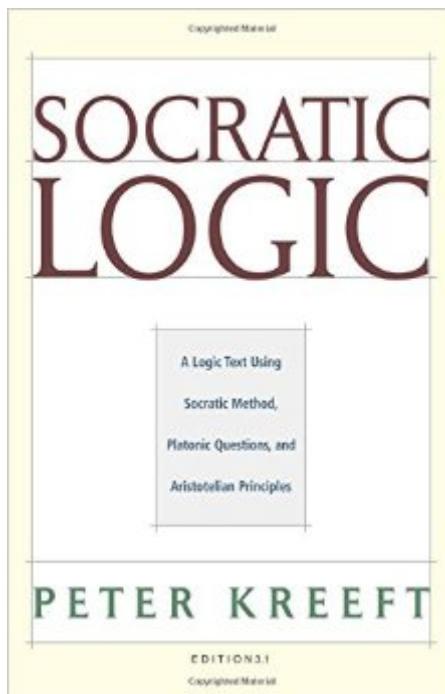


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# **Socratic Logic: A Logic Text Using Socratic Method, Platonic Questions, And Aristotelian Principles, Edition 3.1**



## **Synopsis**

Modelling Socrates as the ideal teacher for the beginner and Socratic method as the ideal method. Introducing philosophical issues along with logic by being philosophical about logic and logical about philosophy. Presenting a complete system of classical Aristotelian logic, the logic of ordinary language and of the four language arts: reading, writing, listening and speaking.

## **Book Information**

Hardcover: 410 pages

Publisher: St. Augustines Press; 3rd edition (September 15, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1587318083

ISBN-13: 978-1587318085

Product Dimensions: 6 x 1.1 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.5 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ (43 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #29,065 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #9 inÂ Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Philosophy > Logic #21 inÂ Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Philosophy > Logic & Language

## **Customer Reviews**

Peter Kreeft, author of over 40 books, writes: "We can't avoid reasoning; we can only avoid doing it well." And in "Socratic Logic" the good professor discusses the different applications of modern symbolic logic (Kreeft names as "mathematical logic") in relation to "Old Logic." Kreeft tackles some difficult notions yet writes in a very accessible manner. The reader will discover how to:- use old logic to rightly think, argue, and write- utilize the classical Aristotelian logic- recognize the right benefit of modern logic- apply logic in apologetic encounters. Kreeft states: "An argument in apologetics, when actually used in dialogue, is an extension of the arguer. The arguer's tone, sincerity, care, concern, listening, and respect matter as much as his or her logic - probably more. The world was won for Christ not by arguments but by sanctity: "What you are speaks so loud, I can hardly hear what you say." This volume is straightforward and not too difficult. It makes a fine basic volume for beginners because it is practical and thought-provoking. It will help the reader construct logical and philosophically powerful arguments to advance the truth using the Socratic approach in an assortment of situations. The author adds: "Argumentation is a human enterprise that is embedded in a larger social and psychological context. This context includes (1) the total psyches of the two

persons engaged in dialogue, (2) the relationship between the two persons, (3) the immediate situation in which they find themselves and (4) the larger social, cultural and historical situation surrounding them." The Dr. Kreeft offers a high-quality analysis and application of old logic for today's use. If you are an educator or a student of logic, or aspire to study how to think critically, then you will receive much for this book. Kreeft adds: "One of the few things in life that cannot possibly do harm in the end is the honest pursuit of the truth."

Socratic Logic version 3e may very well be the best logic text ever written, but it had many typos. This version corrects them all; an overly zealous fan of this book (let him go unnamed) spent a lot of time documenting each one. Please see my review of version 3e below for details on this amazingly clear, spring-cleaning-for-the-mind sort of book. 3e review: Decades may pass before this book is recognized for what it is: the most straightforward, honest, and philosophically illuminating logic text in print. It is hard to fathom how rare and useful it is for a man as well-read as Kreeft, and as orthodox, to sift through most historical and modern logic texts for us, and to present all the classic features of logic, and the salient departures from the classic approach to logic. Moreover he does this in one highly accessible, lively, readable volume. This book is even clear (and fun) enough to avoid intimidating an interested middle or high school student. It takes a uniquely dedicated and selfless teacher to 'condescend' as charitably as Kreeft does here- this book is bursting with palpable, intellectual energy on even simple topics, and overflowing with helpful examples on more difficult ones. This book ought to be also a standard, near-required text for Catholic and Christian colleges. It may be some time before that happens, but it will happen, because it needs to.

I have taken logic multiple times at the college level and this is my go-to book. I reference it constantly, even when out of class. If this is not the text book required in your logic class then buy it anyway and use it as a reference!

This extraordinary book is both humbling and enlightening. Should you think you are a capable, and perhaps even above average, reasoner, you may, as I have, discover you have a lot to learn. As you make this discovery, you will find that you are in good company. As an example, Dr. Kreeft explains that Rene Descartes' famous dictum, "I think, therefore I am," is a logical fallacy called "begging the question" as it incorporates the conclusion as a hypothesis. This is, of course, only a small sample of the wisdom contained in Dr. Kreeft's fine book. Should you wish to be able to separate the intellectual wheat from the chaff, this is an excellent place to start.

If you are looking for an introductory text which is at the same time in-depth, and gives you a good grounding in classical logic as well as enables you to spread your wings a little and have fun with the content, this is the book for you. I am a high school teacher at a school founded on a Classical model, and I use some of the material in this book to inform and enrich my curriculum.

If learning is important to you then this is a book that will not only give you important knowledge but help teach you how to learn and think more clearly. It will make you think and teach you to think at the same time. Well done, Dr Kreeft!

This was very readable, easily understood, and the exercises at the end of the chapters were very helpful. Highly recommended for any beginner or anyone who is studying on their own.

I have 250 logic texts spanning 5 centuries and without a doubt Socratic Logic by Kreeft is the best of them all!! The book is a gem!! ...Ben Bilyeu

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