In my videos, I sometimes use technical terms from philosophy and logic, so I think it's worth making a video or two clarifying these things, just so we're all on the same page.

An argument, in this context, is a series of statements consisting of premises and a conclusion.

The premises are the assumptions that, taken together, are meant to support the conclusion, and the conclusion is the claim that the argument is trying to establish.

The sort of arguments I tend to discuss on here are deductive, in the sense that the premises are intended to logically guarantee the truth of the conclusion, not merely make it probable.

When such an argument succeeds in this way, it's valid. A valid argument is one such that it's impossible for the premises to be true and the conclusion to be false. In other words, IF the premises are true, THEN the conclusion must also be true.

Consider this argument:
(T1) Trump is better candidate than Biden.
(T2) If Trump is a better candidate that Biden, then you should vote for Trump.
(T3) So, you should vote for Trump.

This is a valid argument. But I don't think it's sound.

A sound argument is one that's both valid and has all true premises. I think this argument's unsound because it has a false premise.

So, this is sometimes why you'll see me call an argument valid even when I go on to criticize it. Being valid is like a minimal bar of rationality that such an argument must reach.

But even if it's valid, that doesn't mean the conclusion is true or justified, since it might have a false or unjustified premise.