



Who'll Stop the...Snow?

Student Handout #1: **Post Hoc Fallacy Examples**

1. In September, 13 year old Jenny received a chain letter and failed to forward it to any of her friends. In October, her kitten was run over by a bus – while she was still holding it.
2. I bought a brand new Mac and it worked just fine for the past seven months. But then I installed a new copy of Word, and it froze up the very next time I started it. I think that Word caused my Mac to freeze up.
3. My grandfather had this amazing way of fixing the TV just by hitting it. It was this really old television set, and the picture would keep going out of focus. Every time it did so, he would just walk over and hit the side and the picture would go back into focus. He must have had a magic touch, because he fixed it every time.
4. Pete watched it snow most of the day and then decided to go to the store to get milk. Watching snow falling must really make Pete thirsty!
5. I had lost every track meet I entered this year. Then my girlfriend gave me these neon laces for my spikes and I won my next three races. Those laces must be good luck...if I keep on wearing them I can't help but win!
6. Republicans pass a new tax reform law that benefits wealthy Americans. Shortly thereafter the economy takes a nose dive. Democrats claim that the tax reform caused the economic woes and they push to get rid of it.

7. Jane got a rather large wart on her finger. Based on a story her father told her, she cut a potato in half, rubbed it on the wart and then buried the potato under the light of a full moon. Over the next month her wart shrank and eventually vanished. Jane wrote her father to tell him how right he was about the cure.

8. Last night, I had three glasses of wine after dinner. Then I spent all night throwing up in the bathroom. I'm never drinking wine again!

9. A recent study showed that students who cram before final exams tend to get poor grades. So I'm not going to crack a book the night before any of my tests this year.

10. Your Honor, it's true that BillyBob robbed four banks last night. But you have to understand that he had eaten a whole box of Twinkies shortly before that. It's clearly all the sugar that made him do it. So you should find BillyBob not guilty.