

■ **Table 12.2:** Formal and Everyday Reasoning Tasks Compared

Formal	Everyday
All premises are supplied.	Some premises are implicit, and some are not supplied at all.
Problems are self-contained.	Problems are not self-contained.
Typically there is one correct answer.	Typically there are several possible answers, which vary in quality.
Established methods of inference that apply to the problem often exist.	Established procedures for solving the problem rarely exist.
It is typically unambiguous when the problem is solved.	It is often unclear whether the current “best” solution is good enough.
The content of the problem is often of limited academic interest.	The content of the problem typically has potential personal relevance.
Problems are solved for their own sake.	Problems are often solved as a means of achieving other goals.

Source: Galotti, K. M. (1989). Approaches to studying formal and everyday reasoning. *Psychological Bulletin*, 105, 331–351. Table is on p. 335.