

## Types of Faulty Logic (Fallacies)

1. Glittering generalities—making vague general statements or overly positive comments.  
Ex: Men make poor drivers.
2. Card stacking—piling up positive information in favor of any idea, while ignoring negative information  
Ex: Car salespeople—They tell a buyer all the good features of a car and ignore the bad features.
3. Bandwagon—“Join our side, because everyone else is doing it.”  
Ex: “Join the Pepsi generation” or “Dress like us if you don’t want to be considered weird.”
4. Unrelated testimonial—Also called faulty transfer, linking positive feelings for a person, place, thing, idea, or event  
Ex: Buying Michael Jordan shoes because you like Michael Jordan.
5. Name calling—Attacking a person rather than a person's ideas.  
Ex: I wouldn't pay attention to anything that airhead said.
6. Faulty induction—Occurs when 1) one of the examples is invalid or 2) the conclusion does not logically follow from the examples.  
Ex: A + B + C + Invalid D = conclusion, or A + B + C + D = Invalid Conclusion
7. Faulty deduction—Occurs when one statement of the syllogism is invalid.  
Ex: All freshmen are immature.  
John is a freshman.  
John is immature. Faulty conclusion.
8. False analogy—The circumstances supporting one conclusion are not relevant to another situation.  
Ex: Seniors don't have to go to school after May 22, so the freshmen, sophomores, and juniors shouldn't either.
9. Faulty cause and effect—Occurs when the cause is inaccurate or incomplete or when the effect is not the result of the cause.  
Ex: I failed my English test because I lost my math book.
10. Faulty sequence—One element does not follow the pattern.  
Ex: 1 4 7 10 12 15 [Note 12 increases by 2, when the others increase by 3]
11. Scapegoat—Placing the complete blame on one person when other factors should share the blame.  
Ex: The Broncos lost because Champ Bailey played badly.
12. Trick question— A question where a person is trapped regardless of how (s)he answers.
13. Red herring— Throw in something completely unrelated to the topic to change readers' interest to another topic or in another direction.