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by S J

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Fictitious speech by Dale Gribble

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Fictitious speech by Dale Gribble

Question One

An inductive argument is one in which the author intends for the assumptions to be accurate and the conclusions impossible to be wrong if the antecedents are true. As a result, the validity or efficacy of an inductive argument is a matter of perspective. In addition to that, the speaker uses statistics and examples that can be verified. Dale used formal inductive reasoning since he gathers facts and uses mathematical models to evaluate the data of the cockroaches to validate or deny a theory using a systematic method. For instance, he is a professor of mathematics and statistics who adopted a hypothesis that he tests to determine if the cockroach in his house are of German descent. A formal inductive argument explicitly states the claim or position argued and presents a well-laid chain of evidence, as witnessed in the case of Dale, leading to a reasonable verdict that supports the claimed position. Dale has presented his claim and laid down his evidence starting with the visit to the government office, his sample size, and the comparison to the rattlesnake infestation, before concluding his theory.

Question Two

The sample size Dale talks about logically leads to his verdict and the conclusions he draws from the hypothesis. Dale felt that the information he obtained from the government agency was enough to help him conclude that the types of cockroaches in his residence were German. He states in his speech that he was in consultation with the department of agriculture in Florida, where he learned that 50% of the cockroaches in the town are German types, whereas 70% of those found in Pasco County, Florida, are also German pests. Dale then generalized that nearly all the types of cockroaches found in the county are of German characteristics. In practice, researchers use extrapolation to conclude. It is the application of research results from a survey

performed on a small statistical sample. While this application's dependence is not guaranteed, it is statistically likely.

Question Three

In my opinion, the generalizations adopted by Dale are accurate based on the sample size and his confidence level. For instance, he is a professor of mathematics and statistics, meaning that he understands research principles, including generalization. For small sample sizes like one to ten, generalization can be adopted to determine the possible research outcome, hence arriving at desirable conclusions. In addition to that, the confidence level is determined by the information received from the agriculture department in Florida and the sample study of ten cockroaches. He determined that seven out of ten cockroaches infested his home are of German types in his sample.

Question Four

The analogous arguments made by Dale are true based on the sample size and level of confidence. Analogous arguments opine that since two outcomes are similar, what is concluded in one holds for the second. One argument's strength, confidence, and characteristics should be similar to the second one. Dale compares the cockroach infestation in his home and the Eastern Diamondback rattlesnake that infested the subdivision. He notes that seven out of ten cockroaches in his home were the German type. Ten thousand snakes were captured on the same level, and 9,990 were positively identified as the Eastern Diamondback types. From this comparison, he determines that both infestations of the cockroaches and rattlesnakes were similar. From this perspective, the conclusion he arrived at regarding the type of cockroaches in his home was accurate based on the sample size and confidence level by comparing the two cases. From his argument, since the two outcomes show clear signs of similarity, what was

determined in the case of the rattlesnakes helps in arguing that his findings were valid. However, the same argument might not be valid for a larger sample size, and further scrutiny might be needed.

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