

## Standard Form Argument Exercises, #1

### Discussion

Put the following arguments into standard form.

**1. Surely God must exist. After all, the world exhibits a high degree of order, and order requires a designer.**

*Discussion:* There are a couple of good clues for determining premise and conclusion in this argument. First, the premise marker “after all” appears immediately before the sentence “the world exhibits a high degree of order, and order requires a designer” – making that sentence a premise.

(Note that “and” sentences should not be broken apart into two smaller sentences, the way a combo sentence would be. “And” is neither a premise marker nor a conclusion marker.)

The only other sentence, “God must exist,” would then have to be the conclusion. Note that this sentence comes at the beginning of the passage – a likely place for a conclusion. (The word “must” might also be a conclusion marker – making the actual conclusion “God exists”. But I would accept either “God exists” or “God must exist” as the conclusion of this argument.)

(The word “surely” is just an expression of confidence in the conclusion, and acts sort of like a conclusion marker; I don’t include it here as part of the conclusion.)

In standard form, this argument would appear as follows.

**1. The world exhibits a high degree of order, and order requires a designer.**

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**∴ God exists.**