



Student Resource

Answers to Chapter 8 Stop-and-Reflect Box 8.2

a. *John shopped at the farmer's market Saturday.*

Answer: Pragmatic inference (implicature)

While most people go to the farmer's market to shop, and this is plausible, it is possible that John went for other reasons as well, such as working or meeting a friend. This inference is cancelable; hence it is an implicature.

b. *John was at or near the farmer's market on Saturday.*

Answer: Logical inference (entailment)

The statement *John drove his car to the farmer's market Saturday* cannot be true if John did not go to or near the farmer's market. If (b) were false, the two statements would contradict each other. Hence, this is an entailment.

c. *John owns a car.*

Answer: Pragmatic inference (implicature).

While it is plausible that John owned the car that he drove to the market, it is also possible that the car belonged to someone else. John does not need to own a car for the original statement to be true. This is cancelable, hence an implicature.

d. *John can drive.*

Answer: Logical inference (entailment).

John's driving to the market can only occur if John can drive. To negate John can drive would result in a contradiction. Logically, this is an entailment.