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Don't Be Hasty

The use of evidence can determine if a statement is a valid argument or a hasty generalization. Read the statements and evidence below. Circle whether you think each statement is a valid argument or a hasty generalization.

Practice: "I am not little. I am petite," said Chicken Little.

Evidence: *Little* means "small in size, amount, or degree." *Petite* means "having a dainty and delicate build."

Is Chicken Little's statement a valid argument or a hasty generalization?
Circle your answer. Valid argument Hasty generalization

Your turn: Valid Argument or Hasty Generalization?

1. Chicken Little's friends never panic.

Evidence: When Chicken Little's friends overhear a conversation, they believe it. Chicken Little has to calm them down.

Is the statement a valid argument or hasty generalization?
Circle your answer. Valid argument Hasty generalization

2. The fact-checking snipes always determine what is true.

Evidence: The snipes are widely respected. They consult sources for information.

Is the statement a valid argument or hasty generalization?
Circle your answer. Valid argument Hasty generalization

3. Don't believe everything you hear.

Evidence: The sky is falling. Chicken Little is hurt.

Is the statement a valid argument or hasty generalization?
Circle your answer. Valid argument Hasty generalization