

CRITICAL THINKING – Ambiguity Worksheet



For each statement below, (1) state the type of ambiguity involved (grouping, semantic, syntactic, verbal), and (2) write two statements that disambiguate the original sentence. Remember to follow the Golden Rules of Disambiguation.

1. She saw the farmer with binoculars.
2. Lions eat more than horses eat.
3. We were invited to go to the movies yesterday.
4. The biggest Vikings fans live in Long Beach.
5. Drop your trousers here for best results. [Sign in dry cleaner's shop.]
6. Chicagoans drink more beer than New Yorkers.
7. Visitors are expected to complain at the office between the hours of 9 and 11 a.m. daily.
8. They were both exposed to someone who was ill a week ago.
9. "AT&T – for the life of your business."
10. People are getting older.
11. That was a knotty issue.
12. We heard that he informed you of what he said in his letter.
13. We're going to look at lots this afternoon.
14. The police killed six coyotes after the mauling of a girl.
15. Digital computing began the first time a person counted on his fingers.
16. This book is hard.
17. He saw her duck.

18. Everybody has a different opinion on that issue.
19. Lions eat more than horses eat.
20. She knew a little French.
21. She knew a little German.
22. Lions eat more than horses.