

LOGICAL REASONING Figure and Mood

Standard Categorical Propositions:

All (A)

No(E)

Some(I)

Some not(O)

Mood

It is the list of the types of three categorical prepositions in a standard form categorical syllogism.

Example 1:

Premises:

All smooth are good (A)

Some good are not great (O)

Conclusion:

No great is smooth(E)

(Mood: AOE)

Example 2:

Premises:

Some nuts are not small(O)

All nuts are healthy(A)

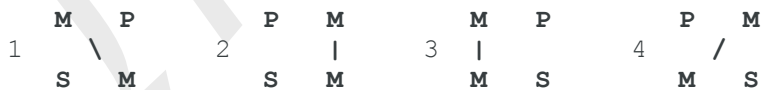
Conclusion:

Some healthy are not small(O)

(Mood : OAO)

Figure

Indicates the position of its middle term in the premises.



Please note the positions of the MIDDLE term in the above illustration.

Figure:

In a first-figure categorical proposition, middle term (common term in the premises) is the subject of the major premise (first premise) and the predicate of the minor premise (second premise).

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In the second-figure, the middle term is the predicate term of both premises.

In third-figure, the middle term is the subject term of both premises.

In fourth-figure, the middle term appears as the predicate of the major premise and the subject of the minor premise.

(The four figures may be easier to remember as a simple chart showing the position of the terms in each of the premises:

1	M	P		2	P	M		3	M	P		4	P	M
	\												/	
	S	M		S	M			M	S			M	S	

1) Statements:

All cars are **green**
Some **green** are trees

Conclusions:

Some trees are cars (This is Figure 4 type)

2) Statements:

No desks are **floors**
Some tiles are **floors**

Conclusions:

Some desks are tiles (This is Figure 2 type)

3) Statements:

No **long** are short
Some trains are **long**

Conclusions:

All trains are short (This is Figure 1 type)

4) Statements:

Some **good** are teachers
Some **good** are divers

Conclusions:

Some teachers are divers (This is Figure 3 type)

Questions:

- 1) What is the Mood and Figure of the following categorical syllogism?

Statements:

No single is double

Some doubles are wide

Conclusions:

All wide are singles

Ans: EIA 4

- 2) Which of the following decide the figure of a categorical proposition (June 2020)?

- a) Major term
- b) Minor term
- c) Middle term
- d) Copula

Ans: (c)

- 3) Quantity and quality of categorical proposition decide (June 2020)?

- a) Validity
- b) Invalidity
- c) Figure
- d) Mood

Ans: (d)

- 4) Which one of the following is true with respect to first figure of the categorical syllogism (Dec 2019)?

- a) The middle term is the subject of the major premise and the predicate of the minor premise.
- b) The middle term is the predicate of the major premise and the subject of the minor premise.
- c) The middle term is the subject of the major premise and the predicate of the conclusion.
- d) The middle term is the subject of the minor premise and the predicate of the conclusion.

Ans: (a)

References:

- 1) *Hall, Ronald L, Stetson University*
<https://www.stetson.edu/artsci/philosophy/media/G.%20%20Chapter%206.pdf>
- 2) <https://courses.lumenlearning.com/atd-epcc-introtophilosophy/chapter/categorical-syllogisms/>
