliance.
33. Ad for American Express appearing in magazines before the 2004 Olympics in Greece: "You'll be in Athens a few days. We've been here 67 years. Let US show you around."
34. Honey, I met Dr. Phil Denture at church today. Several people have told me how great he is. I know that Dr. Incisor has been good for our family for the past fifteen years. Our kids have great teeth because of him. But I think it is time for a change. Let's make appointments with Dr. Denture.
35. Wife to Husband: "I've always arranged the dishes so that the glasses are in the left cabinet, and the plates and bowls are in the right cabinet. Now that we have our new place, I think we should stick to our ways. Everything will be so much easier to find if we do."
36. Wife to husband: "I need to change something every six months: new pets, new office furniture. I need variety."
37. Ad for the Volkswagen Phaeton: "In 1997, our chairman made an announcement: 'We are going to make the best car in the world. And we're going to make it from scratch.' By starting from scratch, we were able to invent some new forms of technology. And we were able to build a revolutionary new factory in Dresden. The result was a superb automobile."
38. Ad: "We know you wouldn't trust your health insurance to just anyone. Humana Inc. has been a trusted member of the healthcare community for more than 40 years. From our roots as one of the largest hospital organizations in the nation, we are dedicated to insuring the healthcare of people and their families."
39. Automobile ad: "Hang on to your change. The all new, all-wheel drive Saab with all-wheel drive handling, road-blistering performance, and 5-door versatility."
40. A judge's order may not overrule the chief executive or make new laws. It has been that way since our founding fathers. We cannot let our judges run wild.
41. Keep this in mind. Although there are now four plumbing firms in this town, we were the first and only for a long time.

**Propaganda Examples – Section A**  
**Grouped by Technique**

**6. Rationalization**

1. Student: "I know the school dress code forbids tank tops, but my Mama was at work. I didn't know how to operate the washer, and the tank top is the only clean garment I had."
2. A worker, after being turned down for a promotion in her department, said, "I never had a chance. Clara had the inside track with the boss all along. She knew him from many years ago."
3. So what if I didn't pay taxes on my second job? My employer didn't declare me as an employee of his firm.
4. Dad, I couldn't remember exactly what time you said to be in. But all my friends had to be in by 12, so I figured that's what you said to me.
5. A writer who has had nothing accepted for publication: "In a world that's a mess like ours, no one can and no one should function successfully."
6. I can't feel too bad about not sending aid to the Pakistan victims. They probably wouldn't have received it in time anyway.
7. Apprehended shoplifter: "Oh, so what, it's not really expensive. And they'll never miss it anyway. It serves them right for charging twice what it's worth."
8. Even though I have two weeks to read this book, I'll wait until the day before I go back to school. That way it will be fresh in my mind and I will remember more.
9. I know I had a bad trip and lost my job from taking cocaine. But it's important to me to try all that exists in this world.
10. The student, knowing full well that he had not been studying lately, blamed his poor grades on the hot, stuffy classroom and what he considered to be boring presentations by the teacher.
11. "If only I'd listened to my mother and finished school," the convict told the judge. "I know I'd have learned a trade and never appeared before this court accused of robbery. But such is not often the choice of a kid raised in the ghetto, your honor!"
12. In explaining to his mother how he failed the test, David said his stomach was hurting before he went to school and he didn't get a proper breakfast either.
13. Employee who is consistently late for work: "Doggone it, I didn't get that promotion again this time. My boss just has it in for me. There is nothing I can do about it."

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14. I'm sorry I missed the telecast of man's first walk on the moon, but I had a big science test to study for the next morning. It was important to me to pass the test.
15. That scoundrel Roger Vance had the meeting controlled to go his own way no matter what. That's why nobody in the group agreed with what I had to say.
16. That was an incredible tournament we attended last week. I am disappointed, though, that I was not selected to the All-Tournament Team. That selection committee must have been stacked with coaches from the other side of the state.
17. Propaganda player: "I know I bombed on Section A, but I'm not the only one. Two other people in my group had minus totals. Those questions were just too hard."
18. Mike Tyson *had* to bite Holyfield's ear during the boxing match. Holyfield had head-butted Tyson several times and was not penalized for it.

## Propaganda Examples – Section A Grouped by Technique

19. Mom, I'm sorry I got a D on my report card, but I just couldn't help it. Ever since the beginning of the year, my teacher has been out to get me. She just does not like me!
20. Boy to his father: "I know I should have done my homework, but I just did not have time. If I missed football practice, I would be kicked off the team. Then all the money you spent on equipment and stuff would go to waste. I just could not do that to you."
21. After losing the election for mayor, Joe Smith said, "The voters were distracted by terrorism and the Middle East conflict. They weren't interested in our local election. Also it was not a good year for Democratic candidates."
22. Don't look at me. It wasn't my fault that the accident happened. I've only had my license for a week. The car I hit had a 45 year-old driver. He was much more experienced than me. He should have been more careful.
23. I cannot believe our luck. If those telecommunications investments had not lost so much of our money, we would be in great shape for our retirement. It's our adviser's fault.
24. Officer, I know I was speeding but I have a very good reason. I'm trying to test the safety of my car to see what speeds it can travel comfortably. I don't trust the manufacturer's tests; I like to do my own. Therefore, you really shouldn't give me a ticket, because I'm doing this for the safety of all.
25. Yes, it's true that we did not complete the building on time. But the bank held us up a couple of weeks on the loan. Then our sub-contractors failed to show up for work several days. We just could not make it.
26. Gee whiz, you were right. We should have bought that condo next store and rented it. We would have made about \$50,000 in one year! Yeah, but it would have been a lot of work fixing it up and satisfying the renters. I am kind of glad we passed on that deal.
27. I realize that I failed the math test, but that was because my teacher wouldn't let me use my special pen. She said that we had to use pencil. If I could have used my pen, I just know I would have done better.
28. A military review of a battle in eastern Afghanistan in March 2002 that left seven U.S. soldiers dead found intelligence lapses, radio glitches, and miscommunications between commanders and soldiers. However, General Tommy Franks, head of allied forces in Afghanistan, defended the operation and blamed any failings on clever al-Qaida fighters, unforgiving terrain, and the "fog and friction" of combat.
29. Teacher to parent: "I'm sorry about the error on your son's report card, Mrs. Johnson. I realize that recording an 'F' on Sammy's report card when he earned an 'A' was a big mistake, but you must understand. I had thirty report cards to fill out and a 3 pm deadline to turn in my grades."
30. Mom, I still deserve that iPod you promised me for good grades. I know I didn't get the straight A's that you wanted, but I would have if Ms. Hammel had dropped our lowest test grade as Ms. Derth did last year. So it's not my fault. Just talk to Ms. Derth."
31. There was nothing I could do. I know it was a bad decision, but all my friends encouraged me to do it and my teacher said it might be all right. I had no choice.

**Propaganda Examples – Section A**  
**Grouped by Technique**

**7. Wishful Thinking**

1. My new invention, the Hula Graph, is going to make me a millionaire. I'm sure everyone will buy one.
2. I know I'm going to win the chance to date Prince. I have sent in ten entry blanks, and I have been his devoted fan for years.
3. There is nothing to worry about in next month's election. With Ronald's nationwide appeal and the backing of the top party leaders, we cannot possibly lose.
4. Mr. Williams can't possibly fail me. I know I haven't passed any of his tests, but I am always on time for class; besides, I bought him a really nice Christmas present.
5. I know I must be gifted. After all, don't most doctors have an awful handwriting?
6. Jack will get a scholarship to M.I.T. I know, because he has been studying hard for the past three years, and he tries.
7. Immortality must be a fact. Otherwise our deepest longings would go unfulfilled.
8. A native, pointing to the lion's tooth which the chief always wore around his neck, said, "That tooth will prevent the chief from getting malaria."
9. Don't worry. We'll win the Propaganda tournament. Judy is back, and with her on our side, we can't lose.
10. I just know there will be peace in Vietnam by July. Deep down inside, the North Vietnamese, the South Vietnamese, the Viet Cong and the Americans surely must be people of good will. There's got to be an end to it, and there will be.
11. I have been to the National Tournament four times and never won. I deserve to win this year.
12. The Pakistan earthquake victims won't die. Just look at their faces – so pitiful. Someone will surely help.
13. This war must end soon: too many people are being killed. Besides, we have been negotiating for two years. I'm sure this war will end soon.
14. John is conducting the fund-raising drive and he won't fail. After giving so much time and effort to the drive, I'm sure he deserves a better reward than failure.
15. "If we only display more patience and continue to exercise complete restraint," said Congressman Procras T. Nator, "I'm certain that Saddam Insane will get out of Kuwait and repay all the damages."
16. "I don't intend to be a victim of car theft," smiled Anita after displaying her anti-theft lock. "Now I can go anywhere firm in the conviction that my car is completely safe!"
17. The Republicans will win the next Presidential election because they deserve the support of the American public after the stunning successes in the First 100 Days of the new Republican Congress.
18. We are getting closer and closer to retirement and we don't yet know where we are going to live nor how much our income is going to be. We shouldn't worry; something will come up.
19. North Carolina fan before the national college basketball championship game: "Duke is for sure going to win. They have that tradition and a super coach and all that experience on their side."

**Propaganda Examples – Section A**  
**Grouped by Technique**

20. Woman to her husband on a cruise ship: "I've spent over two hours at this slot machine, feeding it quarters. I know this time I'll be a big winner."
21. If I put my mind to it, I could write like Shakespeare.
22. Ferd: "I'm ready for this competition. I've brought my special pencil."  
Nerd: "What's so special about your pencil?"  
Ferd: "Well, when I get ready to mark my answer, I say my secret word and the pencil automatically puts down the author's opinion."
23. Of course, we can get the new plant built by early October. That is when you need it. It seems like a big project to do in such a short time, but don't worry about it. You need it; we will do it.
24. Daughter thinking about school shopping with her mother: "I know if I pout long enough, I will get both the Tommy Hilfiger jeans and the Nike running shoes."
25. I have been having the best day today. My mom fixed my favorite breakfast; I was just on time for the bus; and I got an A on my algebra test. I know I can pass the pull-up portion of our physical fitness test today too.
26. My mother's going to buy me a new pair of jeans when she goes shopping today. I've been dropping hints and mom smiled at me when she left for the mall.
27. Maybe I should have listened to my broker and sold that Ajax stock. It plunged right down as he said it would. But, doggone it, I'm still sure that Ajax is going to be a winner.
28. I always bring my lucky pig with me to auditions; I'm certainly not going to leave him behind just because I'm getting older. I know this audition is more difficult, but how can anything go wrong when piggy is by my side?
29. For the first time, my five-year-old son, Benny, helped me with the spring planting of our vegetable garden. This will be such a good experience for him. I know the garden will do well this year. It so important to him.
30. Tin Man: "But suppose the Wizard doesn't give me a heart?"  
Dorothy: "Oh, but he must; we've come so far."
31. I just know that I'm going to get the new job as vice president of the company. I've been so good at my old job as treasurer, how can they not promote me?
32. I have no doubt that the War on Terrorism will soon be over. With America united, there is no way we won't win quickly.
33. OK, let's go to the movies tonight and to the concert on Saturday. I can skip soccer practice both times. Coach will still let me start.
34. I know I'm going to be the homecoming queen. I am the prettiest girl in the senior class and my boyfriend is captain of the football team. Everyone knows who I am, and they think I'm smart.
35. A research scientist talking to another researcher: "I'm waiting for the data from my latest experiment to be analyzed. It's going to prove that I have discovered a new form of x-rays that will revolutionize medicine and win me a Nobel Prize!"
36. I just know that I'm going to get a good grade on my English essay. My little brother read my paper and said it was the best short story he has ever read.



**Propaganda Examples – Section A**  
**Grouped by Technique**

37. Student to his parents: "I'm sure that I will qualify to attend all the Academic Games tournaments this year. I didn't qualify to go to any last year. My time has come."
38. I know that I messed up on my last three jobs. But, this one is going to be different. I am sure that they will keep me this time. I am due for a break.
39. I've sent my résumé to over 100 companies, but I haven't gotten a single interview. But I know that once the economy picks up, employers will be calling me left and right.

## Propaganda Examples – Section A Grouped by Technique

### 8. Tabloid Thinking

1. Foley is a typical athlete. You know, big, stupid, and not very refined.
2. Sure, I know who Lincoln was. He was the president who ended slavery.
3. The Arabs and Israelis are both the same kind of people – hot-blooded, stubborn, and violent.
4. The Democratic Party is the bleeding-heart liberal party.
5. Nat King Cole? Oh, he was the crooner of my parents' time – old "Ramblin' Rose" in person.
6. If we want to get our College Fund campaign started off right, let's ask the Rosenbergs first. They're Jewish, so they are bound to have a lot of money.
7. The Women's Liberation Movement is just a bunch of poor losers in the competition to get a good man.
8. You're inviting me to go camping? No thanks – no sand and flies for me!
9. Politician: "Why am I against Medicare? Medicare is socialized medicine, that's why."
10. Asked what the National Academic Games Tournament was, Milo replied, "It's a bunch of nuts playing with blocks and paper."
11. "The kids'll just love this movie," Randy offered.  
"Yeah, why?" asked Cindy.  
"Because it's a cartoon," he responded.
12. I hear Paco is a Mexican boy. When he comes over tonight, let's give him tacos and hot tamales. They love that stuff.
13. You're going to Harvard? Gosh, your dad must be quite rich.
14. Smith is a typical Democrat – you know, tax and spend, tax and spend.
15. Your daughter's going to Tulane? Wow, she must really like to party!
16. You want to know whether I favor the national health care plan? Come on! That's nothing but Hillary's health boondoggle.
17. Parent to another parent: "Central High's new attendance boundaries will bring in a large number of minority students. I bet Central will have a great basketball team next year."
18. Did you see Madonna's appearance on the Letterman show? She was true to form for a rock singer: foul-mouthed, with no respect for herself or the audience.
19. Our basketball team is in for a bad year. Four of the five starters are white.
20. Secretary #1: "But how do you know he's a CEO (chief executive officer)?"  
Secretary #2: "Isn't it obvious? He drives a Lexus, has a cellular phone, and carries a laptop computer."
21. Why did I enroll my son at the University of Chicago in spite of the \$30,000 per year price tag? Because U. C. develops the educational leaders of tomorrow.
22. I have little sympathy for the clothes designer Versace and his death. All of those designers are party animals with low morals. They all think only about their own egos.

**Propaganda Examples – Section A**  
**Grouped by Technique**

23. Dad, I don't want to play with William. He's one of those computer hackers with thick glasses, pale skin, and an IQ that's off the charts. He will never be good at soccer. All the kids will make fun of me if I bring him along.
24. World-class soccer teams have special styles that you will certainly recognize. Brazil plays the "beautiful game," and Netherlands plays "team soccer."
25. Mike's little brother is a typical little brother. You know, one who always wants to tag along, wear the same clothes, and do everything he does.
26. I'm not going to be friends with Megan; she's a dancer. You know they're all alike: arrogant, stuck-up, and egocentric.
27. I realize that we have never met cousin Susan and don't know what she likes to eat, but we can't miss by stocking up on pasta. She *is* Italian.
28. All state troopers are the same. You know – short tempered, hot-wired, and always looking for a sucker to speed by.
29. America's National Forests are again under attack by the Bush administration. Being Republicans, their goal is simple: give industries unlimited access to America's forests.
30. I am not a fan of NASCAR racing. Those drivers are all a bunch of tobacco-chewing hicks.
31. We'll have to work hard to beat the teams from Michigan. They're always really good in the cube games, so they win sweepstakes a lot. We can beat them if we can do well in the reading games – that's their weakness. Northerners aren't very good at listening.
32. From an e-mail from a Democratic Senator to supporters: "The radical right wing of the Republican Party thinks that their razor-thin election victory entitles them to a broad mandate. We know the way Republicans think. They want an America where the powerful get whatever they want and no one else has any rights. The only way to stop them is to elect more Democrats to the Senate."
33. All the teams in the Western Conference are just "Run and Gun." They will not be able to survive against the "Dirty Defense" of the Eastern champs.
34. Amos to a friend: "Our company made a good decision in hiring Kiyoshi as a computer programmer. The Japanese know everything about computers and technology. It's a good move for the company. I'm buying more company stock."

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35. Of course he's rich – he lives in Beverly Hills!
36. The only reason people join the SDS is because they like to cause trouble.

## Propaganda Examples – Section A Grouped by Technique

### 9. Causal Oversimplification

1. Our country's budget deficit is tremendous. We are just spending too much money. The way to balance our budget is to just stop spending money.
2. I really think the way to solve the handgun problem is not to ban guns. Instead, we should outlaw bullets.
3. Wife to husband: "I knew this World's Fair would fail. They didn't advertise enough for it."
4. The building of America was the greatest success story in history; it was no accident. It was the direct result of our marvelous free enterprise system.
5. The Government can easily stop inflation. All they have to do is raise the money-lending interest rate to banks.
6. The United States is now faced with its highest unemployment rate in decades. A Senator explained, "Today's unemployment exists because American companies pocketed all their profits and never put a cent back into modernizing existing factories."
7. It is sometimes argued that the ultimate reason for war is human aggressiveness and, thus, as long as humans are aggressive, there will be wars. Hence, world peace organizations and disarmament programs are doomed to failure.
8. Since the Catholic Church started saying the Mass in English instead of Latin, attendance at Mass has dropped off considerably.
9. Elementary school principal addressing a parents' group: "Students have trouble in school because they have poor reading habits."
10. The president gets a lot of advice on how to cure our economic problems. The only advice that will work is to freeze the economy – fix the prices on everything. Then we will all get well financially.
11. The Germans lost World War II because they spread their forces over too great an area and thus weakened their strength. That's the sum of it.
12. The candidate for governor said, "The problems of our state are the result of a poor educational system. Elect me governor and I'll reform education."
13. There's nothing wrong with the country today that a good spanking administered to the rears of its young people won't cure.
14. What can we do about traffic fatalities? I can tell you. It's speed that kills. Eliminate speed violations and you have solved your problem.
15. Graduation speaker: "If you want to be successful, simply fall in love with your job."
16. Our free enterprise system is in trouble. Yet there's no reason why this should be, except for the advocates of Big Government.
17. Japanese students score higher on international tests than our students because Japanese students work harder than ours.
18. In the 1960s in America, it was argued that everything bad in American life was the result of the workings of a gigantic right-wing conspiracy.
19. Why are our gasoline prices so high? Because Iraq invaded Kuwait last month.

## Propaganda Examples – Section A Grouped by Technique

20. "There's too many illiterate high school graduates," griped Smedley. "And the reason is all this new-fangled math and new-fangled reading!"
21. Air pollution comes from cars. To solve the problem, all we have to do is pass a federal law telling the car manufacturers that within five years, all new cars manufactured must burn fuel with 100% efficiency.
22. The Serbs infiltrate Bosnia because the Serbs are militant and used to having their own way when they were in charge under Communism. They will never stop the attack.
23. Candidate for student council president: "Our school has problems because we don't have any class spirit. If I am elected, I will improve our spirit, and our school will improve."
24. From a political pamphlet: "The reason government continues to grow is that powerful special interests contribute enormous sums of money to politicians."
25. If women would just learn to accept men as they are instead of trying to fix them, marriages would work and last.
26. Former Secretary of State: "When we stopped emphasizing what was good for the United States and started stressing human rights, we lost our ability to control events in the world."
27. Candidate for governor: "Our state's current economic problems are the result of our sub-standard educational system. Elect me, and you will see a rapid change in our schools."
28. Rape is a malicious crime that is growing in epidemic proportions. Executing all convicted offenders within one year will stifle rape offenses in short order.
29. Legislator speaking to a session of the state Senate: "Juvenile delinquency will keep on increasing until we start using the police rather than social workers to handle the problems of youth."
30. If our principal would just let us have unlimited access to all sites on the Internet, that would solve all our discipline problems. He just does not understand.
31. Legislator speaking to a session of the state Senate: "Juvenile delinquency will keep on increasing until we start using the police rather than social workers to handle the problems of youth."
32. Teacher to class: "There are too many spelling mistakes in the stories you write in class."  
Nathan: "Well, the way to solve that problem is just to get each of us a computer with a spellcheck program."
33. Golly, that church in Brentwood is really growing fast. They have added 300 new members in the last year alone. Our church is not growing at all. Our head pastor is just not dynamic enough.
34. The rioting by Catholics in Northern Ireland is a direct result of the government allowing Protestants to march through the Catholic neighborhood.
35. If there were more policemen in this town, crime would cease to exist.
36. Of course, your flea market is not making a profit. You don't have enough booths packed into your available space.

**Propaganda Examples – Section A**  
**Grouped by Technique**

37. The conflict between Israel and the Palestinians goes back to the Old Testament. Both sides believe in “an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth.”
38. If we can just control our inventory better, our business problems will go away inside of a year.
39. You know why our team isn't winning right now? Coach Wilson is doing a lousy job. If we get rid of Coach Wilson, we should have a great season.
40. The attacks on Americans by international terrorist organizations occurred simply because they hate our prosperity.
41. Honey, let's just buy that new home in Beacon Acres. It is gorgeous. We will be so happy, and our problems will be over.
42. I know how we can end these terrorist attacks. Close our borders to Middle East immigrants. Keep the Muslims out of our country.
43. TV ad for an exercise machine shows a woman saying: “My name is Barbara, and I lost 50 pounds with the Gazelle exerciser.” In small print at the bottom of the screen is this statement: “Results were achieved with a low calorie diet and the Gazelle exerciser.”
44. The U.S. military has had a tendency to ignore the strategic and political realities of war. This is why it lost Vietnam.
45. The reason for the increased number of car accidents this year is that state troopers have reduced the number of tickets they give to speeders. If only the troopers would patrol and ticket speeders more, there would be no car accidents.
46. Beware! Lucy is coming to visit this week. You had better watch her. After all, the only time she ever visits is when she needs money.
47. Honey, our financial portfolio is going to be fine. Our Bond Funds have been dragging us down. All we have to do is get out of our Bond Funds, then sit back and relax. That will take care of our future.
48. Just change to a lighter bat. That will snap you out of your hitting slump.
49. Sally: “I know why the United States is losing jobs to other countries.”  
Sarah: “Why?”  
Sally: “It's easy to understand. With medical costs going up and up, it's just too expensive for companies to hire American workers.”
50. The Bears won the championship this year because of their star hitter Sammy “Slammer” Johnson. With him gone, next year will be ours.
51. There are 2 billion people in the world who are earning less than two dollars a day. The only hope for them is small businesses, which can create jobs and provide them with income.

**Propaganda Examples – Section A**  
**Grouped by Technique**

**10. Inconceivability**

1. There is no way Hillary can win the presidential election. How can he possibly win enough states to be elected?
2. It's too bad Johnny got hurt. Without him, it will be just too much to expect our team to win.
3. When the presence of unidentified aircraft in the vicinity of the Hawaiian Islands was indicated by radar on the morning of December 7, 1941, the officer in charge disregarded the evidence on the grounds that hostile planes could not be anywhere near.
4. Don't make me laugh! Women are being exploited? That will be the day. Now if you'd said that women were exploiting men, that I could believe.
5. Buying a house in Beau Chene is easy. All you need is a lawyer, a real estate agent, and a winning lottery ticket.
6. It is simply unimaginable that a man like Bill Clinton would decline to run for another term of office. Don't ask me to believe that he won't.
7. You say that Mary Hitchcock has left her husband and gone home to her mother? Such a nice girl, so devoted to her husband and children. No! Don't expect me to believe that!
8. I can't imagine Reagan NOT changing our laws and running for another term in office. Don't ask me to believe he won't.
9. I'll never believe we descended from apes.
10. It is simply unimaginable that President Reagan will continue his defense spending when the American economy is so bad.
11. "It's no use setting up sanctions against Iraq," argued Jessica. "Sanctions have never worked against anybody, and they never will."
12. I can't see David Duke, a former Ku Klux Klan leader, ever winning a statewide election.
13. "I will play every game but Presidents," insisted Terry. "I simply can't study all that information."
14. Whatever happens, happens. There are no miracles.
15. TV sportscaster: "The Buffalo Bills have not won a Super Bowl in three tries. They just do not have that special spirit. There is just no way they can beat Dallas this year."
16. The International Conference on Health Reform has too many powerful forces representing the Catholics, Muslims, and Baptists. I cannot imagine the President will get the Conference to approve legalizing abortions as a means of population control.
17. I have faith in the jury system. Twelve people working together are not going to be wrong.
18. Wimpy Davis as Student Council President? No way!
19. The hypothesis of extra-sensory perception has received virtually no confirmation; therefore it must be false.

**Propaganda Examples – Section A**  
**Grouped by Technique**

20. Student at the Propaganda competition disagreeing with the author's opinion: "How can that author say that it was Wishful Thinking when it was obviously Tabloid Thinking? I just can't imagine how anyone would say that was the answer! It's got to be a mistake."
21. Scientist to rabbi: "I can't believe someone as smart as you believes in God."  
Rabbi to scientist: "I can't believe someone as smart as you does *not* believe in God."
22. Big brother to little brother on Halloween: "Do you really believe that you'll scare somebody in that Cryptkeeper costume? You must think people are stupid!"
23. You don't like her? I don't understand how you could dislike her.
24. You mean to tell me that you would spend thousands of dollars on a stuffed animal filled with beans? You have to be kidding.
25. The United States can send its entire army, navy, and air force to Afghanistan. We won't catch Osama ben Laden. That cat has nine lives and will die a peaceful death at age 80.
26. You expect me to believe that you drove 2000 miles around the Southeast U.S. by yourself? Yeah, right – you don't even like going to the grocery store alone.
27. Turn off the TV, and let's go to bed. The Nets are ahead by 15 going into the fourth quarter. No way the Lakers are going to make up that many points.
28. There is nothing beyond the stars. We can't see anything else out there. So there's obviously nothing there.
29. Advertisement for Mateuse Wines: "Have you ever heard of anyone who doesn't like Mateuse?"
30. My doctor wants me to stay home for two weeks after my surgery. I don't understand why. I'll be out of the hospital in a day. I'll be on solids foods the next day and up and around shortly after that. I've never had any complications or other trouble after surgery. There's no way I will need to take that much time away from work.
31. What do you mean the country is at war? Look outside. It is so peaceful. We cannot possibly be in danger.
32. There's no way I'm going to do well on that math test Monday. Every time I take a test on Monday, I bomb it.
33. There is no way in the world that hurricane is going to hit us. We already had three hurricanes come through this area this year. We've never had four in one year. It just can't happen.
34. I know that we were hit with four hurricanes last season. And this year is expected to be even worse. Yet, before last year, it had been almost ten years since we had a direct hit. With that kind of history, you can't possibly expect the public to listen to the warning that the National Weather Center is sending out this year. We won't have two bad seasons in a row.
35. Republicans control the White House and both houses of Congress. There is no way the poor are going to get a break as long as the Republicans are in charge.





## Section A

### Mixed Techniques

1. Mary fell into the pool. "Sink or swim!" yelled her roommate. (3 Drawing the Line)
2. My new invention, the Hula Graph, is going to make me a millionaire. I'm sure everyone will buy one. (7 Wishful Thinking)
3. Student: "I know the school dress code forbids tank tops, but my Mama was at work. I didn't know how to operate the washer, and the tank top is the only clean garment I had." (6 Rationalization)
4. The budget freeze is neither a conservative nor liberal proposal but is supported by both Republicans and Democrats. (5 Moderatism)
5. Our country's budget deficit is tremendous. We are just spending too much money. The way to balance our budget is to just stop spending money. (9 Causal Oversimplification)
6. I don't know whether that statement is "prejudice" or "tabloid thinking," so I'll pass on this one. (2 Academic Detachment)
7. There is no way Hillary can win the presidential election. How can she possibly win enough states to be elected? (10 Inconceivability)
8. Life insurance salesman to client: "Do you want to invest in this \$100,000 whole life policy now to insure your present and provide for your future, or are you going to have to work forever, even after retirement?" (3 Drawing the Line)
9. I know I'm going to win the chance to date Prince. I have sent in ten entry blanks, and I have been his devoted fan for years. (7 Wishful Thinking)
10. A worker, after being turned down for a promotion in her department, said, "I never had a chance. Clara had the inside-track with the boss all along. She knew him from many years ago." (6 Rationalization)
11. There is nothing to worry about in next month's election. With Ronald's nationwide appeal and the backing of the top party leaders, we cannot possibly lose. (7 Wishful Thinking)
12. I really think the way to solve the handgun problem is not to ban guns. Instead, we should outlaw bullets. (9 Causal Oversimplification)
13. Mr. Williams can't possibly fail me. I know I haven't passed any of his tests, but I am always on time for class; besides, I bought him a really nice Christmas present. (7 Wishful Thinking)
14. I know I've already had eight beers, but one more won't make any difference in the way I drive. (4 Not Drawing the Line)
15. I have a math test and an English test tomorrow. I don't know which one to study harder for, so I'll just wait to see how I do. Next time I'll study harder for whichever subject had the more difficult test. (2 Academic Detachment)
16. I know I must be gifted. After all, don't most doctors have an awful handwriting? (7 Wishful Thinking)
17. Foley is a typical athlete. You know, big, stupid, and not very refined. (8 Tabloid Thinking)
18. So what if I didn't pay taxes on my second job? My employer didn't declare me as an employee of his firm. (6 Rationalization)

19. Jack will get a scholarship to M.I.T. I know, because he has been studying hard for the past three years, and he tries. (7 Wishful Thinking)
20. College students are either not knowledgeable enough to teach, or so filled with high-sounding facts that they can't explain their ideas to high school students. (3 Drawing the Line)
21. Students should not be allowed to help make course decisions. Why, they don't even have degrees. (1 Prejudice)
22. Sure, I know who Lincoln was. He was the President who ended slavery. (8 Tabloid Thinking)
23. Steve shot and kept one duck more than the limit. He told the Game Warden, "Well, who's going to miss this one duck? You have so many in this area, you don't know what to do with them all." (4 Not Drawing the Line)
24. Wife to husband: "I knew this World's Fair would fail. They didn't advertise enough for it." (9 Causal Oversimplification)
25. I am so sick of politics in our state, with the reformers on one side and the crooks on the other, that it is really not worth the effort to go to the polls. (2 Academic Detachment)
26. Let's not play with Johnny. He's crippled. Handicapped people are no fun anyway. (1 Prejudice)
27. I see no reason to use plastic bags in our grocery. Schwegmann's has been using paper grocery bags since 1892. (5 Conservatism)
28. Immortality must be a fact. Otherwise our deepest longings would go unfulfilled. (7 Wishful Thinking)
29. The building of America was the greatest success story in history; it was no accident. It was the direct result of our marvelous free enterprise system. (9 Causal Oversimplification)
30. The Arabs and Israelis are both the same kind of people – hot-blooded, stubborn, and violent. (8 Tabloid Thinking)
31. Dad, I couldn't remember exactly what time you said to be in. But all my friends had to be in by 12, so I figured that's what you said to me. (6 Rationalization)
32. The Government can easily stop inflation. All they have to do is raise the money-lending interest rate to banks. (9 Causal Oversimplification)
33. ~~We have already sent 500,000 troops to Vietnam. We have committed ourselves. If things worsen, we will have to send more.~~ (4 Not Drawing the Line)
34. It's too bad Johnny got hurt. Without him, it will be just too much to expect our team to win. (10 Inconceivability)
35. What do you mean, "Extend the city limits and we'll have a bigger tax base?" Why, Point City has never included outskirts before and we won't now. (5 Conservatism)
36. The United States is now faced with its highest unemployment rate in decades. A Senator explained, "Today's unemployment exists because American companies pocketed all their profits and never put a cent back into modernizing existing factories." (9 Causal Oversimplification)
37. Gus, after smoking his first marijuana joint, reasoned that, since he had not been bothered by smoking two packs of cigarettes a day, he would not be affected by smoking marijuana. (4 Not Drawing the Line)

38. A native, pointing to the lion's tooth which the chief always wore around his neck, said, "That tooth will prevent the chief from getting malaria." (7 Wishful Thinking)
39. When the presence of unidentified aircraft in the vicinity of the Hawaiian Islands was indicated by radar on the morning of December 7, 1941, the officer in charge disregarded the evidence on the grounds that hostile planes could not be anywhere near. (10 Inconceivability)
40. It is sometimes argued that the ultimate reason for war is human aggressiveness and, thus, as long as humans are aggressive, there will be wars. Hence, world peace organizations and disarmament programs are doomed to failure. (9 Causal Oversimplification)
41. A writer who has had nothing accepted for publication: "In a world that's a mess like ours, no one can and no one should function successfully." (6 Rationalization)
42. The Democratic Party is the bleeding-heart liberal party. (8 Tabloid Thinking)
43. Since the Catholic Church started saying the Mass in English instead of Latin, attendance at Mass has dropped off considerably. (9 Causal Oversimplification)
44. Do you feel Medicare for the aged is right, or are you going to condemn them to an early death? (3 Drawing the Line)
45. Elementary school principal addressing a parents' group: "Students have trouble in school because they have poor reading habits." (9 Causal Oversimplification)
46. Don't worry. We'll win the Propaganda tournament. Judy is back, and with her on our side, we can't lose. (7 Wishful Thinking)
47. Mrs. Pratt knows she was rationalizing. Before we criticize Mrs. Pratt, we should ask ourselves if maybe we rationalize sometimes too. (0 No Technique)
48. The President gets a lot of advice on how to cure our economic problems. The only advice that will work is to freeze the economy – fix the prices on everything. Then we will all get well financially. (9 Causal Oversimplification)
49. Nat King Cole? Oh, he was the crooner of my parents' time – old "Ramblin' Rose" in person. (8 Tabloid Thinking)
50. A question asked of Florida citizens about Cubans moving into the state: "Are we going to keep the Cubans out or is our community going to go straight downhill?" (3 Drawing the Line)
51. Let's wait a few more days before writing that report. We still have a couple of weeks to finish it. Let's make it the best we can. (0 No Technique)
52. If we want to get our College Fund campaign started off right, let's ask the Rosenbergs first. They're Jewish, so they are bound to have a lot of money. (8 Tabloid Thinking)
53. Open and closed hours at a women's dormitory are perfectly arbitrary. Once you allow men in at all (and nobody objects to that), there is no logical reason why they shouldn't be in at all hours. Let them come and go as they please, I say. (4 Not Drawing the Line)
54. Everything's old fashioned about Old Taylor whiskey. If you have a heart for the past, ask for Old Taylor; you'll never leave it. (5 Conservatism)
55. If elected, I will represent the great majority of Middle America – the people of wisdom and common sense who know how to keep within due bounds. (5 Moderatism)

56. A questionnaire distributed to college students contained the question, "Would you rather work with Establishment or protest groups?" (3 Drawing the Line)
57. I just know there will be peace in Vietnam by July. Deep down inside, the North Vietnamese, the South Vietnamese, the Viet Cong and the Americans surely must be people of good will. There's got to be an end to it, and there will be. (7 Wishful Thinking)
58. The Women's Liberation Movement is just a bunch of poor losers in the competition to get a good man. (8 Tabloid Thinking)
59. The Germans lost World War II because they spread their forces over too great an area and thus weakened their strength. That's the sum of it. (9 Causal Oversimplification)
60. Don't make me laugh! Women are being exploited? That will be the day. Now if you'd said that women were exploiting men, that I could believe. (10 Inconceivability)
61. Either these secretaries of ours will have to get on the ball, or we'll have to close the office. (3 Drawing the Line)
62. I have been to the National Tournament four times and never won. I deserve to win this year. (7 Wishful Thinking)
63. You're inviting me to go camping? No thanks – no sand and flies for me! (8 Tabloid Thinking)
64. The candidate for governor said, "The problems of our state are the result of a poor educational system. Elect me governor and I'll reform education." (9 Causal Oversimplification)
65. I was going to start my diet today, but since there is an all-you-can-eat special in the cafeteria today only, I can wait one more day to begin the torture. (4 Not Drawing the Line)
66. Buying a house in Beau Chene is easy. All you need is a lawyer, a real estate agent, and a winning lottery ticket. (10 Inconceivability)
67. Representative Richard Gephardt asked fellow candidate Senator Albert Gore the following: "If I get to 52% in the polls in New Hampshire, will you start attacking me like you attacked Governor Dukakis?" (3 Drawing the Line)
68. The only reason people join the SDS is because they like to cause trouble. (8 Tabloid Thinking)

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69. Nova High School supporter commenting on the football team's worst season: "Our coach used an outdated system and did not discipline the players enough." (6 Rationalization)
70. It is simply unimaginable that a man like Bill Clinton would decline to run for another term of office. Don't ask me to believe that he won't. (10 Inconceivability)
71. I know Martin has run the club well for five years. But new people have new ideas. A change in leadership just has to be good. (5 Radicalism)
72. There's nothing wrong with the country today that a good spanking administered to the rears of its young people won't cure. (9 Causal Oversimplification)
73. It's purely arbitrary to say that a full-time student is one who carries at least 12 hours per quarter. The student who carries 11 hours may do more work. I think all distinctions between part-time and full-time students should be abolished. (4 Not Drawing the Line)

74. School board member: "We can't let them have the raise they're asking for. If we do, every other teachers group in the state will campaign for higher pay and ours will simply campaign again in two years for better benefits. We've got to hold back some." (3 Drawing the Line)
75. "Don't bother me, boy," said the Sheriff. "If the Hatfields and the McCoys are shooting it out again, there's nothing for us to do but to keep out of the way." (2 Academic Detachment)
76. Introducing the Brockwell all-electric car! For those who want tomorrow today! For people on the move! For those who are content with nothing less than the latest and best! (5 Radicalism)
77. You say that Mary Hitchcock has left her husband and gone home to her mother? Such a nice girl, so devoted to her husband and children. No! Don't expect me to believe that! (10 Inconceivability)
78. I can't feel too bad about not sending aid to the Pakistan victims. They probably wouldn't have received it in time anyway. (6 Rationalization)
79. Advertisement: "There are two kinds of mufflers: Borcan mufflers and any old muffler. Don't be disappointed." (3 Drawing the Line)
80. Boy to girlfriend: "Look, either you go to the movies with me or you will be staying home by yourself." (3 Drawing the Line)
81. Apprehended shoplifter: "Oh, so what, it's not really expensive. And they'll never miss it anyway. It serves them right for charging twice what it's worth." (6 Rationalization)
82. The Pakistan earthquake victims won't die. Just look at their faces – so pitiful. Someone will surely help. (7 Wishful Thinking)
83. I'd rather stick with Gordon's advertising plan. His plans earned us \$20,000 per year for the last five years. I know that Frank projects earnings of \$80,000 next year with his plan, but let's try Gordon for another year. (5 Conservatism)
84. We'd better stick with that old style barbed wire fence. It's been on the market for years. I just don't trust this new-fangled electric fence. (5 Conservatism)
85. What can we do about traffic fatalities? I can tell you. It's speed that kills. Eliminate speed violations and you have solved your problem. (9 Causal Oversimplification)
86. Son, you're either going to school to make something of yourself or you're going to be a beggar all your life. (3 Drawing the Line)
87. Mom to her daughter: "No, honey, you cannot go out with Musalah tonight. He's some sort of Muslim. I don't want you associating with him." (1 Prejudice)
88. Business owner: "I refuse to discuss the issue of equal pay for equal work with Mary. She is not the workers' representative and has no authority to negotiate with us." (0 No Technique)
89. Graduation speaker: "If you want to be successful, simply fall in love with your job." (9 Causal Oversimplification)
90. We must fight Russia now or give up all our cherished liberties. (3 Drawing the Line)
91. Even though I have two weeks to read this book, I'll wait until the day before I go back to school. That way it will be fresh in my mind and I will remember more. (6 Rationalization)

92. You know how Charley will act. Why, he's one of those longhaired guys – you can't count on them. (1 Prejudice)
93. John devotes most of his time in college to fraternity activities. He defends his actions by saying, "It's easy to get along in life. All you have to learn is how to meet people." (9 Causal Oversimplification)
94. This war must end soon: too many people are being killed. Besides, we have been negotiating for two years. I'm sure this war will end soon. (7 Wishful Thinking)
95. Politician: "Why am I against Medicare? Medicare is socialized medicine, that's why." (8 Tabloid Thinking)
96. I know I had a bad trip and lost my job from taking cocaine. But it's important to me to try all that exists in this world. (6 Rationalization)
97. I can't imagine Reagan NOT changing our laws and running for another term in office. Don't ask me to believe he won't. (10 Inconceivability)
98. When we realize that millions of dollars are spent on commercial art and for illustrations in printed material, we can see how powerful art is as a propaganda device. (0 No Technique)
99. My friend, Jimmy, says that he likes only two kinds of girls: those with blonde hair and those who don't have blond hair. (0 No Technique)
100. My father is very comfortable with George Bush as President because he reminds him of Dwight Eisenhower and Teddy Roosevelt. (5 Conservatism)
101. A military review of a battle in eastern Afghanistan in March 2002 that left seven U.S. soldiers dead found intelligence lapses, radio glitches, and miscommunications between commanders and soldiers. However, General Tommy Franks, head of allied forces in Afghanistan, defended the operation and blamed any failings on clever al-Qaida fighters, unforgiving terrain, and the "fog and friction" of combat. (6 Rationalization)
102. John is conducting the fund-raising drive and he won't fail. After giving so much time and effort to the drive, I'm sure he deserves a better reward than failure. (7 Wishful Thinking)
103. A vote for the Republican candidate is a vote for America. (4 Not Drawing the Line)
104. In America, if a defendant is not proven guilty, he or she is presumed innocent. (0 No Technique)
105. Our free enterprise system is in trouble. Yet there's no reason why this should be, except for the advocates of Big Government. (9 Causal Oversimplification)
106. I think we should stick with our Chrysler Corporation cars. They have been around for 50 years. I think it is a mistake to go for the Mazda cars. I just don't trust those new-fangled cars. (5 Conservatism)
107. "What difference can one little piece of candy possibly make? I think I'll have one," she said, the day after she decided to diet in order to lose some of her 180 pounds. (4 Not Drawing the Line)
108. I'll never believe we descended from apes. (10 Inconceivability)
109. The football coach met with his quarterback on the sidelines prior to a crucial play near the end of a close game. They discussed possible running plays and possible passing plays. The coach told the quarterback to call the play he, the quarterback, thought best. (2 Academic Detachment)

110. Japanese students score higher on international tests than our students because Japanese students work harder than ours. (9 Causal Oversimplification)
111. In order to qualify for law school, a person must have a test score of at least 700 on the Law School Achievement Test. Helen scored 690. For this reason Helen was not admitted to law school. (0 No Technique)
112. Suburban businessman: "Yes, I have read much of what the so-called militant organizers have written, and I must say that I agree with a lot of it. But I am also sympathetic to the college administrators and government officials who have the responsibility for running this country. I really can't see getting involved in any protests." (2 Academic Detachment)
113. Long, hard preparation will insure that we'll win the basketball championship this year. (7 Wishful Thinking)
114. Asked what the National Academic Games Tournament was, Milo replied, "It's a bunch of nuts playing with blocks and paper." (8 Tabloid Thinking)
115. The student, knowing full well that he had not been studying lately, blamed his poor grades on the hot, stuffy classroom and what he considered to be boring presentations by the teacher. (6 Rationalization)
116. In the 1960s in America, it was argued that everything bad in American life was the result of the workings of a gigantic right-wing conspiracy. (9 Causal Oversimplification)
117. From an e-mail from a Democratic Senator to supporters: "The radical right wing of the Republican Party thinks that their razor-thin election victory entitles them to a broad mandate. We know the way Republicans think. They want an America where the powerful get whatever they want and no one else has any rights. The only way to stop them is to elect more Democrats to the Senate." (8 Tabloid Thinking)
118. It is simply unimaginable that President Reagan will continue his defense spending when the American economy is so bad. (10 Inconceivability)
119. "If we only display more patience and continue to exercise complete restraint," said Congressman Procras T. Nator, "I'm certain that Saddam Insane will get out of Kuwait and repay all the damages." (7 Wishful Thinking)
120. When caught by the teacher for not doing a reading assignment, Leslie whines that it was late, and she did read all but the last two paragraphs of the whole chapter. (4 Not Drawing the Line)
121. "If only I'd listened to my mother and finished school," the convict told the judge. "I know I'd have learned a trade and never appeared before this court accused of robbery. But such is not often the choice of a kid raised in the ghetto, your honor!" (6 Rationalization)
122. When news of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait reached President Bush, his response was immediate and assertive. There is no room for compromise. Iraq must remove its troops, unconditionally, from all Kuwaiti territory, or we will forcibly move them out. (3 Drawing the Line)
123. "The kids'll just love this movie," Randy offered.  
"Yeah, why?" asked Cindy.  
"Because it's a cartoon," he responded. (8 Tabloid Thinking)
124. "It's no use setting up sanctions against Iraq," argued Jessica. "Sanctions have never worked against anybody, and they never will." (10 Inconceivability)



125. I was going to vote for Bagert, the Republican candidate. Then he pulled out of the race. I felt betrayed and didn't like either of the remaining candidates, so I stayed home on election day. (2 Academic Detachment)
126. Ladies and gentlemen of the Senate: Congress has suggested a 15 cent tax surcharge on a gallon of gas, but Americans have reacted in record numbers with voices of sternest protest to any new tax increases. May I suggest we temper this rash action by only bilking the public for seven cents on a gallon of gas? (5 Moderatism)
127. He may live in the United States, but he's an Arab, just like Saddam Hussein. Don't trust him at all. (1 Prejudice)
128. Why are our gasoline prices so high? Because Iraq invaded Kuwait last month. (9 Causal Oversimplification)
129. I can't see David Duke, a former Ku Klux Klan leader, ever winning a statewide election. (10 Inconceivability)
130. "I don't intend to be a victim of car theft," smiled Anita after displaying her anti-theft lock. "Now I can go anywhere firm in the conviction that my car is completely safe!" (7 Wishful Thinking)
131. "There's too many illiterate high school graduates," griped Smedley. "And the reason is all this new-fangled math and new-fangled reading!" (9 Causal Oversimplification)
132. In explaining to his mother how he failed the test, David said his stomach was hurting before he went to school and he didn't get a proper breakfast either. (6 Rationalization)
133. I gotta believe he'll be a great President. He's a Democrat, and he's NOT from the South! (1 Prejudice)
134. The choice in this election is clear. Do we want a progressive and properly run school board, or do we want a return to the politicking days of the good ol' boys and widespread corruption? (3 Drawing the Line)
135. Elderly man arguing with a Protestant minister who brings forth Biblical evidence to support his beliefs: "I was born a Catholic, I was raised a Catholic, and by gum I'm gonna DIE a Catholic!" (5 Conservatism)
136. "I will play every game but Presidents," insisted Terry. "I simply can't study all that information." (10 Inconceivability)
- ~~137. After Chris lets the tenth straight pitch cross the plate in batting practice, the coach tells him to get out of the batter's box and let the next batter take a few swings. "One more pitch, Coach," Chris cries; "I promise I'll hit the next one!" (4 Not Drawing the Line)~~
138. I hear Paco is a Mexican boy. When he comes over tonight, let's give him tacos and hot tamales. They love that stuff. (8 Tabloid Thinking)
139. Leslie talking to her sister Jessica: "I don't know; they've both asked me to the dance, and Curtis is kind of cute; but Terry is so good looking. I know I'll just have to decide sooner or later, but I couldn't do it now to save my soul! Tell them I'm not home if either one calls." (2 Academic Detachment)
140. Air pollution comes from cars. To solve the problem, all we have to do is pass a federal law telling the car manufacturers that within five years, all new cars manufactured must burn fuel with 100% efficiency. (9 Causal Oversimplification)

141. Are you for progress, or are you hopelessly stuck in the past? If you want progress, you'll favor this new idea. If you're stuck in the past, then you won't even consider it. (5 Radicalism)
142. I don't vote for Democrats. Clinton can improve the economy, solve problems in foreign countries, and cut the deficit, and I still wouldn't vote for him for reelection. (1 Prejudice)
143. The Medicaid proposal sounds like a good one. But those Northern Republican legislators are pushing it. I cannot see voting for it. (1 Prejudice)
144. The Republicans will win the next Presidential election because they deserve the support of the American public after the stunning successes in the First 100 Days of the new Republican Congress. (7 Wishful Thinking)
145. If only David were a woman or a minority, we would hire him. However, our District Office of Civil Rights guidelines are clear – we must hire a woman or minority at this time. I sure hate to lose David. (0 No Technique)
146. Whatever happens, happens. There are no miracles. (10 Inconceivability)
147. Head basketball coach to his assistants: "Sure, I know that Big Country is 7 feet tall and 290 pounds of muscle, and that we don't have anybody that can handle him inside. But we have been a man-to-man defensive team all year. I'm going to stick with what got us here." (5 Conservatism)
148. Small business owner: "I see that Reynaldo is a Guatemalan. They are all quiet, hard-working, and happy-go-lucky. I don't need to interview him. Go ahead and hire him." (1 Prejudice)
149. Friend to a dad whose son is in trouble: "Come down on him hard now. Take away the car and ground him for two weeks. If you don't, he will just keep up his bad acts." (3 Drawing the Line)
150. The Serbs infiltrate Bosnia because the Serbs are militant and used to having their own way when they were in charge under Communism. They will never stop the attack. (9 Causal Oversimplification)
151. Candidate for student council president: "Our school has problems because we don't have any class spirit. If I am elected, I will improve our spirit, and our school will improve." (9 Causal Oversimplification)
152. Employee who is consistently late for work: "Doggone it, I didn't get that promotion again this time. My boss just has it in for me. There is nothing I can do about it." (6 Rationalization)
153. Grandmother on a fixed income, opening her mail: "Oh, look, here is another request from the church missionary program. I gave as much as I could last month, but these kids just look so sad and needy. I'll contribute another \$25 this time." (4 Not Drawing the Line)
154. Superintendent of Schools Mollie Pitchford: "I am not going to appoint Ronald Benton as principal of Adams High School. All these men think of is sports, and they pamper the coaches." (1 Prejudice)
155. I'm sorry I missed the telecast of man's first walk on the moon, but I had a big science test to study for the next morning. It was important to me to pass the test. (6 Rationalization)
156. Smith is a typical Democrat – you know, tax and spend, tax and spend. (8 Tabloid Thinking)

157. The schools today are not helping students to learn. Major change is needed, like abandoning tests, loosening rigid schedules, removing the authority of teachers, and abolishing grades in favor of periodic progress reports. (5 Radicalism)
158. As long as your university recognizes the Morgan Green Alumni Chapter, you will not receive any donations from our company. (1 Prejudice)
159. From an ad for a funeral parlor: "A lot has changed since 1874 when Smith's was founded. However, Smith's principles of service and support have not changed." (5 Conservatism)
160. From a political pamphlet: "The reason government continues to grow is that powerful special interests contribute enormous sums of money to politicians." (9 Causal Oversimplification)
161. Since I do so poorly in math, my parents hired an algebra tutor for me. Although it has taken lots of extra time and work, I have had weekly tutoring sessions and I should do well on the first quarter exam. (0 No Technique)
162. I'm not sure whether to ask Bubba, who is a football player, to the prom or Lefty, who is the star pitcher of the baseball team. So I think I'll ask my best friend's brother who isn't an athlete at all. (2 Academic Detachment)
163. You're going to Harvard? Gosh, your dad must be quite rich. (8 Tabloid Thinking)
164. If the Democrats' health plan is implemented, I am going to have to pay more for many health services. On the other hand, many of my friends now have no health care and the Democratic plan will help them. I can't figure out what message to send to my Senator. I will let her decide. (2 Academic Detachment)
165. I know that I stopped short of getting my doctorate because I did not write a dissertation. But I had made a decision at the time to focus on raising my children. I do not regret, nor do I second-guess my decision now. (0 No Technique)
166. We are getting closer and closer to retirement and we don't yet know where we are going to live nor how much our income is going to be. We shouldn't worry; something will come up. (7 Wishful Thinking)
167. A vote for me is a vote against higher taxes and for reform of the liberal welfare system. A vote for my opponent is a vote for more taxes and more control by special interest groups. (3 Drawing the Line)
168. Let's wait a few more days before paying the insurance. We still have a week before the due date. (4 Not Drawing the Line)
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169. Introducing the Kangaroo Caddie Command. The ultimate remote control for those who want tomorrow today. For golfers who are content with nothing less than the latest and the best. (5 Radicalism)
170. I used to be a Greg Norman and Lee Trevino golf fan, but I recently learned that Bernhard Langer is a Christian. Now I pull for Langer to win every tournament. (1 Prejudice)
171. North Carolina fan before the national college basketball championship game: "Duke is for sure going to win. They have that tradition and a super coach and all that experience on their side." (7 Wishful Thinking) (No technique?)
172. People have to be able to choose their own doctors without any restrictions at all. Any limitation is an unacceptable health care plan. (3 Drawing the Line)
173. Your daughter's going to Tulane? Wow, she must really like to party! (8 Tabloid Thinking)

174. State legislator working on an extended session: "This bill has some difficult points that we have to work out. We need a few more days before we can make a decision." (4 Not Drawing the Line)
175. If women would just learn to accept men as they are instead of trying to fix them, marriages would work and last. (9 Causal Oversimplification)
176. You want to know whether I favor the national health care plan? Come on! That's nothing but Hillary's health boondoggle. (8 Tabloid Thinking)
177. Senator Flaxmore's views on Medicare are really worth considering. Congressman Deebop has quite a different point of view and she is a powerful force in the House. I'm not sure who is right. I'm going to let them fight it out. (2 Academic Detachment)
178. Commandant at a military school speaking to the press: "This military institute was founded on the principle of training young men to be leaders, in both the military and the business world. For over 150 years, we have followed those precepts set for us by our founders. To change those traditions now by allowing women to enter would be heresy." (5 Conservatism)
179. Woman to her husband on a cruise ship: "I've spent over two hours at this slot machine, feeding it quarters. I know this time I'll be a big winner." (7 Wishful Thinking)
180. Parent to another parent: "Central High's new attendance boundaries will bring in a large number of minority students. I bet Central will have a great basketball team next year." (8 Tabloid Thinking)
181. TV sportscaster: "The Buffalo Bills have not won a Super Bowl in three tries. They just do not have that special spirit. There is just no way they can beat Dallas this year." (10 Inconceivability)
182. Why take a chance? Franklin Investment Corporation has successfully managed the funds of millions of people during its 50-year history. Mail in the postage-paid card or call Franklin today for a free brochure. (5 Conservatism)
183. Former Secretary of State: "When we stopped emphasizing what was good for the United States and started stressing human rights, we lost our ability to control events in the world." (9 Causal Oversimplification)
184. President Clinton should come clean on Whitewater or resign. (3 Drawing the Line)
185. Dear Mr. Rodriguez: We were pleased to receive your application for membership in the Partners Club. Unfortunately our membership is reserved for those individuals who have been residents of our community for over 15 years and who own a major business in town. (1 Prejudice) (Vagueness?)
186. Did you see Madonna's appearance on the Letterman show? She was true to form for a rock singer: foul-mouthed, with no respect for herself or the audience. (8 Tabloid Thinking)
187. Candidate for governor: "Our state's current economic problems are the result of our sub-standard educational system. Elect me, and you will see a rapid change in our schools." (9 Causal Oversimplification)
188. You have to support the president in trying to keep the Cubans out of America. If you don't, you will destroy all the decent communities of the Southeast. (3 Drawing the Line)
189. I have faith in the jury system. Twelve people working together are not going to be wrong. (10 Inconceivability)

190. Candidate for Senator: "Economic sanctions against South American nations have a lot of positives. But if we implement such sanctions, it could kill some of our retail business here in the States. My decision will be a tough one when you give me your trust and elect me." (2 Academic Detachment)
191. Financial investor: "Throughout the 1980s my clients got rich with Fidelity Magellan and 20th Century Ultra. I know that the political climate is different now, but I am keeping my people with proven winners." (5 Conservatism)
192. The International Conference on Health Reform has too many powerful forces representing the Catholics, Muslims, and Baptists. I cannot imagine the President will get the Conference to approve legalizing abortions as a means of population control. (10 Inconceivability)
193. Yes, I know that visiting my daughter at college last weekend cost me an opportunity to be named to the local Board of Elections. I was conscious of that potential loss. If I had to do it over again, I would make the same choice. (0 No Technique)
194. Rape is a malicious crime that is growing in epidemic proportions. Executing all convicted offenders within one year will stifle rape offenses in short order. (9 Causal Oversimplification)
195. Our two local Water Management District candidates have each been rotten campaigners. All they do is sling mud at one another. It is hard to find out what either of them stands for. I refuse to vote for either. (2 Academic Detachment)
196. If I put my mind to it, I could write like Shakespeare. (7 Wishful Thinking)
197. From a radio ad: "Be one of the lucky customers to buy at Wild Bill's Nissan, or go to another dealer and pay too much." (3 Drawing the Line)
198. I've heard so many arguments for and against O.J. Simpson's guilt that I can't make up my mind. (2 Academic Detachment)
199. Because there are no signs of Russia's serious desire to negotiate an arms agreement, it's reasonable to think that they have no such desire. (0 No Technique)
200. My sister Kristy insists that Dr. Payne is the best dentist around. But my husband claims that his dentist, Dr. Molar, is the best. How do I know for sure? My teeth have some pain, but I'm going to wait another six months before I go to see one of them. (2 Academic Detachment)
201. That scoundrel Roger Vance had the meeting controlled to go his own way no matter what. That's why nobody in the group agreed with what I had to say. (6 Rationalization)
202. The last time the Republicans had the White House, our country went into deep financial debt. The time before that our family lost a lot of real income, too. This year, though, they are promising to change their ways. I think we should both vote Republican in this election, just like we did before. (4 Not Drawing the Line)
203. Congressman referring to student demonstrations in his district: "If the student protestors can't love their country and accept their government's policies, they should pack up their bags and become citizens of another country." (3 Drawing the Line)
204. Legislator speaking to a session of the state Senate: "Juvenile delinquency will keep on increasing until we start using the police rather than social workers to handle the problems of youth." (9 Causal Oversimplification)
205. Wimpy Davis as Student Council President? No way! (10 Inconceivability)

206. Our basketball team is in for a bad year. Four of the five starters are white. (8 Tabloid Thinking)
207. I think it's ridiculous for the Federal government to stop me from getting food stamps just because I make \$16,000 per year. Does that make me rich? The Jones family gets food stamps, and they make \$14,000 per year. They should not have such rules. (4 Not Drawing the Line)
208. Mr. Harrelson, we are sorry to let you know that your application for a position with our firm has been denied. For the past ten years, we have limited our new employees to graduates from the Ivy League schools, plus the University of Chicago. We find that this works best for us. We hope that you will be able to find satisfactory employment elsewhere. (1 Prejudice)
209. Honey, I know that the deadline for kindergarten admission to the Christian Private School is Friday. But the Bernard Private Academy looks great also. We need more time to decide about our son's educational future. (2 Academic Detachment)
210. Why did I enroll my son at the University of Chicago in spite of the \$30,000 per year price tag? Because U.C. develops the educational leaders of tomorrow. (8 Tabloid Thinking)
211. Principal speaking to assistant principal: "Some of our kids are dressing indecently or wearing clothes that are way too fancy. We have to set some standards for clothing here. On the other hand, we have to be careful to give them some room to express themselves by what they wear. Find us a dress code that will allow us to do both." (5 Moderatism)
212. If our principal would just let us have unlimited access to all sites on the Internet, that would solve all our discipline problems. He just does not understand. (9 Causal Oversimplification)
213. That was an incredible tournament we attended last week. I am disappointed, though, that I was not selected to the All-Tournament Team. That selection committee must have been stacked with coaches from the other side of the state. (6 Rationalization)
214. It makes no difference that I agree with almost everything that Roger Robinson stands for. I know that he is ethical and honest and has a record of doing what he says he will do. But he is a Republican – he won't get my vote. (1 Prejudice)
215. Several school board members have proposed that we extend the school year to a year-round program. Others have called for keeping the present nine-month school year. I believe that both these proposals have some merit. I suggest that we lengthen the school year to twelve months with three week vacations after each three month period. (5 Moderatism)
216. Legislator speaking to a session of the state Senate: "Juvenile delinquency will keep on increasing until we start using the police rather than social workers to handle the problems of youth." (9 Causal Oversimplification)
217. Professor Theodore Post called for an investigation of the university research lab, which receives millions of dollars in funding from the Defense Department. Edward Crawley, the head of the aeronautics department, led an inquiry and initially found no wrongdoing. But after Post challenged this, Crawley recommended a full investigation. That hasn't happened yet. "I'm pursuing this to the end," Post says. "Either they get rid of me, or I get rid of them." (3 Drawing the Line)

218. A research scientist talking to another researcher: "I'm waiting for the data from my latest experiment to be analyzed. It's going to prove that I have discovered a new form of x-rays that will revolutionize medicine and win me a Nobel Prize!" (7 Wishful Thinking)
219. I think it's ridiculous for you to go around labeling some people as rich and some people as poor. Is someone who makes \$35,000 a year rich? Does \$50,000 make him rich? Does \$28,000 make a person poor? (4 Not Drawing the Line)
220. There's no way I'm going to do well on that math test Monday. Every time I take a test on Monday, I bomb it. (10 Inconceivability)
221. Beware! Lucy is coming to visit this week. You had better watch her. After all, the only time she ever visits is when she needs money. (9 Causal Simplification)
222. Ad for the Volkswagen Phaeton: "In 1997, our chairman made an announcement: 'We are going to make the best car in the world. And we're going to make it from scratch.' By starting from scratch, we were able to invent some new forms of technology. And we were able to build a revolutionary new factory in Dresden. The result was a superb automobile." (5 Radicalism)
223. Teacher talking to another teacher: "Joe was absent yesterday, the day of the test. When he came back today, I told him, 'How convenient to be absent just the day of the test.' He gave some story about being sick. But when a student misses just the day of a test, I don't believe a word he says about why he was absent. He was just avoiding the test." (1 Prejudice)
224. I've lost all my money in the casino except these last two chips. Why don't I just bet both of them and see if my luck will improve? (4 Not Drawing the Line)
225. If I put my mind to it, I could write like Shakespeare. (7 Wishful Thinking)
226. Honey, our financial portfolio is going to be fine. Our Bond Funds have been dragging us down. All we have to do is get out of our Bond Funds, then sit back and relax. That will take care of our future. (9 Causal Simplification)
227. President Bush: "The Middle East will either become free and democratic or it will continue to be the exporter of terrorism." (3 Drawing the Line)
228. Wife to husband: "I need to change something every six months: new pets, new office furniture. I need variety." (5 Radicalism)
229. Little brother to big brother: "Can I play basketball with you and your friends after school today?"  
Big brother: "We don't play with kids your age."  
(1 Prejudice)
230. Senator Johnson's views on Medicare are really worth considering. Congresswoman Smith has quite a different point of view, and she is a powerful force in the House. I'm not sure who is right. I'll let them fight it out. (2 Academic Detachment)
231. Car salesperson to customer: "These models are selling fast; so if you want this car, you'd better buy it today." (3 Drawing the Line)
232. Man in line in a grocery store express lane sees that the customer in front of him has too many items. He taps him on the shoulder and tells him that he can have only 12 items to use this checkout lane. Customer #2 responds: "So I have a few more than 12 items. What's the difference? It's not as if I have a lot more." (4 Not Drawing the Line)

233. I wish now that I had saved my money to buy a new bike. That new one is really neat. Oh, well, I had a great time with my money on that trip I took last summer. It was my choice. (0 No Technique)
234. Propaganda player: "I know I bombed on Section A, but I'm not the only one. Two other people in my group had minus totals. Those questions were just too hard." (6 Rationalization)
235. I have been getting pretty good grades, and I have been keeping my room fairly clean and doing most of my homework every night. So that \$5000 Aptiva computer with the \$2000 laser printer should definitely be under the tree for me on Christmas morning. (7 Wishful Thinking)
236. Miranda, I cannot go out with Robby. He is really dreamy and super nice to me. But he is an Anglo, and I am Puerto Rican. My Mom and Dad would kill me if I brought him home. (1 Prejudice)
237. Secretary #1: "But how do you know he's a CEO (chief executive officer)?"  
Secretary #2: "Isn't it obvious? He drives a Lexus, has a cellular phone, and carries a laptop computer."  
(8 Tabloid Thinking)
238. Teacher to class: "There are too many spelling mistakes in the stories you write in class."  
Nathan: "Well, the way to solve that problem is just to get each of us a computer with a spell-check program."  
(9 Causal Oversimplification)
239. Student at the Propaganda competition disagreeing with the author's opinion: "How can that author say that it was Wishful Thinking when it was obviously Tabloid Thinking? I just can't imagine how anyone would say that was the answer! It's got to be a mistake." (10 Inconceivability)
240. Middle School student: "Boy, I am struggling with my cigarette smoking! My Mom and Dad really want me to stop and I know that the doctors say it is going to hurt me. But I really like the taste of them and the other kids really think that I am cool when I smoke. Boy, it's tough to know what to do. I just cannot decide right now."  
(2 Academic Detachment)
241. Teacher-Advisor to 9th grade boy: "You know, Ron, drinking alcohol regularly can affect you seriously. Men and women who drink lose a lot of time at work and often have troubles with their families. The local Recovery Organizations are filled with people who have messed up their lives by drinking. Even when folks seem to handle drinking OK, it is clear that their work or their schoolwork suffers a lot. I wish that you would reconsider and stop drinking." (0 No Technique)
242. Except for the severely handicapped, all people on welfare could find work but are too lazy to do so. So they should not be given welfare out of our hard earned tax dollars. We should do away with welfare except for the severely handicapped. (1 Prejudice)
243. Sam: "Loan me five dollars, please."  
Joe: "No way! You haven't paid back the \$50 I loaned you last week."  
Sam: "Right; so what's five more dollars? Lend it to me."  
(4 Not Drawing the Line)
244. We must blockade Cuba at once, or Cuba will soon control Latin America. (3 Drawing the Line)



245. Chairman at a stormy committee meeting: "Let's all calm down. Let's listen to each other. Then we can reach an agreement that we can all live with." (5 Moderatism)
246. Golly, that church in Brentwood is really growing fast. They have added 300 new members in the last year alone. Our church is not growing at all. Our head pastor is just not dynamic enough. (9 Causal Oversimplification)
247. I have little sympathy for the clothes designer Versace and his death. All of those designers are party animals with low morals. They all think only about their own egos. (8 Tabloid Thinking)
248. Scientist to rabbi: "I can't believe someone as smart as you believes in God."  
Rabbi to scientist: "I can't believe someone as smart as you does *not* believe in God." (10 Inconceivability)
249. The rioting by Catholics in Northern Ireland is a direct result of the government allowing Protestants to march through the Catholic neighborhood. (9 Causal Oversimplification)
250. Son: "Dad, why don't we kneel down when we pray?"  
Father: "Because Catholics kneel when they pray. We don't want to be like them." (1 Prejudice)
251. Mr. Mitchell doesn't remember telling Mr. Dean to pay off Hunt; therefore, Mr. Dean was lying when he said that Mr. Mitchell told him to pay off Hunt. (3 Drawing the Line)
252. Ad: "For over 70 years, one publication has stood out from the crowd as an indispensable resource for business leaders. That publication is *The Harvard Business Review*." (5 Conservatism)
253. Man ordering at a restaurant: "Now I must order a cheap dinner. Ah, here's a \$5.95 chicken dinner. But wait, for a dollar more I can have a pork dinner that I prefer much more. Wait a minute. For only \$1.50 more, I can have a sirloin steak. Goodness, look at that! Steak *and* shrimp is only a dollar more. That's a bargain. So I'll have the steak and shrimp for \$9.50." (4 Not Drawing the Line)
254. The hypothesis of extra-sensory perception has received virtually no confirmation; therefore it must be false. (10 Inconceivability)
255. I want to be on the same basketball team as Jerome. He's from the inner city; so he must be good. (1 Prejudice)
256. Father to son: "It is your choice. Either get a job or move out!" (3 Drawing the Line)
257. Yeah, I know I have to go to the doctor for my back. However, I am extremely busy today. What is one more day? (4 Not Drawing the Line)
258. Toy manufacturer: "What do you say we update our Classic Monster line of toys this year?"  
Toy salesman: "I don't know. Kids seem to like their monsters to look pretty much the same every year. You know – Dracula in his black cape with vampire teeth dripping blood."  
Manufacturer: "Yeah, but I had this picture of Vampira with a totally new look this year – short orange hair, a leather miniskirt, tennis shoes with black cat emblems, riding a Dirt Devil electric broom. I say we go for it!" (5 Conservatism)
259. Mom, I'm sorry I got a D on my report card, but I just couldn't help it. Ever since the beginning of the year, my teacher has been out to get me. She just does not like me! (6 Rationalization)

260. When I went to the gift shop, I could not make up my mind which beanie baby I wanted most. Erin was beautiful, but so was Princess. So I decided I would wait to buy one when I had enough money to purchase both. (2 Academic Detachment)
261. Ferd: "I'm ready for this competition. I've brought my special pencil."  
Nerd: "What's so special about your pencil?"  
Ferd: "Well, when I get ready to mark my answer, I say my secret word and the pencil automatically puts down the author's opinion." (7 Wishful Thinking)
262. If there were more policemen in this town, crime would cease to exist. (9 Causal Oversimplification)
263. Dad, I don't want to play with William. He's one of those computer hackers with thick glasses, pale skin, and an IQ that's off the charts. He will never be good at soccer. All the kids will make fun of me if I bring him along. (8 Tabloid Thinking)
264. Big brother to little brother on Halloween: "Do you really believe that you'll scare somebody in that Cryptkeeper costume? You must think people are stupid!" (10 Inconceivability)
265. I really want to play on a good team, and although my best friends play for the Tigers, the better athletes are on the Lions. I think I'll wait to see which coach calls me first. (2 Academic Detachment)
266. Whenever I get a chance to pay more money to reduce our mortgage, I do it. In the long run, it saves us a *great* deal of money. It just makes sense. (0 No Technique)
267. We are not going to hire Mark Miller for that engineering spot. I know that he has the highest rating of our candidates. But we are going to hire Tam Nguyen instead. Asians just have higher intellects. (1 Prejudice)
268. You don't like her? I don't understand how you could dislike her. (10 Inconceivability)
269. From a letter from a lending company: "We have been helping homeowners like you. And we've been doing it for over 50 years. If you need money, pick up the phone and give us a call." (5 Conservatism)
270. Yes, sir; I know that McCarthy Middle School has already received a new file server, the latest Novell operating system, and 40 new Pentium lab work stations. But our network is really slow. We need to upgrade our network this year to the latest fast Ethernet speeds. (4 Not Drawing the Line)
271. Mike Tyson *had* to bite Holyfield's ear during the boxing match. Holyfield had head-butted Tyson several times and was not penalized for it. (6 Rationalization)
272. Of course, we can get the new plant built by early October. That is when you need it. It seems like a big project to do in such a short time, but don't worry about it. You need it; we will do it. (7 Wishful Thinking)
273. World-class soccer teams have special styles that you will certainly recognize. Brazil plays the "beautiful game," and Netherlands plays "team soccer." (8 Tabloid Thinking)
274. Mike Archer says he is qualified to be the new football coach because of his background as an assistant coach. However, I don't trust him. He's only 33 – too young to be a major college head coach. (1 Prejudice)
275. Daughter to her mother: "You want me to go to the movies with John? No way! He will talk the whole way through the film. After all, he is from an Italian family." (1 Prejudice)

276. With the school elections just days away, I know I have to decide whom to vote for. On the one hand, Mary is one of my best friends. Yet Samantha is better qualified for the position. I do not want to hurt Mary's feelings; so I guess I just will not vote. (2 Academic Detachment)
277. Although I spent all my money on the movies last night, I am not worried. I am sure someone will call me to baby-sit this weekend. After all, I have not had a job in two weeks. (7 Wishful Thinking)
278. Mother to daughter while shopping: "You can have either the Tommy Hilfiger jeans or the Nike running shoes." (3 Drawing the Line)
279. Although the library has been on the third floor since the school was built, it is time to change our habits and move it to the basement. (5 Radicalism)
280. You mean to tell me that you would spend thousands of dollars on a stuffed animal filled with beans? You have to be kidding. (10 Inconceivability)
281. Mike's little brother is a typical little brother. You know, one who always wants to tag along, wear the same clothes, and do everything he does. (8 Tabloid Thinking)
282. I studied hard for this test. I really know the material. I'm confident I will do well. (0 No Technique)
283. Of course, your flea market is not making a profit. You don't have enough booths packed into your available space. (9 Causal Oversimplification)
284. Boy to his father: "I know I should have done my homework, but I just did not have time. If I missed football practice, I would be kicked off the team. Then all the money you spent on equipment and stuff would go to waste. I just could not do that to you." (6 Rationalization)
285. Daughter thinking about school shopping with her mother: "I know if I pout long enough, I will get both the Tommy Hilfiger jeans and the Nike running shoes." (7 Wishful Thinking)
286. Girl to her mother: "I know that I promised you I would stop drinking, but I'm going out with friends tonight, and they will think I'm weird if I don't even have a little. I promise I will stop tomorrow." (4 Not Drawing the Line)
287. I have been having the best day today. My mom fixed my favorite breakfast; I was just on time for the bus; and I got an A on my algebra test. I know I can pass the pull-up portion of our physical fitness test today too. (7 Wishful Thinking)
288. Fred: "Mom, I cannot take it any more! I refuse to go to Dr. Gums."  
 Mom: "But, honey, he has been your dentist since you got your first tooth."  
 Fred: "I know, Mom, but he is a child's dentist, and I am no longer a child. Good grief, I'm 19 years old. Don't I deserve to go to an adult's dentist?"  
 (5 Radicalism)
289. Mother: "I'm sorry you didn't like the dinner I cooked you."  
 Son: "Why do you think I didn't like it?"  
 Mother: "Because you didn't say you liked it."  
 (3 Drawing the Line)
290. My mother's going to buy me a new pair of jeans when she goes shopping today. I've been dropping hints and mom smiled at me when she left for the mall. (7 Wishful Thinking)
291. There's not a dime worth of difference between the Democrats and the Republicans. So vote for the person who looks better on TV. (4 Not Drawing the Line)

292. I know I'm going to be the homecoming queen. I am the prettiest girl in the senior class and my boyfriend is captain of the football team. Everyone knows who I am, and they think I'm smart. (7 Wishful Thinking)
293. The United States can send its entire army, navy, and air force to Afghanistan. We won't catch Osama Ben Laden. That cat has nine lives and will die a peaceful death at age 80. (10 Inconceivability)
294. My mother told me yesterday she is having another baby. I don't want a little brother or sister! I've been an only child for 10 years. I don't want to give up my privileges. (5 Conservatism)
295. The conflict between Israel and the Palestinians goes back to the Old Testament. Both sides believe in "an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth." (9 Causal Oversimplification)
296. After losing the election for mayor, Joe Smith said, "The voters were distracted by terrorism and the Middle East conflict. They weren't interested in our local election. Also it was not a good year for Democratic candidates." (6 Rationalization)
297. I know you like the home in Jonah's Place. But I don't feel comfortable in that neighborhood. Let's move into Admiration Point instead. Most of our Jewish friends are there. (1 Prejudice)
298. If we can just control our inventory better, our business problems will go away inside of a year. (9 Causal Oversimplification)
299. You know why our team isn't winning right now? Coach Wilson is doing a lousy job. If we get rid of Coach Wilson, we should have a great season. (9 Causal Oversimplification)
300. Maybe I should have listened to my broker and sold that Ajax stock. It plunged right down as he said it would. But, doggone it, I'm still sure that Ajax is going to be a winner. (7 Wishful Thinking)
301. Yes, our original deadline for deciding on the new computer vendor was today. But we have not yet heard from two of the major companies that we deal with. If we do not wait for their prices, we may not get the best deal for our school. I think we should wait for a couple of more days to receive all the information that will help us make the best decision. (0 No Technique)
302. I don't care about rave reviews in London and Paris. The Russian Ballet will not dance in my theatre. This is America and I hire American acts. (1 Prejudice)
303. Yes, I know my project was due today. It has been in the back of my mind for weeks, but it was just too hard to do with all the guests we have had in town. I just could not disappoint them. (6 Rationalization)
304. Candidate for President: "As we consider foreign policy, we must keep foremost in mind our long-term, unwavering support for the nation of Israel. We have supported Israel since its founding, and we must not stop now." (0 No Technique) Conservatism?
305. There are so many entrees on the menu. I'm not sure what I want for dinner. I think I'll just pass and get something later. (2 Academic Detachment)
306. I know I said I was going to buy a new sofa today, but there was a problem. I did like the leather one with the recliner; however there was another one that had a super soft hide-away-bed. Asking me to choose between the two is like asking you to pick between your favorite college and professional football teams. You just can't do it! (2 Academic Detachment)

307. My mom says that my sister can be friends with Jack, but she cannot marry him. We are Italian Catholics, and Jack is an Englishman who has no religion. (1 Prejudice)
308. We interviewed three people for the job, and we need to pick one now. We have waited too long already. Pick one of these three today. (3 Drawing the Line)
309. Mother: "I told you, if you came home late one more time you would be grounded for a month."  
Son: "But mom, this time was different. On the way home, Mark ran out of gas, and we had to walk to the nearest gas station to find some help."  
Mother: "Well, I suppose I can let it slide one more time, but next time you'll be grounded for sure!"  
(4 Not Drawing the Line)
310. Assistant Football Coach: "I would like to show you some new plays I came up with."  
Head Football Coach: "I'm not interested in any new plays. I haven't changed a play in the past ten years, and we've done pretty well so far." (5 Conservatism)
311. Don't look at me. It wasn't my fault that the accident happened. I've only had my license for a week. The car I hit had a 45 year-old driver. He was much more experienced than me. He should have been more careful. (6 Rationalization)
312. I always bring my lucky pig with me to auditions; I'm certainly not going to leave him behind just because I'm getting older. I know this audition is more difficult, but how can anything go wrong when piggy is by my side? (7 Wishful Thinking)
313. I'm not going to be friends with Megan; she's a dancer. You know they're all alike: arrogant, stuck-up, and egocentric. (8 Tabloid Thinking)
314. The attacks on Americans by international terrorist organizations occurred simply because they hate our prosperity. (9 Causal Oversimplification)
315. You expect me to believe that you drove 2000 miles around the Southeast U.S. by yourself? Yeah, right – you don't even like going to the grocery store alone. (10 Inconceivability)
316. Mattie is tall and strong. She has quick-as-a-cat reflexes. And she has played three years as goalie on a competitive team. We need her as our travel team keeper. (0 No Technique)
317. Sarah, you shouldn't date an Hispanic man. I've dated one before, and they're all the same. They're too persistent, overly emotional, and they always need to have their way. You really don't need that in a relationship, do you? (1 Prejudice)
318. Gardener: "I could plant roses in this flowerbed, and it could bloom from spring through fall. On the other hand, I could plant a wide mixture of other flowers in the same area and have a rainbow of colors during the same time span. I'll have to see what my wife thinks. I'll let her decide." (2 Academic Detachment)
319. I cannot understand the position of some of you residents of Kentucky. The Civil War has begun. You must take a stand either for the Union or the Confederacy. You cannot remain neutral. Make your decision now. (3 Drawing the Line)
320. If only I had more time. Patricia is bugging me to finish my story so that she can put together our community storybook. But I just can't seem to get this final chapter done. I need a couple of more days. (4 Not Drawing the Line)
321. Honey, let's just buy that new home in Beacon Acres. It is gorgeous. We will be so happy, and our problems will be over. (9 Causal Oversimplification)

322. Candidate for mayor: "After traveling the state, I realized that our city is due for some change. Look at our buildings; they're out of the 70's. Moreover, our roads need widening, our sewage system needs to be redone, and our landscape needs updating. Put me in office and the next time you look outside, you'll see a modern city." (5 Radicalism)
323. I cannot believe our luck. If those telecommunications investments had not lost so much of our money, we would be in great shape for our retirement. It's our adviser's fault. (6 Rationalization)
324. For the first time, my five-year-old son, Benny, helped me with the spring planting of our vegetable garden. This will be such a good experience for him. I know the garden will do well this year. It so important to him. (7 Wishful Thinking)
325. Turn off the TV, and let's go to bed. The Nets are ahead by 15 going into the fourth quarter. No way the Lakers are going to make up that many points. (10 Inconceivability)
326. Student running for class president: "For the past three years, you have elected my opponent. However, he has done nothing for us. In fact, when asked to account for how our dues money has been spent, he refused to answer. It's time for a change. I promise to spend our dues money wisely and to give you a report on how it is spent down to the penny." (0 No Technique)
327. Dad said that I could have a treat this weekend, but I ended up not going. The baseball game was great but far away, and the beach party at the lake was going to include some girls I didn't really like. (2 Academic Detachment)
328. I realize that we have never met cousin Susan and don't know what she likes to eat, but we can't miss by stocking up on pasta. She *is* Italian. (8 Tabloid Thinking)
329. In a news conference, the president said, "Over time, it's going to be important for nations to know they will be held accountable for inactivity," he said. "You're either with us or against us in the fight against terror." (3 Drawing the Line)
330. U.S. President: "My budget includes the largest increase in defense spending in two decades. While the price of freedom and security is high, it is never too high. Whatever it costs to defend our country, we will pay." (4 Not Drawing the Line)
331. I cannot believe that we are still teaching reading by that old phonics system. My grandmother was taught that way. We need to switch to the new whole language approach. It is in all the recent language arts magazines. Our students will improve. (5 Radicalism)
332. Officer, I know I was speeding but I have a very good reason. I'm trying to test the safety of my car to see what speeds it can travel comfortably. I don't trust the manufacturer's tests; I like to do my own. Therefore, you really shouldn't give me a ticket, because I'm doing this for the safety of all. (6 Rationalization)
333. Tin Man: "But suppose the Wizard doesn't give me a heart?"  
Dorothy: "Oh, but he must; we've come so far."  
(7 Wishful Thinking)
334. I know how we can end these terrorist attacks. Close our borders to Middle East immigrants. Keep the Muslims out of our country. (9 Causal Oversimplification)
335. There is nothing beyond the stars. We can't see anything else out there. So there's obviously nothing there. (10 Inconceivability)
336. Mother to daughter: "Either have a family or have a career, but you can't have both!" (3 Drawing the Line)

337. Mother to daughter: "No, you may not go to the party with Francois. I heard the party is not going to be chaperoned, and I certainly don't want you hanging around with a French foreign exchange student unsupervised!" (1 Prejudice)
338. Candice: "Tomorrow is the big election. Are you going to vote for Smith or Jones?"  
Drew: "Well, Smith is a huge advocate of animal rights, and I support that 100%. However, Jones is a strong environmentalist and works hard to clean up our community, and I'm always looking for that in a candidate. So I'm not going to decide now. I'll do it later."  
(2 Academic Detachment)
339. I think it is a mistake to mourn the disappearance of the traditional world of work. Sure, one has sympathy for the employees laid off in mid-life, but we should focus on the younger generation, the world they will live in, and the attitudes and perspectives they must adopt in order to flourish and thrive. (5 Radicalism)
340. Yes, it's true that we did not complete the building on time. But the bank held us up a couple of weeks on the loan. Then our sub-contractors failed to show up for work several days. We just could not make it. (6 Rationalization)
341. I just know that I'm going to get the new job as vice president of the company. I've been so good at my old job as treasurer, how can they not promote me? (7 Wishful Thinking)
342. All state troopers are the same. You know – short tempered, hot-wired, and always looking for a sucker to speed by. (8 Tabloid Thinking)
343. Ad for Mateuse Wines: "Have you ever heard of anyone who doesn't like Mateuse?" (10 Inconceivability)
344. TV ad for an exercise machine shows a woman saying: "My name is Barbara, and I lost 50 pounds with the Gazelle exerciser." In small print at the bottom of the screen is this statement: "Results were achieved with a low calorie diet and the Gazelle exerciser." (9 Causal Oversimplification)
345. The Republican Party in the White House has meant tax cuts for the wealthy in each of the last five Republican administrations. The Republican candidates tell us that is what they stand for this time. We should believe them. (0 No Technique)
346. Democratic voter the day after Democratic Senator Paul Wellstone died in a plane crash: "If it had been a Republican Senator, the first question George Bush would have asked would have been, 'Was the pilot a Muslim?' The first question Senator Trent Lott would have asked would have been, 'Was the pilot a Negro?'" (1 Prejudice)
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347. I asked my college advisor whether I should take Introductory Calculus or Physics my first semester. She told me, "They're both good. Take either one." (2 Academic Detachment)
348. Ad: "Buy your furniture at 'Rooms To Go.' Anywhere else and you will receive lower quality and higher prices." (3 Drawing the Line)
349. America's National Forests are again under attack by the Bush administration. Being Republicans, their goal is simple: give industries unlimited access to America's forests. (8 Tabloid Thinking)
350. My friend David has very little energy. His girl friend tells him to take allergy medicines. His doctor has recommended a prescription drug. I have told him about Juice Plus, a juice and vegetable product. He can't decide what to take and goes around feeling tired all the time. (2 Academic Detachment)

351. The Bush administration has pushed for the repeal of a 10-year ban on research and development of "low-yield" nuclear weapons. Opposing the repeal on the Senate floor, Senator Ted Kennedy asked: "Is half a Hiroshima OK? Is a quarter Hiroshima OK? Is a little mushroom cloud OK? That's absurd. The issue is too important. If we build it, we'll use it." (4 Not Drawing the Line)
352. "Coal is a 19th-century fuel that has no place in 21st-century Canada," said Jack Gibbons of the Canadian Clean Air Alliance. (5 Radicalism)
353. Ad for American Express appearing in magazines before the 2004 Olympics in Greece: "You'll be in Athens a few days. We've been here 67 years. Let US show you around." (5 Conservatism)
354. I have no doubt that the War on Terrorism will soon be over. With America united, there is no way we won't win quickly. (7 Wishful Thinking)
355. The U.S. military has had a tendency to ignore the strategic and political realities of war. This is why it lost Vietnam. (9 Causal Simplification)
356. My doctor wants me to stay home for two weeks after my surgery. I don't understand why. I'll be out of the hospital in a day. I'll be on solids foods the next day and up and around shortly after that. I've never had any complications or other trouble after surgery. There's no way I will need to take that much time away from work. (10 Inconceivability)
357. Arab terrorists are threatening our way of life. I want to be safe. We need to get rid of all Arabs in the U.S. Racial profiling is the only way to be safe. (1 Prejudice)
358. "America: Love it, or leave it." (3 Drawing the Line)
359. I have flown on a commercial jet between New York and London. I have been a passenger on a Concorde supersonic flight between New York and London. They've both been safe. Teleportation Incorporated has announced the sale of tickets for a commercial suborbital flight between New York and London. I have to experience suborbital flight. It's the next step. (4 Not Drawing the Line)
360. Honey, I met Dr. Phil Denture at church today. Several people have told me how great he is. I know that Dr. Incisor has been good for our family for the past fifteen years. Our kids have great teeth because of him. But I think it is time for a change. Let's make appointments with Dr. Denture. (5 Radicalism)
361. Gee whiz, you were right. We should have bought that condo next store and rented it. We would have made about \$50,000 in one year! Yeah, but it would have been a lot of work fixing it up and satisfying the renters. I am kind of glad we passed on that deal. (6 Rationalization)
362. OK, let's go to the movies tonight and to the concert on Saturday. I can skip soccer practice both times. Coach will still let me start. (7 Wishful Thinking)
363. I am not a fan of NASCAR racing. Those drivers are all a bunch of tobacco-chewing hicks. (8 Tabloid Thinking)
364. The reason for the increased number of car accidents this year is that state troopers have reduced the number of tickets they give to speeders. If only the troopers would patrol and ticket speeders more, there would be no car accidents. (9 Causal Simplification)
365. We'll have to work hard to beat the teams from Michigan. They're always really good in the cube games, so they win sweepstakes a lot. We can beat them if we can do well in the reading games – that's their weakness. Northerners aren't very good at listening. (8 Tabloid Thinking)



366. What do you mean the country is at war? Look outside. It is so peaceful. We cannot possibly be in danger. (10 Inconceivability)
367. Wife to Husband: "I've always arranged the dishes so that the glasses are in the left cabinet, and the plates and bowls are in the right cabinet. Now that we have our new place, I think we should stick to our ways. Everything will be so much easier to find if we do." (5 Conservatism)
368. Senator Robin Morris has more than 20 years of political experience in Washington D.C. I agree with all her ideas for changing our country. However, I just don't know if America is ready to have a woman president. I'll be safe and vote for Vice-President Cushing for president. Running our country is a man's job. (1 Prejudice)
369. I realize that I failed the math test, but that was because my teacher wouldn't let me use my special pen. She said that we had to use pencil. If I could have used my pen, I just know I would have done better. (6 Rationalization)
370. School Board member: "Our new superintendent must understand how to use technology to improve education. If you don't know how to use computers to increase student learning, don't bother to apply for the job." (3 Drawing the Line)
371. Ad: "We know you wouldn't trust your health insurance to just anyone. Humana Inc. has been a trusted member of the healthcare community for more than 40 years. From our roots as one of the largest hospital organizations in the nation, we are dedicated to insuring the healthcare of people and their families." (5 Conservatism)
372. Just change to a lighter bat. That will snap you out of your hitting slump. (9 Causal Simplification)
373. Mother speaking to her children: "I really should go shopping today. The Weather Channel is predicting that a tropical storm will hit us tomorrow morning. I could shop tomorrow; the weather channel isn't always 100% accurate. It would be nice to just stay home and get some work done around the house. What do you kids think I should do?" (2 Academic Detachment)
374. Teacher to parent: "I'm sorry about the error on your son's report card, Mrs. Johnson. I realize that recording an 'F' on Sammy's report card when he earned an 'A' was a big mistake, but you must understand. I had thirty report cards to fill out and a 3 pm deadline to turn in my grades." (6 Rationalization)
375. Even though Jerry has gotten into trouble before, there's no way that he could've broken that window. He was out shopping with his mother and wasn't even around when it happened. (0 No Technique)
376. I just know that I'm going to get a good grade on my English essay. My little brother read my paper and said it was the best short story he has ever read. (7 Wishful Thinking)
377. There is no way in the world that hurricane is going to hit us. We already had three hurricanes come through this area this year. We've never had four in one year. It just can't happen. (10 Inconceivability)
378. All the teams in the Western Conference are just "Run and Gun." They will not be able to survive against the "Dirty Defense" of the Eastern champs. (8 Tabloid Thinking)
379. Automobile ad: "Hang on to your change. The all new, all-wheel drive Saab with all-wheel drive handling, road-blistering performance, and 5-door versatility." (5 Radicalism)

380. Sally: "I know why the United States is losing jobs to other countries."  
Sarah: "Why?"  
Sally: "It's easy to understand. With medical costs going up and up, it's just too expensive for companies to hire American workers."  
(9 Causal Simplification)
381. Writer to editor: "I've been working very hard on this article to make sure I've covered all angles of the story. It's going to be a show stopping piece, I swear! I also know that I'm already three days over the deadline. That's why I'm sure you won't mind giving me two more days to finish this extraordinary article that will knock your socks off!" (4 Not Drawing the Line)
382. One of the things that you need to do to be ready for your interview tomorrow is get a good night's sleep. You have practiced your interview and laid out your best clothes and prepared a good résumé. Now, relax and get a good night's sleep to give yourself the best chance at the job. (0 No Technique)
383. In most decisions today, the Democrats reject the constitutional principles of moral decency and respect for life. The Republicans who are in power seem to profess those principles but are unwilling to take political risks to support their beliefs. I will not vote for either. (2 Academic Detachment)
384. Student to his parents: "I'm sure that I will qualify to attend all the Academic Games tournaments this year. I didn't qualify to go to any last year. My time has come." (7 Wishful Thinking)
385. Mom, I still deserve that iPod you promised me for good grades. I know I didn't get the straight A's that you wanted, but I would have if Ms. Hammel had dropped our lowest test grade as Ms. Derth did last year. So it's not my fault. Just talk to Ms. Derth." (6 Rationalization)
386. Choosing a new member for our academic games team is like selecting a fine wine to complement a dinner. It must accentuate the flavors of the meal, work well with all portions of the dish, and, of course, not be overbearing. Likewise, our new member must complement our current teammates and be able to work well with all of them. For these reasons, Francesca should be avoided. With a team of all boys, she will certainly not fit in and will prove to be more of a hindrance than an asset.  
(1 Prejudice)
387. A judge's order may not overrule the chief executive or make new laws. It has been that way since our founding fathers. We cannot let our judges run wild. (5 Conservatism)
388. Amos to a friend: "Our company made a good decision in hiring Kiyoshi as a computer programmer. The Japanese know everything about computers and technology. It's a good move for the company. I'm buying more company stock." (8 Tabloid Thinking)
389. I know that I messed up on my last three jobs. But, this one is going to be different. I am sure that they will keep me this time. I am due for a break. (7 Wishful Thinking)
390. Ad for Atlanta Center for Cosmetic Dentistry: "Dr. King and Dr. Chessman bring a combined 25 years of experience to every case they perform. And they perform thousands of cosmetic dental enhancements every year." (0 No Technique)
391. Keep this in mind. Although there are now four plumbing firms in this town, we were the first and only for a long time. (5 Conservatism)

392. I can't decide whether I'd like peanut butter and jelly or peanut butter and bananas for lunch. They both sound so delicious, and they would be awful all mixed together. I'll ask Peyton what she'd prefer; she always makes the best decisions. (2 Academic Detachment)
393. Teacher: "As soon as he walked into my classroom wearing sneakers, I had a negative opinion of him. In my experience, students who wear sneakers to class find it hard to concentrate." (1 Prejudice)
394. The Bears won the championship this year because of their star hitter Sammy "Slammer" Johnson. With him gone, next year will be ours. (9 Causal Oversimplification)
395. Commit to the extra soccer practices and forget your extra study time. If you don't, your team has no chance in the Regional Tournament. (3 Drawing the Line)
396. I know that we were hit with four hurricanes last season. And this year is expected to be even worse. Yet, before last year, it had been almost ten years since we had a direct hit. With that kind of history, you can't possibly expect the public to listen to the warning that the National Weather Center is sending out this year. We won't have two bad seasons in a row. (10 Inconceivability)
397. Customer at a movie theater: "I'd like a medium popcorn, please."  
Cashier: "Would you like to upgrade to a large for only a quarter more?"  
(4 Not Drawing the Line)
398. Of course he's rich – he lives in Beverly Hills! (8 Tabloid Thinking)
399. Don't bother looking at those other computers. The only real choices are Dell and Gateway. Anything else is a piece of junk that will just be an expensive paper-weight on your desk. (3 Drawing the Line)
400. High school baseball coach to a player: "Look! I'm tired of you not really making an effort to play baseball and help your team. If you don't try your best during this game, I'm removing you from the team." (0 No Technique)
401. There was nothing I could do. I know it was a bad decision, but all my friends encouraged me to do it and my teacher said it might be all right. I had no choice. (6 Rationalization)
402. There are 2 billion people in the world who are earning less than two dollars a day. The only hope for them is small businesses, which can create jobs and provide them with income. (9 Causal Oversimplification)
- ~~403. Republicans control the White House and both houses of Congress. There is no way the poor are going to get a break as long as the Republicans are in charge. (10 Inconceivability)~~
404. High school girl to a friend: "Jeffrey invited me to go to the school dance this week. I know he's cute and just about the perfect date, but I said no. His family is poor and I really can't be seen dating him. What will my other friends think?" (1 Prejudice)
405. All my friends have been telling me about *CURVES*, a great workout salon. It is convenient, non-threatening, and for women only. My husband is concerned about the bad effect my increased weight might have on my health. But I've already waited this long. I'll look into it next week and maybe sign up next month. (4 Not Drawing the Line)
406. Was there a phone call for me, or was it a wrong number again? (3 Drawing the Line)

407. Chief of Police at a news conference: "Any Ethnikians spotted walking in a predominantly Homo Sapiens neighborhood will be stopped for questioning." (1 Prejudice)
408. I've sent my résumé to over 100 companies, but I haven't gotten a single interview. But I know that once the economy picks up, employers will be calling me left and right. (7 Wishful Thinking)