

## PROPOSITIONS AND THEIR MEANING

### DEFINITION OF A PROPOSITION:

A 'proposition' is a statement that expresses an idea or claim. It can be either 'true' or 'false', but not both at the same time. Think of it as a simple building block of thought, used in logic and reasoning.

### EXAMPLES:

- "The sky is blue." (True)
- " $2 + 2 = 5$ ." (False)

These statements make clear claims that can be evaluated for truth.

### HOW PROPOSITIONS WORK:

1. **Clarity** : A proposition must be precise and unambiguous.
  - Clear: "Dogs are mammals."
  - Not a proposition: "What a beautiful day!" (It's an expression, not a claim).
2. **Truth Value** : Every proposition is either true or false.
  - True proposition: "Water freezes at  $0^{\circ}\text{C}$ ."
  - False proposition: "The Earth is flat."
3. **Usage in Logic** : Propositions are the foundation for arguments and reasoning. They help construct logical statements, like:
  - If A (proposition 1) is true, then B (proposition 2) must also be true.

### WHY IT MATTERS:

Propositions are crucial in everyday thinking, debates, and scientific reasoning because they allow us to:

- Analyze ideas logically.
- Test claims for validity.
- Build arguments based on evidence.

In short, propositions are like the facts or statements we use to explain or prove things. They help us communicate clearly and reason effectively.