



Essentials of Formal Logic

with Joelle Hodge

Lesson 40: Chapter 9.6

Outline:

Chapter 9, Lesson 9.6

- Definitions and Disagreements
- Presuppositional Disputes
- Points to Remember
 - Presuppositional disputes center around people's opinions or views of the world.
 - We do operate from a presuppositional idea that truth exists.
 - Knowing what presuppositions are ahead of time is helpful.
 - All of us have presuppositions. This limits your ability to see things as objectively as they could be seen. You might actually not agree about your terms. It takes intentionality to have an honest conversation about presuppositions.
 - Don't shed presuppositions, but acknowledge that you have them.
 - Socratic dialogue is an effective method for showing contradiction in ideas.
 - To explore this more, consider the Socratic dialogue Euthyphro, which you read at the beginning of this book.
 - What is piety? What is virtue? This is background presuppositional investigation.
 - Notice that in this dialogue, Julie challenges Tiffany's presupposition that the poor should pull themselves up by their bootstraps and that it is wrong to give them money.
 - It is important to note that people can change their presuppositions. However, they usually only do it when they realize for themselves that their beliefs are contradictory, rather than when people simply tell them they are wrong. Therefore, Socratic dialogue is one of the best tools for dealing with presuppositional disputes because it allows people to realize for themselves when their presuppositions are contradictory.
 - Sometimes disputes contain a combination of all three types of disputes.