

Exercise on Arguments and Fallacies

- a. George Bush says he hears the quiet people others don't. I've got a friend in LA who hears the quiet people others don't, and he's got to take a lot of medication. Albert Brooks
- b. The U.S. Bureau of Prisons wants \$315 million for fiscal 1992 for construction to relieve major overcrowding. The situation is so serious that convicts routinely have to share cells, and - Wait a minute. What exactly is wrong with prisoners having to share cells? College kids share dorm rooms; troops in Saudi Arabia share tents; crazy young people in Manhattan share studio apartments. Who says you get to pay your debt to society in a private room?
- c. American soldiers are all eager to return to the Persian Gulf, I've talked with over a half-dozen of them, and every one of them said so.
- d. I like New York. It seems like a wonderful city to me; I'm enjoying myself a lot.
- e. Don't assume that you can get along in Japan without taking our Japanese language courses. Think of it this way: A native of Japan might be able to survive in a large American city without being able to speak English. But he'd have a rough time of it. And would he enjoy himself? Would he have any fun? Make friends? Be happy that he came? Not a chance! (Patterned after a 1960's language-school advertisement this one requires a little background information about Japan.)
- f. I think that the people of the world are ready to accept the sacrifices that sound environmental Policy demands. Why, I went to a meeting last night, and almost everyone there indicated that they were ready. (Note: The meeting was a meeting of the Sierra Club)
- g. Americans are ready to accept the reality of a tax hike. Why, I spoke with over half a dozen voters just today, and they all agreed that a tax hike is a necessity.
- h. "Our nation must come together to unite." – George W. Bush
- i. Two days after I took ENDCOLD tablets, my cold went away. So, I can recommend ENDCOLD tablets with confidence!
- j. I enjoyed the Potluck party last night. The food was good, and I got a chance to talk with old friends.
- k. We let her become Secretary of Education, and now American students' standardized test scores are going down. I told you we never should have voted for her!
- l. "It's no exaggeration to say the undecideds could go one way or another." – George W. H. Bush