

## Syllogistic Rules

### Rule 1. Avoid four terms.

*A valid standard-form categorical syllogism must contain exactly three terms, each of which is used in the same sense throughout the argument.*

If more than three terms are involved, the syllogism is invalid. The fallacy thus committed is called the **fallacy of four terms**. চারিপদ ঘটিত দোষ

### Rule 2. Distribute the middle term in at least one premise.

*A term is "distributed" in a proposition when the proposition refers to **all** members of the class designated by that term. If the middle term is not distributed in at least one premise, the connection required by the conclusion cannot be made.*

If the middle term is not distributed in at least one premise of a syllogism, that syllogism cannot be valid. The fallacy this syllogism commits is called the **fallacy of the undistributed middle**. অব্যাপ্য হেতু দোষ

All Russians were revolutionists. A  
All anarchists were revolutionists. A  
Therefore, all anarchists were Russians.

### Rule 3. Any term distributed in the conclusion must be distributed in the premises.

*A valid argument is one whose premises logically entail its conclusion, and for that to be true the conclusion must not assert any more than is asserted in the premises. A term that is distributed in the conclusion but is not distributed in the premises is therefore a sure mark that the conclusion has gone beyond its premises and has reached too far. This is called the **fallacy of illicit process(major or minor)**.*

Fallacy of the major term: অবৈধ সাধ্য দোষ

All dogs are mammals. A  
No cats are dogs.  
Therefore no cats are mammals. E

Fallacy of the minor term: অবৈধ পক্ষ দোষ

All traditionally religious people are fundamentalists.  
All traditionally religious people are opponents of abortion.  
Therefore all opponents of abortion are fundamentalists

### Rule 4. Avoid two negative premises.

*Any negative proposition (**E** or **O**) denies class inclusion; it asserts that some or all of one class is excluded from the whole of the other class.*

*Two premises asserting such exclusion cannot yield the linkage that the conclusion asserts, and therefore cannot yield a valid argument. The mistake is named the **fallacy of exclusive premises**. নঞর্থক যুক্তিবাক্য জনিত দোষ*

### Rule 5. If either premise is negative, the conclusion must be negative.

*If the conclusion is affirmative—that is, if it asserts that one of the two classes, S or P, is wholly or partly contained in the other—it can only be inferred from premises that assert the existence of a third class that contains the first and is itself contained in the second. However, class inclusion can be stated only by affirmative propositions.*

**Therefore, an affirmative conclusion can follow validly only from two affirmative premises.**

The mistake here is called the **fallacy of drawing an affirmative conclusion from a negative premise**.  
নঞর্থক আশ্রয়বাক্য থেকে সদর্থক সিদ্ধান্ত নিঃসরণ জনিত দোষ

**Rule 6. From two universal premises no particular conclusion may be drawn.**

In the Boolean interpretation of categorical propositions, universal propositions (**A** and **E**) have no existential import, but particular propositions (**I** and **O**) do have such import. Wherever the Boolean interpretation is supposed, as in this text, a rule is needed that precludes passage from premises that have no existential import to a conclusion that does have such import. The mistake is called the **existential fallacy (Boolean perspective)**.  
অস্তিত্বমূলক দোষ

Here is an example of a syllogism that commits this fallacy:

All household pets are domestic animals.

No unicorns are domestic animals.

Therefore some unicorns are not household pets.

Rule	Associated Fallacy	দোষ
1. Avoid four terms.	Four terms	চারিপদ ঘটিত দোষ
2. Distribute the middle term in at least one premise.	Undistributed middle	চারিপদ ঘটিত দোষ
3. Any term distributed in the conclusion must be distributed in the premises.	Illicit process of the major term (illicit major); illicit process of the minor term (illicit minor)	অবৈধ সাধ্য দোষ অবৈধ পক্ষ দোষ
4. Avoid two negative premises.	4. Avoid two negative premises.	নঞর্থক যুক্তিবাক্য জনিত দোষ
5. If either premise is negative, the conclusion must be negative.	Drawing an affirmative conclusion from a negative premise	নঞর্থক আশ্রয়বাক্য থেকে সদর্থক সিদ্ধান্ত নিঃসরণ জনিত দোষ
6. No particular conclusion may be drawn from two universal premises.	Existential fallacy	অস্তিত্বমূলক দোষ