

Chapter 3 – Thinking and reasoning with categories

Getting familiar with . . . categories

A. For each of the following claims, identify as many categories of things as you can, by using the “things that are _____” format, as we have done above.

1. Aristotle was an Ancient Greek philosopher who wrote many treatises.
2. Rob has seen a few mailboxes painted like R2-D2, but most are blue.
3. Dinosaurs, like the Stegosaurus, roamed the Earth during the Jurassic Period.
4. People who are not handicapped but who take handicapped persons’ parking spots belong in jail.
5. There are seven chimpanzees in that tree.

B. In each of the following, we list two categories. For each, identify one thing that is a member of both categories and one thing that is a member of each category that is not a member of both. To answer each item, draw two circles, and write the thing that is a member of both in the overlap, and write the thing that is not in both outside the overlap. If there is nothing that is in both, or nothing that is in one but not both, write “nothing.”

1. Things that are buildings. Things that are in Paris.
2. Things that are pets. Things that are dogs.
3. Things that are mammals. Things that are cats.
4. Things that are black. Things that are white.
5. Things that are round. Things that are toys.
6. Things that are vehicles. Things that are cars.
7. Things that are stars. Things that are the sun.
8. Things that are men. Things that are bachelors.
9. Things that are mortal. Things that are humans.
10. Things that are round. Things that are square.