

DOUBLETHINK DETECTOR CARDS: KEY

Appeal to Emotion

1. "If you don't vote for me as class president, our school will descend into chaos and all clubs will be cancelled!"
2. "Any student who truly loves this school would support extending the lunch period."
3. "Look at this sad photo of the abandoned book club room. Don't you want to join and make it happy again?"

Ad Hominem

1. "Don't listen to Jamie's opinion about the new cafeteria menu. Have you seen how messy their locker is?"
2. "The physics teacher's explanation can't be trusted. He always wears mismatched socks!"
3. "How can the debate team captain have valid points? She was late to school twice this week!"

False Dilemma

1. "Either we cancel the senior trip or the school will go bankrupt."
2. "You can either join the basketball team or have no social life at this school."
3. "We have two choices: ban all phones or accept that no learning will happen in our classrooms."

Hasty Generalization

1. "I got a bad grade on one math quiz, so I'm obviously terrible at all of mathematics."
2. "The first chapter of this book was boring, so the entire novel must be awful."
3. "That new student didn't say hi to me this morning. They must be really unfriendly."

Cherry Picking

1. "Our football team is amazing this year! We've won 3 games!" (Not mentioning they lost 12 games.)
2. "This energy drink improved my test scores!" (Only mentioning the one test that improved, not the five that got worse.)
3. "The school dance was a huge success!" (Highlighting the decorations while ignoring the DJ who never showed up.)

Bandwagon Fallacy

1. "Everyone is taking AP Chemistry this year, so you should too!"

2. "All the cool kids have these new sneakers. Don't you want to fit in?"
3. "Eighty percent of students skip the optional reading. It must not be important."

Straw Man

1. Student 1: "I think we should have healthier options in the cafeteria." Student 2: "So you want to ban all desserts and force everyone to eat kale? That's ridiculous!"
2. "Mr. Wilson wants us to revise our essays, which basically means he thinks we're all terrible writers."
3. "You suggested starting homework club? Sounds like you want to ruin everyone's free time forever!"

Appeal to Authority

1. "My older brother is in college, and he says we don't need to study for this test."
2. "The most popular girl in school says these jeans look bad, so they must be awful."
3. "This random YouTuber with a million followers says this energy drink boosts brain power, so it must be true!"

Post Hoc Fallacy

1. "I wore my lucky socks and aced my Spanish test. These socks definitely improved my grade!"
2. "The principal visited our classroom yesterday, and today the water fountain broke. His visit obviously caused it!"
3. "Every time I don't study for math, it rains the next day. My study habits control the weather!"

Slippery Slope

1. "If we allow students to use calculators on this test, next they'll want to use them for all tests, then they'll never learn math, and eventually society's mathematical abilities will collapse!"
2. "If you miss one basketball practice, you'll start missing more, then you'll quit the team, and ultimately give up on all your goals in life."
3. "If we change the school mascot, we'll lose our identity, then our school spirit will vanish, and soon the school will shut down entirely!"

False Equivalence

1. "Forgetting to do one homework assignment is basically the same as never studying all year."
2. "The principal requiring school uniforms is just like living under a dictatorship."
3. "Getting a B instead of an A is practically the same as failing the class entirely."

Whataboutism

1. Student: "You were talking during the test." Friend: "What about Sophia? She was talking much louder than me!"
2. "Yes, I didn't complete my project, but what about Jake? His project was turned in late last month!"
3. "The basketball team shouldn't complain about their old equipment when the chess club doesn't even have a dedicated classroom!"

Circular Reasoning

1. "I deserve to be team captain because I'm the most qualified person for the position."
2. "This novel is the best because it's better than all the others."
3. "The school dress code is important because rules about clothing matter."

Answer key in card print order:

1. "All the cool kids have these new sneakers. Don't you want to fit in?"
2. "Any student who truly loves this school would support extending the lunch period."
3. "Don't listen to Jamie's opinion about the new cafeteria menu. Have you seen how messy their locker is?"
4. "Eighty percent of students skip the optional reading. It must not be important."
5. "Either we cancel the senior trip or the school will go bankrupt."
6. "Every time I don't study for math, it rains the next day. My study habits control the weather!"
7. "Everyone is taking AP Chemistry this year, so you should too!"
8. "Forgetting to do one homework assignment is basically the same as never studying all year."
9. "Getting a B instead of an A is practically the same as failing the class entirely."
10. "How can the debate team captain have valid points? She was late to school twice this week!"
11. "I deserve to be team captain because I'm the most qualified person for the position."
12. "I got a bad grade on one math quiz, so I'm obviously terrible at all of mathematics."
13. "I wore my lucky socks and aced my Spanish test. These socks definitely improved my grade!"
14. "If we allow students to use calculators on this test, next they'll want to use them for all tests, then they'll never learn math, and eventually society's mathematical abilities will collapse!"
15. "If we change the school mascot, we'll lose our identity, then our school spirit will vanish, and soon the school will shut down entirely!"
16. "If you don't vote for me as class president, our school will descend into chaos and all clubs will be cancelled!"

17. "If you miss one basketball practice, you'll start missing more, then you'll quit the team, and ultimately give up on all your goals in life."
18. "Look at this sad photo of the abandoned book club room. Don't you want to join and make it happy again?"
19. "Mr. Wilson wants us to revise our essays, which basically means he thinks we're all terrible writers."
20. "My older brother is in college, and he says we don't need to study for this test."
21. "Our football team is amazing this year! We've won 3 games!" (Not mentioning they lost 12 games)
22. "That new student didn't say hi to me this morning. They must be really unfriendly."
23. "The basketball team shouldn't complain about their old equipment when the chess club doesn't even have a dedicated classroom!"
24. "The first chapter of this book was boring, so the entire novel must be awful."
25. "The most popular girl in school says these jeans look bad, so they must be awful."
26. "The physics teacher's explanation can't be trusted. He always wears mismatched socks!"
27. "The principal requiring school uniforms is just like living under a dictatorship."
28. "The principal visited our classroom yesterday, and today the water fountain broke. His visit obviously caused it!"
29. "The school dance was a huge success!" (Highlighting the decorations while ignoring the DJ who never showed up)
30. "The school dress code is important because rules about clothing matter."
31. "This energy drink improved my test scores!" (Only mentioning the one test that improved, not the five that got worse)
32. "This novel is the best because it's better than all the others."
33. "This random YouTuber with a million followers says this energy drink boosts brain power, so it must be true!"
34. "We have two choices: ban all phones or accept that no learning will happen in our classrooms."
35. "Yes, I didn't complete my project, but what about Jake? His project was turned in late last month!"
36. "You can either join the basketball team or have no social life at this school."
37. "You suggested starting homework club? Sounds like you want to ruin everyone's free time forever!"
38. Student 1: "I think we should have healthier options in the cafeteria." Student 2: "So you want to ban all desserts and force everyone to eat kale? That's ridiculous!"
39. Student: "You were talking during the test." Friend: "What about Sophia? She was talking much louder than me!"

Statements adapted from a list generated by the AI tool Claude.

Anthropic. (2025). Claude (Opus 4) [Large language model]. Claude.AI