



## *Exercise in* **DEDUCTIVE REASONING**

Figuring out a mystery sometimes takes deductive reasoning. In deductive reasoning, the conclusion is certain because the premises cannot be true without the conclusion also being true.

Here are some examples of deductive reasoning:

**All elves love plants.  
Lorengorm is an elf.  
THEREFORE: Lorengorm loves plants.**

If we assume that the first and second statements (or premises) are completely true, then the third statement must be true as well.

**Thimbletack was a boggart.  
Brownies turn into boggarts when they are very angry.  
THEREFORE: Thimbletack was very angry.**

Here's a false example of deductive reasoning:

**Trolls eat goblins.  
Trolls hate the sun.  
THEREFORE: Goblins love the sun.**

That might be true, but we don't know it from the premises.

*Now that you know all about  
deductive reasoning, see if you can figure out  
which examples are true on the next page.*





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## **DEDUCTIVE REASONING EXERCISE:**

Of these examples, which ones can you determine are true from the premises given?

1. **Simon likes animals.**  
**He has a lot of pets.**  
**THEREFORE: All the pets like Simon.** T or F
2. **Hogsqueal is a hobgoblin.**  
**Hobgoblins burp a lot.**  
**THEREFORE: Hogsqueal burps a lot.** T or F
3. **No faerie can touch iron.**  
**Mulgarath is an ogre.**  
**Ogres are a type of faerie.**  
**THEREFORE: Mulgarath can't touch iron.** T or F
4. **If Lucinda eats faerie food, she doesn't like the taste of human food.**  
**If Lucinda doesn't like the taste of human food, she won't eat it.**  
**THEREFORE: If Lucinda eats faerie food, she won't eat human food.** T or F
5. **Lucinda lives in an asylum.**  
**Lucinda is sane.**  
**THEREFORE: All people in asylums are sane** T or F
6. **If the dwarves take over the world, they will turn everything into metal.**  
**Everything isn't metal.**  
**THEREFORE: The dwarves haven't taken over the world.** T or F
7. **Mallory polishes her sword every day.**  
**Chris polishes his sword every week.**  
**THEREFORE: Mallory is a better fencer than Chris.** T or F
8. **Faeries stay away from the color red.**  
**Jared wears a red hoodie.**  
**THEREFORE: Jared wants faeries to stay away from him.** T or F
9. **Jared and Simon are twins.**  
**Sometimes twins can read each other's minds.**  
**THEREFORE: Jared and Simon can read each other's minds.** T or F

