In this exercise, you are to extract the argument from the text that appears below. You will need a reconstruction section and a standard form section. This should not take more than a page, single-spaced.

As for each section, remember that a reconstruction is not a summary—you need to include in the argument steps that are implicit or have been introduced elsewhere, so long as they are steps on which the reasoning depends. Also, keep in mind that standard forms should include short statements that capture the premises, intermediate conclusions, and final conclusion of the argument. You want the argument to flow from premises to the conclusion, i.e., to convey the reader to the conclusion in a way that gains their consent.

(Details about argument reconstruction and standard form development are available on the Critical Thinking Worksite, located here: http://www.msu.edu/~orourk51/ctw-br/.)

The following is a paragraph from Singer. It involves a complex bit of reasoning that is once again dialectical. Reconstruct it as two arguments: one of the critic (include the hypothetical premise), and one of Singer. Provide a standard form for each of the arguments.

The view that numbers do make a difference can be made plausible if stated in this way: if everyone in circumstances like mine gave £5 to the Bengal Relief Fund, there would be enough to provide food, shelter, and medical care for the refugees; there is no reason why I should give more than anyone else in the same circumstances as I am; therefore I have no obligation to give more than £5. Each premise in this argument is true, and the argument looks sound. It may convince us, unless we notice that it is based on a hypothetical premise, although the conclusion is not stated hypothetically. The argument would be sound if the conclusion were: if everyone in circumstances like mine were to give £5, I would have no obligation to give more than £5. If the conclusion were so stated, however, it would be obvious that the argument has no bearing on a situation in which it is not the case that everyone else gives £5. This, of course, is the actual situation. It is more or less certain that not everyone in circumstances like mine will give £5. So there will not be enough to provide the needed food, shelter, and medical care. Therefore by giving more than £5 I will prevent more suffering than I would if I gave just £5. (Singer, p. 497)