

### 3.5 – Conditional Statements and Their Converse

Date: Feb. 12/13

**Conditional statement:** An “if-then” statement

*hypothesis*  
 If it is Monday, then it is a school day. *FALSE*  
*conclusion*

**Hypothesis:** An assumption used within a conditional statement.

**Conclusion:** The result of a hypothesis.

**Counterexample:** An example that disproves a statement. *eg. No school next Monday (Family day)*

**Converse:** A conditional statement in which the hypothesis and the conclusion are switched.  
 If it is a school day, then it is Monday. *FALSE*

**Biconditional:** A true converse conditional statement whose converse is also true.

If-then statements create a conditional statement with the conditional hypothesis determining the truth of the conclusion. These statements can be read as:

If p, then q.

p implies q.

$p \rightarrow q$

$p \Rightarrow q$

**Example:** Identify the hypothesis and conclusion of the following statement:

If a number is even, then it is divisible by two

Hypothesis: a number is even *TRUE*

Conclusion: it is divisible by two

**Example:** Identify the hypothesis and conclusion of the following statement:

y=8 if y-3=5

Hypothesis: y-3=5 *TRUE*

Conclusion: y=8

A conditional statement is false only when the hypothesis is true and the conclusion. *see example p.195*

Otherwise the conditional statement is true, even if the hypothesis is false. When a conditional statement is false, we can present a counterexample which disproves the statement.

P	q	$P \Rightarrow q$
T	T	T
T	F	F
F	T	T
F	F	T

**Example:** Identify the hypothesis and conclusion of the following statement. Determine if it is true or false. If false, provide a counterexample.

You must be a doctor if you work in a hospital.

Hypothesis: you work in a hospital

Conclusion: you must be a doctor

True

False

Counterexample: I could be a nurse and work in a hospital.

The converse of a conditional statement switches the hypothesis with the conclusion. For a conditional statement of "If p, then q.", the converse statement would read:

If q, then p.

q implies p.

$q \rightarrow p$ .

\* Note that the truth of a converse statement is independent of the truth of a conditional statement. \*

**Example:** Identify the hypothesis and conclusion of the following statement. Determine if it is true or false. If false, provide a counterexample. Then write the converse statement, and determine if it is true or false.

If a room is painted red, the room is painted with a warm colour.

Hypothesis: a room is painted red.

Conclusion: the room is painted <sup>with</sup> a warm colour.

True

False

Counterexample: none exist

Converse: If the room is painted with a warm colour, then ~~a~~ the room is painted red.

True

False

Counterexample: A room painted yellow is a warm colour.

**Example:** Identify the hypothesis and conclusion of the following statement. Determine if it is true or false. If false, provide a counterexample. Then write the converse statement, and determine if it is true or false.

If  $x^2 \geq 0$  then  $x \geq 0$ .

Hypothesis:  $x^2 \geq 0$

Conclusion:  $x \geq 0$

True      False

Counterexample:  $x = -1$        $x^2 = 1$   
not  $\geq 0$

Converse: IF  $x \geq 0$ , then  $x^2 \geq 0$ .

True      False

Counterexample: none exist.

A biconditional statement occurs when both the conditional statement and its converse statement are true. When this occurs, we can write the biconditional statement as:

p if and only if q.  
 $p \leftrightarrow q.$

**Example:** Identify the hypothesis and conclusion of the following statement. Write the converse. Determine if the statement is biconditional, and write as a biconditional if it exists.

If a right triangle contains a  $30^\circ$  angle, the right triangle also contains a  $60^\circ$  angle.

Hypothesis: a right triangle contains a  $30^\circ$  angle

Conclusion: the right  $\triangle$  <sup>also</sup> contains a  $60^\circ$  angle.

True      False

Converse: If a right triangle contains a  $60^\circ$  angle, then the right triangle also contains a  $30^\circ$  angle.

True      False

Biconditional: A right triangle contains a  $30^\circ$  angle if and only if the right triangle also contains a  $60^\circ$  angle.

A Venn diagram can be used to present conditional statements. The hypothesis will be a subset of the conclusion. → *if the statement is true.*

**Example:** If *hyp.* pull a heart from a deck of cards, *concl.* it will be a red card.

U = {set of all cards in a deck}

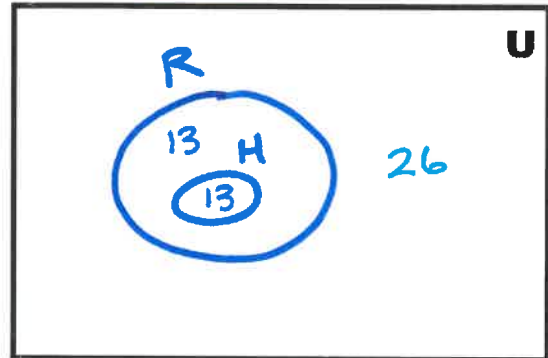
R = {set of all red cards}

H = {set of all hearts}

*If H, then R.*

*$H \subset R$*

*TRUE!*



### 3.6 – The Inverse and the Contrapositive of Conditional Statements

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Inverse:** A statement that is formed by negating both the hypothesis and the conclusion of a conditional statement.

**Contrapositive:** A statement that is formed by negating both the hypothesis and the conclusion of the converse of a conditional statement.

**Example:** State the hypothesis and conclusion, then write the converse, inverse and contrapositive.

*If you eat an apple each day, you keep the doctor away.*

Hypothesis: \_\_\_\_\_

Conclusion: \_\_\_\_\_

Converse: \_\_\_\_\_

Inverse: \_\_\_\_\_

Contrapositive: \_\_\_\_\_