Induction v. Deduction Practice Answer Key

Political Analysis
September 8, 2005

Instructions: Complete this at home and then check the answers on the course web site.

You know the general principle that the sum of the angles in any triangle is always 180 degrees, and you have a particular triangle in mind, you can then conclude that the sum of the angles in your triangle is 180 degrees [deduction]

This cat is black. That cat is black A third cat is black. Therefore all cats are are black [induction]

All men are mortal. Joe is a man. Therefore Joe is mortal. [deduction].

This marble from the bag is black. That marble from the bag is black. A third marble from the bag is black. Therefore all the marbles in the bag black [induction].

Countries where citizens are highly educated are more likely to be democracies. Australia, Austria, Sweden, and Denmark have a high proportion of citizens with advanced degrees and are therefore more likely to be democracies [deduction].

Australia, Austria, Sweden and Denmark have a high proportion of citizens with advanced degrees and frequent competitive elections, therefore countries where citizens are highly educated are more likely to be democracies [induction].

Dr. Cooper’s computer is a Dell. Dr. Carroll’s computer is a Dell. Dr. Michelsen’s computer is a Dell, therefore all Political Scientists have Dells [induction].

Dr. Cooper is a dork. Dr. Bryant is a dork. Dr. Carroll is a dork. All political scientists must be dorks [induction].

All academics are dorks. Dr. Cooper is an academic, therefore Dr. Cooper must be a dork [deduction].