

# CHAPTER 6

## *Solutions to the Even-Numbered Questions in the Text*

### 6.2

2. Don't cry over spilt milk.
4. Too many cooks spoil the broth.
6. The job of the KGB is to force all Russians to obey Soviet decisions.
8. Free speech is beneficial to the country.
10. Everybody needs somebody sometime.
12. Lonely adolescents are shy and unhappy.
14. Live for today, because tomorrow you may die.
16. Employees are arriving late because construction is causing a nearby street closing.

### 6.3

2. It is not specified here how much income or assets a person must have to be considered wealthy.
4. Strength falls on a scale, and it is not specified how high you have to be on the scale to be considered strong.
6. There is no clear cut-off between a person's height which is short, and which is not.
8. Vagueness affects what one person counts as funny; some things are not clearly funny, but neither are they clearly not funny.

### 6.4

2. 'Soporific nature' just means puts you to sleep.
4. The claim that the program is 'totally inappropriate' just means it isn't appropriate.
6. 'Perverted' just means indecent.
8. Saying that a Senator lost an election just means someone else got more votes.
10. To say that existence apart from God 'would be no existence' just means that it is impossible.
12. Anyone who doubts that this Republican is indecent would have even more doubt about the claim that they all are.
14. Mao supports depriving many people of their rights by simply defining them as not "the people," when presumably 'the people' is understood as designating those deserving human rights.

### 6.5A

2. I think that pizza tastes good.
4. Probably not everybody can dance.

6. Arguably, Darwin devised modern evolutionary theory.
8. Arguably, education is useful.
10. It is plausible that people hate the truth.

### 6.5B

2. Pizza tastes good to everybody.
4. Most patriots are bad people.
6. Everyone fears pain.
8. Everyone likes to eat.
10. Dogs are animals.

### 6.6A

2. This can be read as “police want to arrest jaywalkers” or as “police will run over jaywalkers.”
4. This can be read as “Suzie plays the piano without needing sheet music” or as “Suzie uses her ear to push the piano keys.”
6. This can be read as “piranhas (which eat human flesh) were mistakenly sold as pet fish” or as “a man (who eats piranhas) was mistakenly sold as a pet fish.”
8. This can be read as “when baking cookies, have your children help” or as “put bits of your children in your cookies.”
10. This can be read as “seven podiatrists are suing some hospitals” or as “doctors who are seven feet tall are suing hospitals.”

### 6.6B

2. Problem = by putting in very large print the first two words of “Free alcohol counseling,” it changes the meaning to make it sound like free booze is being handed out.  
Label = accent.
4. Problem = the ingredients may be individually harmless, but together they interact explosively.  
Label = composition.
6. Problem = Sue applies an average for her age group to herself personally. Averages only apply to groups.  
Label = division.
8. Problem = headline can be read as “the percentage of dropouts has been cut in half” or as “the dropouts have each been cut into two pieces.”  
Label = equivocation.
10. Problem = the cost-of-living index is an average price of a basket of goods, and averages apply to groups, not individuals.  
Label = division.
12. Problem = the parts of the universe may have been created by determinist causes, but the universe as a whole could be due to chance (say, by a random big bang explosion).  
Label = composition.

14. Problem = to be a bad doctor is to be unskillful; to be a bad person is to be immoral or evil.  
Label = equivocation.
16. Problem = if all the runners run more quickly, it will result in a faster race, but the individual chances of winning won't increase.  
Label = composition.
18. Problem = Americans collectively are the richest people on Earth, but not individually (in all cases).  
Label = division.
20. Problem = chemicals in isolation are toxic, but they combine to make a necessary molecule (i.e., table salt).  
Label = composition.

## 6.7

2. Broke
4. Concentration camp.

## 6.8C

2. This food is simply scrumptious!
4. Fred sings like an angel!

## 6.8D

2. Fred, that bad person, ran very quickly.
4. He enjoyed kissing her.
6. The tornado went through town.
8. After eating cake and ice cream, the children became overactive.
10. Her boyfriend was hard to get rid of.

## 6.9

2. Problem = the sentence can be read as "if you cannot defeat them, ally with them" or as "if you can't run your tongue over them, put them together," or as "if you can't run your tongue over them, ally with them."  
Label = equivocation.
4. Problem = without the fuselage with wings, the engine cannot fly.  
Label = division.
6. Problem = to say the American judicial system is fair is to say that in most cases, justice is rendered. That doesn't mean that it is so in all cases.  
Label = division.
8. Problem = the question presupposes that young people are filled with hate and rage, but that is arguable.  
Label = loaded question.

10. Problem = Al completely changes Fred's statement by omitting 'losing' and 'not as'.  
Label = accent.
12. Problem = the question assumes your political party is dedicated to evil, which you would no doubt deny.  
Label = loaded question.
14. Problem = the speaker presupposes the respondent is always resentful.  
Label = loaded question.
16. Problem = loaded phrases such as 'savage cuts' and 'drastically cut' are used to say that public broadcasting is being cut too much repeatedly, with no evidence being offered.  
Label = circular argument.