PodClass Handout Week 1

Definition of an **<u>Argument</u>**: A set of declarative statements in which the conclusion is claimed to follow from the premises

Definition of a **<u>Statement</u>**: A sentence that is either true or false

Definition of a **<u>Premise</u>**: Information intended to provide support for the conclusion

Definition of a **<u>Conclusion</u>**: The statement that is claimed to follow from the premises of an argument; the main point of an argument

Premise indicators:

Because	Assuming that	As indicated by
Since	As shown by	The fact that
Given that	For the reason(s) that	It follows from

Conclusion indicators:

Therefore	consequently	it proves that
Thus	in conclusion	suggests that
So	it follows that	implies that
hence	we can infer that	we can't conclude that

Example Arguments

Someone doesn't like eating pork, chicken, mutton, venison, veal, turkey, or fish.
It follows that she is a vegetarian.

Since television commercials disrupt the flow of programs, and given that any disruption impedes the continuity of the show. Consequently, we can safely say that commercials are a bad thing.

We were vastly outnumber and outgunned by the enemy, and their troops were constantly being reenforced while ours was dwindling. Thus, a direct frontal assault would have been suicidal.

If you like it then you should have put a ring on it. You did not put a ring on it. So, you must not have liked it.

Because your car is leaking green fluid, the radiator must be cracked. (Argument)
The car is leaking green fluid, because the radiator must be cracked. (Explanation)

Only one of us is going to do the dishes, and it is not going to be me.

Steps to put and argument into **standard form**.
1. Identify the premises and conclusion
2. Place the premises first
3. Place the conclusion last
4. Make any implicit premises explicit