Philosophy 240: Symbolic Logic Hamilton College
Fall 2008 Russell Marcus
Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays: 9am - 9:50am rmarcus1@hamilton.edu

Identity Theory Jigsaw Lesson
Workgroup: At Most

I. Examine the following translations:

1. At most one person is Michael's assistant. $(x)(y)[(Axm \bullet Aym) \supset x=y]$

2. At most two people are Michael's assistants.

$$(x)(y)(z)[(Axm \bullet Aym \bullet Azm) \supset (x=y \vee x=z \vee y=z)]$$

3. At most two persons invented the airplane.

$$(x)(y)(z)[(Px \bullet Ix \bullet Py \bullet Iy \bullet Pz \bullet Iz) \supset (x=y \vee x=z \vee y=z)]$$

4. Some people like Angela, but at most two.

$$(\exists x)Lxa \bullet (x)(y)(z)[(Lxa \bullet Lya \bullet Lza) \supset (x=y \vee x=z \vee y=z)]$$

Notice that 'at most' statements make no existential commitments.

II. Try these:

5. There is at most one applicant for the job. (Ax)

6. There are at most two applicants for the job.

7. There are at most three applicants for the job.

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