

M5 Exercise “Giving reasons and giving explanations”

We also should be able to distinguish between giving a reason and giving an explanation. Reasoning is the process of thinking about something in a logical way in order to form a conclusion or judgment – it is the ability of the mind to think and understand things in a logical way. Giving an explanation describes the way in which something happens, therefore dealing with issues of cause and effect. Explanations are not the same as arguments, but sometimes it is hard to distinguish reasons from explanations.

Here are some examples

Claim

- Marco is a good quarterback.
- Dinosaurs are popular.

Reason for the claim being true

- Marco threw for thirty-nine touchdowns this season.
- Dinosaur toys are a perennial favorite with children.

Explanation for the claim being true

- Marco practices every day.
- Dinosaurs are exotic creatures.



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