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Essentials of LOGIC Outlined

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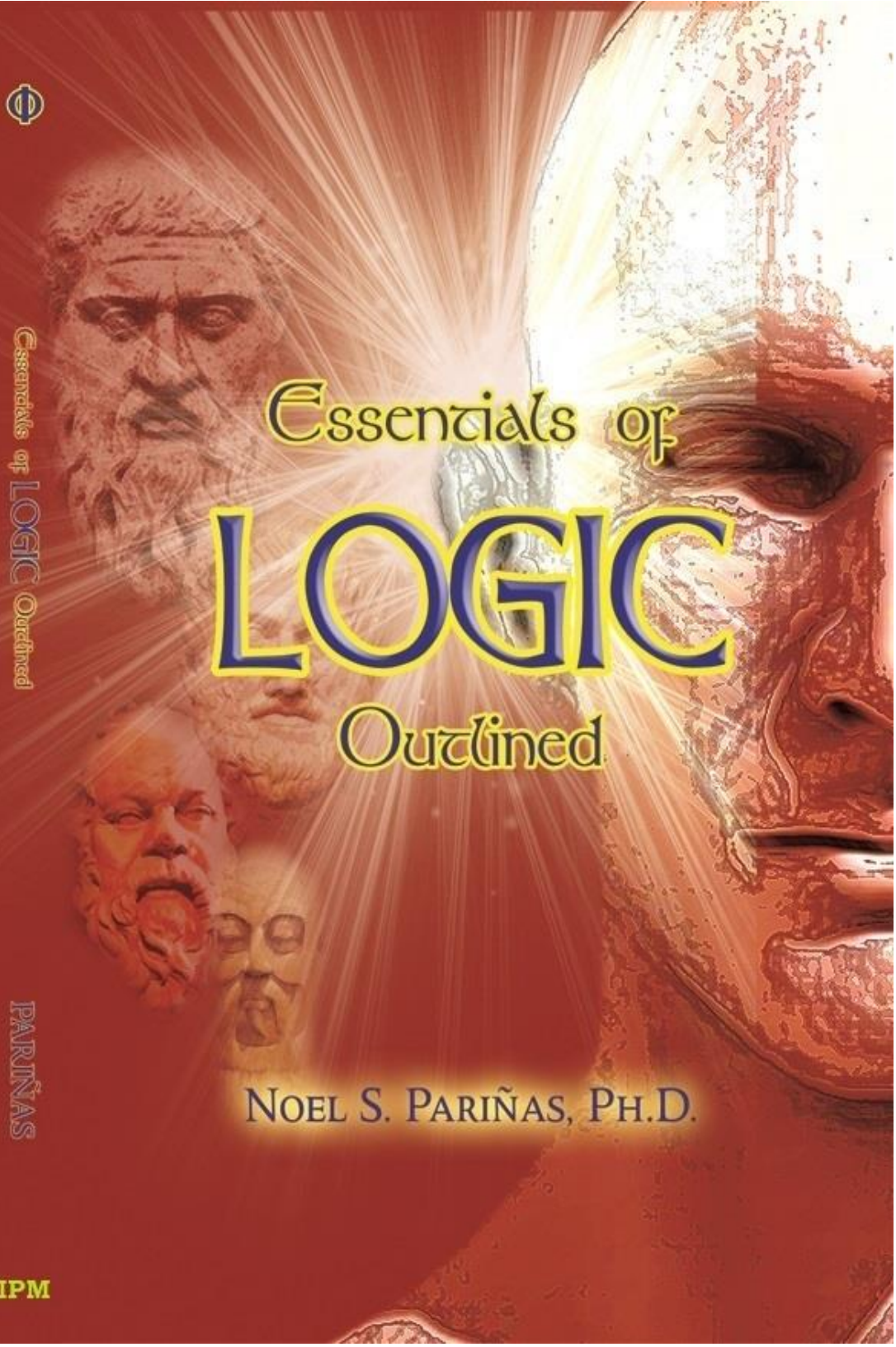

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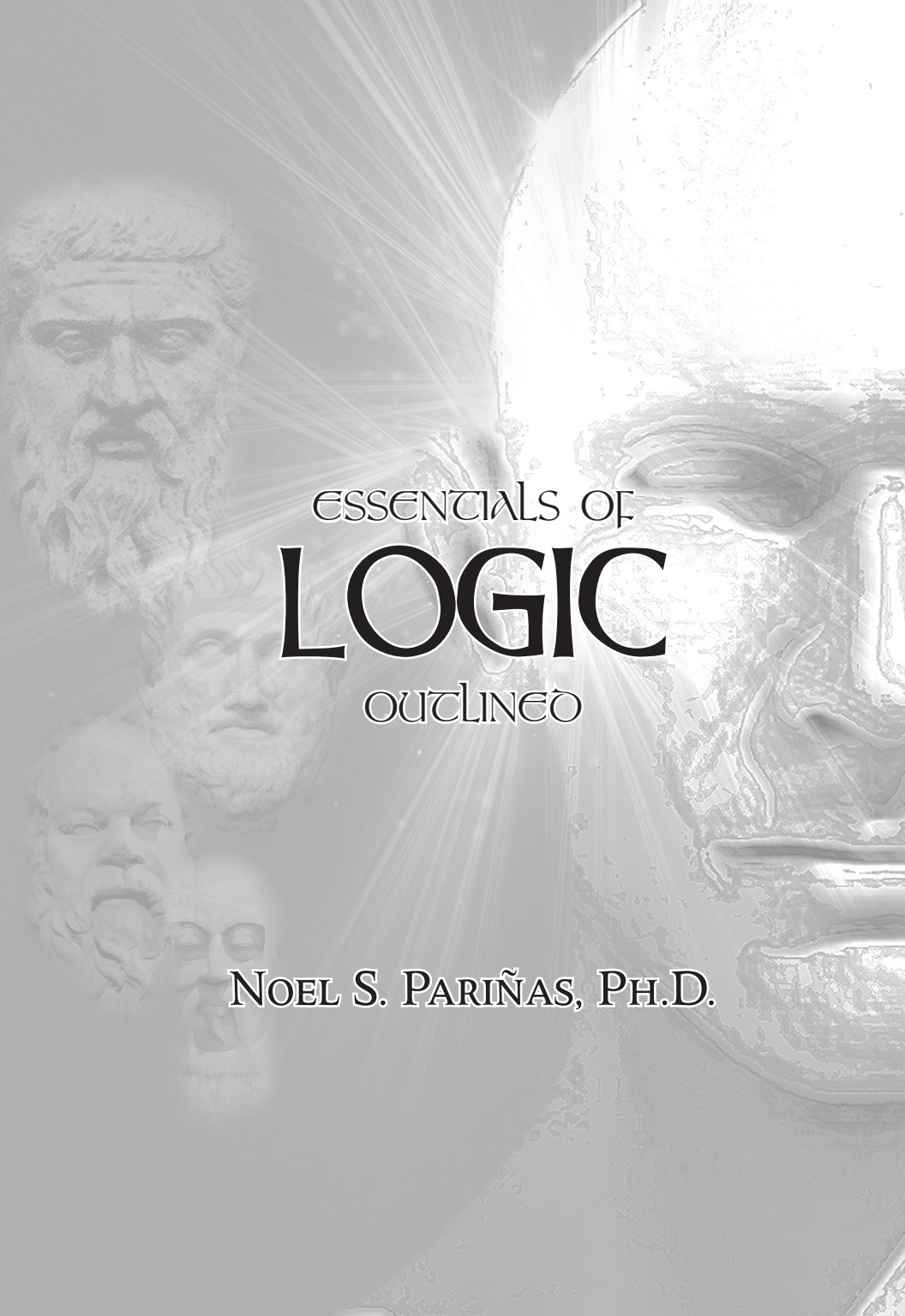

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PREFACE

The dearth of resources inherent in the study of Logic effected and affected by lack of reading materials, the financial constraints characteristic of the plight of students, the utter difficulty in teaching the subject shorthanded by write-then-explain method, made possible this undertaking.

This text is a compilation of scholarly works by noted logicians that have made their way through publication. This work pales in comparison to their works and no deliberate efforts were made to water-down portions of their book that were not included herein. I beg one favor of my readers that this endeavor should not be interpreted as mimicry, instead as compilation with the purpose of putting together brilliant works for enlightenment of the young.

Mere mention of the names of the authors that I have used in this project is not even commensurate to the efforts they have laid. Notwithstanding this fact, it is out of deference and admiration that pages for bibliography are allotted.

It is fervently prayed for that this work will ease the difficulty of comprehension on the part of students and likewise facilitate instruction because of its rudimentary and comprehensive substance.

NSP

To Czerneole who always
inspires me everyday,
unconscious she may be!

INTRODUCTION

The proclivity of many people (learned otherwise) to classify arguments to reasoning as logical or illogical calls into mind the import of logic. Inasmuch as discourse is the essence of existence, the penchant for classification warrants the evaluation of the bases for saying that one is bad or good reasoning.

If all persons (except for few who are congenitally impaired) are capable of reasoning, not all persons are capable of correct reasoning. Ergo, the peculiar province of determining a sound from a fallacious reasoning falls in the ambit of logic. Normally one is logical if the reasoning is in accordance with what one would reasonably expect in view of the events or the circumstances and illogical if the action is not called for by the circumstances, or a person whose thinking is disorderly and inconsistent.

But the same observations harbors on perception rather than on methodologies and other tools which logicians have perfected to classify bad reasoning into one division and good reasoning into another.

The study of Logic will therefore increase proficiency in reasoning. Likewise, knowledge of the course will give students certain techniques for testing the validity of arguments, including their own.

Logic is the science of reasoning but the reasoning herein alluded to is not the reasoning that concerns even psychologists. Reasoning here is that special kind of thinking called INFERRING in which conclusions are drawn from the premises.

In short, Logic has the very practical purpose of helping us to think with order and ease, and without error. It should enable us to discover defects in the thinking of others and to avoid defects in our own thinking.

With this, let us have IPOD (intellectual processes of deduction). Come and THINK (True, Helpful, Inspiring, Necessary, and Kind)!

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INDEX

A
Abductive Reasoning 9
Absorption 82, 88
Addition 79, 88
Alethic Logic 7
Ampersand 54
Analytic Proposition 21
Antilogism 34, 42, 43, 44, 52, 145, 167
Argument 2, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 15, 17
Aristotle 3–196, 35–196, 39–196, 142–196, 145–196, 150–196
Association 84, 88, 138

B
Barbara 51, 185
Baroko 51, 185
Biconditional 56, 66, 72, 74, 82, 83, 86
Bokardo 51, 185
Boole, George 4, 42, 44, 145
Boolean Equation 42
Bound Variable 93
Bramantip 50, 145

C
Camenes 51, 185
Camestres 51, 185
Categorical Proposition 13, 20, 23, 24, 26, 31, 32, 33, 42, 44, 45
Categorical Syllogism 31, 32, 33, 34, 37, 38, 39, 44, 45, 50, 52, 97
Celarent 51, 185
Cesare 51, 185
Cogent Argument 116
Commutation 82, 88, 90
Conclusion 2, 5, 9, 15, 16, 17, 29, 31, 32, 33, 35, 36, 38, 39, 40, 43, 46, 47, 48, 49, 51, 52, 77, 78, 79, 90, 97, 98,116, 118, 122, 125, 128, 131, 136, 140, 145, 159, 165, 166
Conditional 26, 52, 54, 56, 65, 66, 72, 74, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84,85, 86, 87, 90, 94, 98, 126, 140, 144, 178
Conditional Elimination 80
Conditional Introduction 80
Conditional Syllogism 80, 88, 90, 98
Conditionalization 80, 88
Conjunction 25, 26, 54, 55, 60, 62, 63, 72, 73, 75, 79, 81, 82, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 179
Conjunction Elimination 79
Conjunction Introduction 79
Constructive Dilemma 81, 88

Contingent 70, 180
Contradiction 26, 30, 36, 115, 143, 149, 180
Contrariety 26, 27, 29, 52, 143, 151
Conversion 29
Copi Notation 57
Cross of Opposition 149, 150, 151

D
Darapti 50, 52, 145
Darii 51
Datisi 51
Deductive Logic 10
Demorgan 60, 71, 85
Demorgan's Rule 60, 71, 85

D
Denial of Conjunction 87, 192
Denial of Negation 72, 85
Deontic Logic 7
Description Logic 8
Destructive Dilemma 81
Deviant Logic 7
Dialectic 155
Dimaris 51, 185
Disamis 51, 185
Disjunction 54, 60, 63, 64, 65, 73, 79
Disjunction Introduction 79
Disjunctive Syllogism 80
Distribution 34, 35, 83, 87
Double Negation 61, 85
Doxastic Logic 7
Dynamic Logic 8

E
Eduction 29
Electrical Circuits 72
Enthymeme 31
Epistemic Logic 7
Equivalence 60, 71
Euler Diagram 23
Exclusive Disjunction 64
Existential Affirmative 14, 95
Existential Elimination 95
Existential Fallacy 39
Existential Generalization 95, 96
Existential Import 144
Existential Instantiation 95, 96, 97
Existential Introduction 95
Existential Negative 14, 95
Exportation 84

F
Fallacy 116, 117, 142
Fallacy of Illicit Existence 36, 39, 117
Fallacy of Illicit Major 35, 36, 37, 38, 117

Fallacy of Illicit Minor 35, 36, 37, 117
Fallacy of Illicit Negative 36, 38, 117
Fallacy of the Square of Opposition 142–196
Fallacy of Undistributed Middle 35, 36, 37, 117
Felapton 50, 145
Ferio 51, 185
Ferison 51, 185
Fesapo 50, 145
Festino 51, 185
Figure 1 48
Figure 2 49
Figure 3 49
Figure 4 49
Formal Fallacy 35
Formal Logic 2, 6, 10
Foucault 31, 32, 151
Frege, Gottlob 4, 91, 92, 144
Fresison 51, 185

G
General Proposition 94

H
Hilbert-Ackermann Notation 57
Hybrid Logic 8
Hypothetical Proposition 13

I
Idempotence 85
Immediate Inference 28, 29
Inclusive Disjunction 64, 179
Inductive Logic 10
Inference 11, 79, 82, 88, 89, 96
Intensional Logic 8
Interpretability Logic 8
Inversion 29

J
Judgment 11, 115, 124, 133

L
Ladd-Franklin, Christine 43
Law of Absurdity 43, 82
Logic 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13, 16, 31, 34, 50, 52, 92, 137, 142, 144, 146, 150, 151, 188, 189, 191, 192

M
Major Premise 32
Major Term 32, 33, 35, 38, 45, 47, 48, 49
Material Equivalence 72, 86
Material Fallacy 117
Material Implication 72, 86
Material Logic 2, 10

Mediate Inference 28
Middle Term 32, 35, 37, 45, 47, 48, 49, 51, 52
Minor Premise 32
Minor Term 32, 33, 35, 37, 45, 47, 48, 49
Modal Logic 7, 8
Modern Logic 4, 6, 50, 142, 144, 146
Modus Ponens 78, 80, 88

N

Natural Deduction 79
Negation 55, 61, 67, 72, 82, 85, 96
Negation Elimination 82
Negation Introduction 82
Nyaya Reasoning 3, 155

O

Obversion 29
Opposition 26, 27, 29, 142, 146, 150, 189

P

Parallel 72
Paralogism 117
Pariñas x, 39, 106, 142, 189
Philosophy 5
Philosophy of Logic 5
Predication Logic 92
Premise 2, 9, 16, 17, 29, 31, 35, 36, 37, 38, 46, 48, 49, 51, 52, 77, 79, 131, 133, 159, 165, 166
Proposition 1, 12 13, 14, 15, 16, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 28, 32, 33, 45, 51, 52–194, 57, 77, 94, 115, 123, 161, 179
Propositional Logic 6, 13, 52
Protagoras 3, 116
Provability Logic 8

Q

Quantification Logic 4, 52, 92, 144
Quantifier Exchange 96
Quasi-Categorical 26, 32
Quasi-Categorical Syllogism 32

R

Reasoning 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 19, 34, 77, 116, 117, 124, 126, 131, 133, 145, 149, 150, 151, 155, 191
Reductio ad Absurdum 43
Relational Property 92

S

Sentence Token 13
Sentence Type 12

Sentential Function 92
Series 12, 72, 75
Simplification 79
Singular Proposition 26, 94
Sophism 117
Sound Argument 10
Square of Opposition 29, 142, 146, 189
Statement 6, 13, 14, 20, 39, 45, 55, 57, 58, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 67, 69, 70, 72–196, 75, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83–196, 84, 85, 86–196, 87, 92, 117, 121, 137, 139, 144, 145, 146, 165, 171, 177, 178–196, 179
Subalternation 26, 27, 29, 143
Subcontrariety 26, 27, 29, 143, 146
Syllogism 31, 88
Syllogistic Figure 3, 48, 155
Syllogistic Form 19, 50, 147, 148
Syllogistic Logic 19, 142, 144
Syllogistic Mood 48
Symbolic Logic 7, 57, 155
Synthetic Proposition 21

T

Tautology 85, 87
Tautology from Distribution 87
Temporal Logic 7
Term 6, 11, 31, 33
Term Logic 6
Traditional Logic 6
Transposition 83
Truth Table 77, 182

U

Universal Affirmative 13, 94
Universal Elimination 95
Universal Generalization 95, 96, 97
Universal Instantiation 95, 96, 97
Universal Introduction 95
Universal Negative 13, 94
Universal Quantifier 21, 93
Universe of Discourse 92
Univocal 31, 32

V

Venn , John 4, 34, 44, 45, 46, 52, 145
Venn Diagram 34, 52, 145
Virgule 54