

Gauge Your Understanding Exercises

Directions: Write brief answers to the following questions and compare your responses to mine.

1. What is an argument?

2. What is the ultimate conclusion of an argument?

3. Why is it important to correctly understand an argument's internal structure?

My Responses

1. What is an argument?

An argument is a unit of reasoning that attempts to prove that a certain idea is true by citing other ideas as evidence.

2. What is the ultimate conclusion of an argument?

The ultimate conclusion of an argument is the idea that the argument is trying to prove true.

3. Why is it important to correctly understand an argument's internal structure?

Understanding the internal structure of an argument helps us to interpret the argument, which helps us to evaluate the argument, which helps us to know whether or not we should be persuaded by an argument and believe the argument's ultimate conclusion.