

The Logical Fallacies Field Guide

Spot three real fallacies in the wild, then turn the lens on your own strongest argument and fix what you find.

Spot Three in the Wild

Fallacy 1

Quote or paraphrase a real example — a meeting, article, comment thread, or your opponent — and name which of the six fallacies it is.

Fallacy 2

A second real example, different fallacy if possible.

Fallacy 3

A third real example.

Audit Your Own Argument

Where you're leaning on a fallacy

Read your own strongest argument. Find one place you're straw-manning the other side, using a false either/or, or asserting a slope you can't actually show.

The honest rewrite

Rewrite that part so the argument is honest and still strong.

The six to watch for

Straw man — did I state their real position, or a weaker one?

False dichotomy — are there really only two options?

Slippery slope — can I show the chain, or am I just asserting it?

Ad hominem — am I answering the argument or attacking the arguer?

False appeal to authority — is this authority actually expert on this specific question?

Whataboutism — am I answering the point or changing the subject?

In the room, name the move in plain language rather than the fallacy's name — 'that's not what I said' does the work without sounding like a debate-club reflex.