

7 Reasoning to Solve Problems (1.6)

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Day 7: Reasoning to solve problems (1.6)

- A **conjecture** is a conclusion based on examples (evidence)
- **Inductive reasoning**: Making a conjecture based on examples, which may be proven by deductive reasoning or disproven by a counterexample
- **Deductive reasoning**: Using known facts or assumptions to draw a logical conclusion.

Example 1: Decide whether the process used is **inductive** reasoning or **deductive** reasoning.

a) Show that the sum of 2 even numbers is even by

using several examples.
 $2 + 4 = 6$
 $8 + 14 = 22$
 → **inductive**



b) No mathematician is boring. You are a

mathematician. Therefore, you are not boring.
 no examples → statements → **deductive**

c) One counterexample proves that a conjecture is false.

↳ **deductive**

d) You show why your statement makes sense.

↳ **deductive**

e) You give evidence that your statement is true.

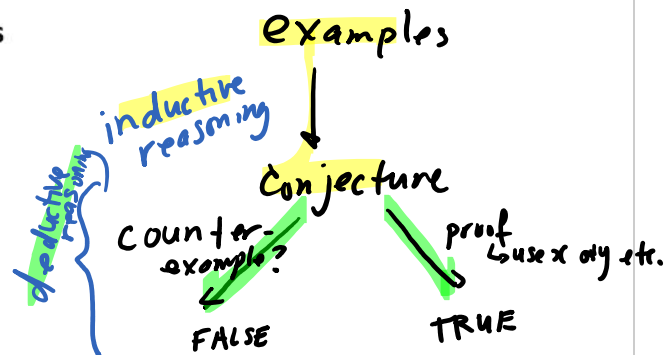
↳ **inductive**

f) You give six other examples to show that your conjecture is true.

g) What three coins have a value of \$0.60?
 (no examples) = $25d + 25d + 10c$
deductive

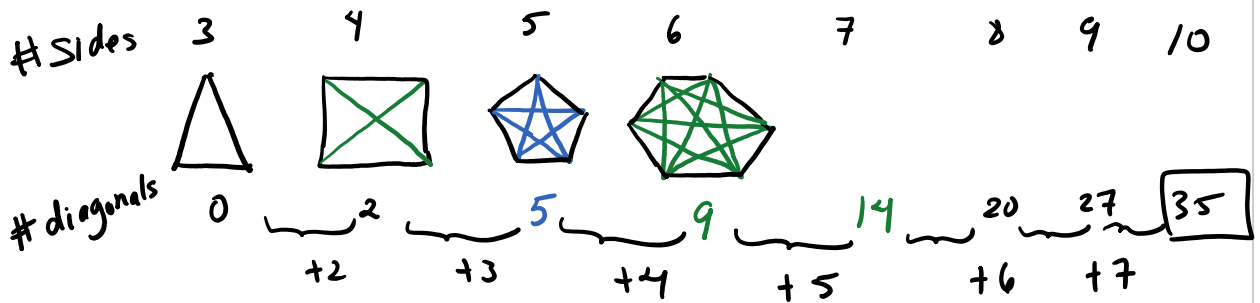
Using **Inductive Reasoning** to Solve Problems

- Solve a similar or simpler problem
- Find and use a pattern



Example 2: How many diagonals will a regular (equal sides/angles) decagon (10-sided shape) have?

Try a simpler problem



Look for pattern!

⇒ decagon has 35 diagonals.

Using **Deductive Reasoning** to Solve Problems

- Develop a logical argument using **known facts**
- Use a logical conclusion that is the solution to the problem

Example 3: Alec, Brandon, Carl, and Dave are on four sports teams.

- Each plays just 1 team.
- They play football, basketball, baseball, & hockey.
- Brandon is a goalie.
- The tallest player plays basketball.
- The **shortest** plays **baseball**.
- Carl is taller than Dave but shorter than Al and Bob.

What sports does each play? **Draw a chart!**

height ↑
 A + B
 C ← shortest
 D

	foot	bask	base	hockey
A	X	✓	X	✓
B	X	X	X	✓
C	✓			
D	X	X	✓	X

Alec plays basketball
 Brandon " hockey
 Carl " football
 Dave " baseball

Example 4: Alec, Brandon, Carl, and Dave live in the same apartment. They are a manager, teacher, artist, and musician. Alec and Carl watch TV with the teacher. Brandon and Dave go to the hockey game with the manager. Carl jogs with the manager and teacher. Who is the manager?!



	Manager	Teacher	Artist	Musician
Alec	✓	X		
Brandon	X			
Carl	X	X		
Dave	X			

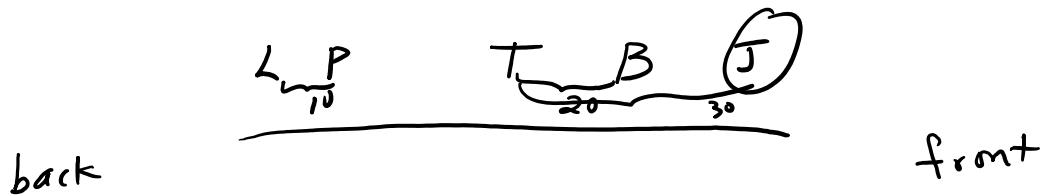
Alec is manager!

Example 5: Barry, Larry, Jerry, Terry, and Perry are position on a track meet.

- Terry is 20 m behind Barry.
- Barry is 50 m ahead of Larry.
- Larry is 10 m behind Perry.
- Jerry is 30 ahead of Terry.
- Perry is 50 m behind Jerry.



At this point in the race, who is winning? What is the order of all the racers?



Assignment: Sec 1.6, p. 48 # 1, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 15.
 (Note: 'chart' is written next to the number 9, and there are some scribbles below the numbers 1, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 15.)