Flowchart for Missing Premises: Venn Diagrams

Find the conclusion.

Diagram the given premise and the conclusion, shading all the relevant regions or placing an X in each relevant region.

Is the conclusion universal and you shaded either more or fewer than three internal regions of the diagram?

Yes. The argument form is INVALID.

No.

Is the conclusion particular and you placed an X in only one region or in four regions of the diagram?

Yes. The argument form is INVALID.

No.

Is the conclusion universal?

Yes. Determine which additional premise is partially diagrammed and check your work by a "forward" Venn diagram.

No.
Appendix 17.2: Flow Chart for Missing Premises: Venn Diagrams

Is the conclusion particular and has a particular premise been diagrammed?

Yes. Determine which universal premise would reduce the number of Xs to two and check your work with a "forward" Venn diagram.

No. Is the conclusion particular and has a universal premise been diagrammed?

Yes. Determine which particular premise would introduce one of the two Xs and check your work with a "forward" Venn diagram.

No. Are there exactly three terms used consistently throughout the syllogism?

No. The syllogism is INVALID.

Yes. Is the missing premise true?

Yes. The argument is SOUND.

No. The argument is VALID but UNSOUND.