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# Chapter 1: Figure in Syllogisms

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**Exercises for Day 1.** Peruse the entire chapter. Then read the introductory section at the very beginning of Chapter 1. Read this section carefully and try to understand it as best you can.

1. What are we discussing in this chapter?

Figure in syllogisms

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2. Explain what the word *figure* means as used in this chapter.

The figure of a syllogism is the disposition or location of terms in the premises.

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3. How many figures are there?

There are three (some would say four) figures.

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4. What is *disposition*?

*Disposition* means *location*.

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**Read section titled “The First Figure.” Read it carefully.**

5. What is the Latin term for a syllogism in the First Figure?

*sub-prae*

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6. How do we know a syllogism is in the First Figure?

The middle term is the subject of the major premise and the predicate of the minor premise.

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7. Fill in the following chart:

**First Figure (sub-prae)**

M is the subject (subject or predicate) in the *major* premise

M is the predicate (subject or predicate) in the *minor* premise

8. Show, using the symbols *S*, *P*, and *M*, how a *sub-prae* syllogism is constructed.

M is P

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S is M

---

S is P

---

9. Construct a *sub-prae* syllogism using different terms than the ones in the text.

Make sure the syllogism is constructed as in question 7.

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**Exercises for Day 2. Read section titled “The Second Figure.” Read the entire section carefully.**

10. What is the Latin term for a syllogism in the Second Figure?

prae-prae

11. How do we know a syllogism is in the Second Figure?

When the middle term is the predicate in both the major and minor premises.

12. Fill in the following chart:

**Second Figure (prae-prae)**

M is the predicate in the *major* premise

M is the predicate in the *minor* premise

13. Show, using the symbols *S*, *P*, and *M*, how a *prae-prae* syllogism is constructed.

P is M

S is M

S is P

14. Construct a *prae-prae* syllogism using different terms than the ones in the text.

Make sure the syllogism is constructed as in question 12.

**Read section titled “The Third Figure.” Read it carefully.**

15. What is the Latin term for a syllogism in the Third Figure?

sub-sub

16. How do we know a syllogism is in the Third Figure?

When the middle term is the subject in both the major and minor premises.

17. Fill in the following chart:

**Third Figure (sub-sub)**

M is the subject in the *major* premise

M is the subject in the *minor* premise

18. Show, using the symbols *S*, *P*, and *M*, how a *sub-sub* syllogism is constructed.

M is P

M is S

S is P

19. Construct a *sub-sub* syllogism using different terms than the ones in the text.

Make sure the syllogism is constructed as in question 17.

**Exercises for Day 3. Read section titled “The Fourth Figure (Indirect First).” Read the entire section carefully.**

20. What is the Latin term for a syllogism in the Fourth Figure?

prae-sub

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21. How do we know a syllogism is in the Fourth Figure?

When the middle term is predicate of the major premise and subject of the minor premise.

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22. Fill in the following chart:

**Fourth Figure-Indirect First (prae-sub)**

M is the predicate in the *major* premise

M is the subject in the *minor* premise

23. Show, using the symbols *S*, *P*, and *M*, how a *prae-sub* syllogism is constructed.

P is M

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M is S

---

S is P

---

24. Construct a *prae-sub* syllogism using different terms than the ones in the text.

Make sure it is constructed as in question 22.

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25. Fourth Figure syllogisms are just another form of what?

The First Figure

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26. What is the Fourth Figure sometimes called?

The Indirect First or Fourth

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**Read section titled “How to Remember the Figures.”**

27. What is the Latin saying invented to help remember the figures?

Sub-prae prima, bis prae secunda, tertia sub bis.

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28. What does this saying mean?

Sub-prae first, prae twice second, sub twice third.

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## Exercises for Day 4.

29. Identify the terms, identify the position of the middle term, and determine the figure of each syllogism.

No Rebels are Yankees  
John was a Yankee  
Therefore, John was not a Rebel

**S:** John

**P:** Rebel

**M:** Yankee

**M** = prae

**M** = prae

First  Second  Third  Fourth

All mammals nurse their young  
Dogs are mammals  
Therefore, dogs nurse their young

**S:** dogs

**P:** their young

**M:** mammals

**M** = sub

**M** = prae

First  Second  Third  Fourth

Some men are physicists  
All physicists are brilliant  
Therefore, some brilliant things are men

**S:** brilliant things

**P:** men

**M:** physicists

**M** = prae

**M** = sub

First  Second  Third  Fourth

No beggars can be choosers  
That man is a beggar  
Therefore, that man cannot be a chooser

**S:** that man

**P:** choosers

**M:** beggars

**M** = sub

**M** = prae

First  Second  Third  Fourth

No men are gods  
All men are mortal  
Therefore, some mortals are not gods

**S:** mortals

**P:** gods

**M:** men

**M** = sub

**M** = sub

First  Second  Third  Fourth

30. Complete the following diagram by giving the form of each statement and showing whether each term is distributed or undistributed: [Review]

Letter Designation	Form (e.g., "All S is P")	DISTRIBUTION	
		Subject-Term	Predicate-Term
<b>A</b>	All S is P	distributed	undistributed
<b>I</b>	Some S is P	undistributed	undistributed
<b>E</b>	No S is P	distributed	distributed
<b>O</b>	Some S is not P	undistributed	distributed

31. Indicate which figures the following syllogisms are in:

- a. All dogs bark  
 Rover is a dog  
 Therefore, Rover barks  
 **First**    **Second**    **Third**    **Fourth**

- b. All stinging things should be avoided  
 All bees sting  
 Therefore, bees should be avoided  
 **First**    **Second**    **Third**    **Fourth**

*(although it would at first appear to be Fourth, since the syllogism is not in proper logical form)*

- c. No horse can fly  
 Pegasus is a horse  
 Therefore, Pegasus cannot fly  
 **First**    **Second**    **Third**    **Fourth**

- d. All music is of some value  
 Some music is classical music  
 Therefore, some classical music is of some value  
 **First**    **Second**    **Third**    **Fourth**

32. Think up your own syllogism for each of the four figures.

**First:**

*Make sure the middle term is in the appropriate location in each premise.*

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**Second:**

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**Third:**

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**Fourth:**

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**Read section titled “Summary.” Read it carefully.**

33. Tell whether the following are true or false:

     T      We label a First Figure syllogism *sub-prae*.

     F      The Third Figure is really just a form of the First Figure.  
*(It is the Fourth Figure that is really just a form of the First.)*

     T      *Prae-prae* is short for the Latin *praedicatum-praedicatum*.

     F      In a syllogism of the Second Figure, the major term is the subject in the major  
premise and the predicate of the minor premise.  
*(It is the middle, not the major, term that is the subject in the major premise and the predicate in the minor premise.)*

     F      The figure of a syllogism is the disposition of terms in the conclusion.  
*(It is the disposition of terms in the premises, not the conclusion.)*

     T      The Fourth Figure is sometimes called the Galenic figure.