

## Questions on the Four Basic Answers

What is the correct answer to these? Use only the 4 answers as follows:

To a 2-part statement like Considering the subject sound: it follows that it is impermanent, you can reply **Accept**, if its correct, or **Why?** if you think it is wrong.

To a 3-part statement like Considering the colour of coal: it follows that it is black because it is suitable as a black hue, you can reply **Accept**, if it is correct in all respects, or if wrong in some way then:

If the reason is not true of the subject: **Reason not established**,

Or if it is that reason, it is not necessarily that predicate/clarification then say: **No pervasion**.

Examples

Considering the subject the colour of fresh snow: it follows that it is white because it is an object of hearing. **Reason not established**. (Of course the colour of fresh snow *is* white but still the reason is faulty and reason not established is the best answer.)

Considering the subject the colour of a red hat: it follows that it is green because it is a mixture of blue and yellow. **Reason not established**

Considering the subject the colour of cloth: it follows that it is red because it is colour. **No pervasion**.

Considering the subject the sound of a trumpet: it is primary colour because it is suitable as a hue **Reason not established**.

(Here the reason is not established and there is no pervasion. In this case the best answer is usually to say reason not established first.)

1. Considering the subject the colour of a white swan: it follows that it is primary colour.
2. Considering the subject the colour of Buddha Amitayus: it follows that it is red because it is a colour.
3. Considering the subject the colour of a dandelion flower: it follows that is suitable as a hue because it is primary colour.
4. Considering the subject the colour of an emerald: it is green because it is one with the colour of an emerald.
5. Considering the subject the sound of a human voice: it follows that it is does not arise from causes.
6. Considering the subject the two the yellow and red: it follows they are mutually exclusive.
7. Considering the subject the smell of onions: it follows that it is impermanent because it is an object experienced by nose consciousness.
8. Considering the subject fire: it follows that it is hot because it exists.
9. Considering the subject the sound of a trumpet: it follows that it is not an object of hearing because it is produced through effort.
10. Considering the subject the sound of a trumpet: it follows that it is a tree because it sleeps at night with its leaves curled.
11. Considering the subject an olive tree: it follows that is a sentient being because it does not sleep at night with its leaves curled.
12. Considering the subject a shirt seen in a dream: it is a shirt because it is a shirt in the perspective of a dream person.
13. Considering the subject the taste of salt: it follows that it is sweet because it is an object enjoyed by tongue consciousness.

In Perdue's book the four answers are summarised on p 115. He demonstrates the use of the answers in the section called the Procedure in Debate, P99-131