Logical Fallacies #1

1. Go to the following website to review logical fallacies: http://www.fallacyfiles.org/introtof.html

2. Once at the website, read the definition of a logical fallacy; then, travel to the “Complete Alphabetical List of Fallacies” (on the left), and read the definitions of “Appeal to/Argument From” Fallacies, specifically “Authority”, “Pity”, and “Fear” (note: both Fear and Pity will lead to the Emotional Appeal page).

3. Answer the following questions:
   
   A. What is a logical fallacy? (in your own words)
   
   B. What are three of the major ways that an Appeal to Authority can go wrong?
   
   C. When is an Appeal to Emotion NOT a fallacy?

4. Label the following as Appeal to Authority, Appeal to Pity, Appeal to Fear, or Not a Fallacy.
   
   a. A lawyer puts a crippled woman on the stand because her legs were damaged by a reckless truck driver in a similar accident to the one caused by the defendant in the case before the jury. The jury hears of the woman’s pain and suffering caused directly by her accident.
   
   b. A cosmetics company designs and ad to promote its new face cream; it has direct testimony from a leading plastic surgeon who says that the cream is so effective that she has bought shares in the company.
   
   c. A presidential candidate brings a young man on stage at a political rally to tell his emotional story of how the candidate’s government program had helped him stop using drugs and alcohol and get a job that he still holds. The audience hears specifically how the program has worked for this man.

5. Meet with a professor to go over your answers. Be sure to explain the reasoning behind your choices.