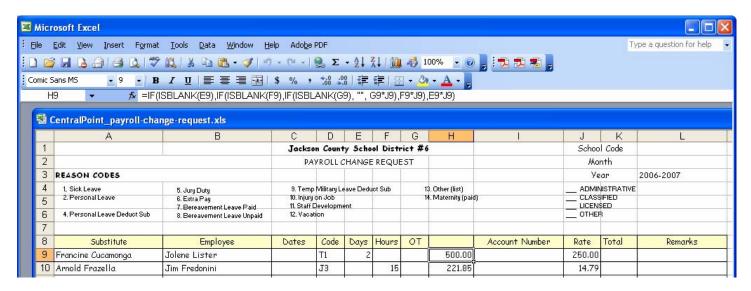
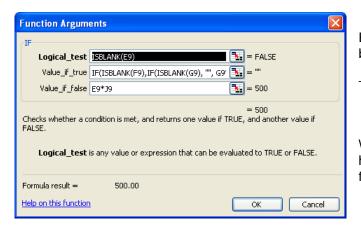
Nested IF statements



Here's what's going on. The IF statement tests to see if a condition is true. If it's true, Excel does one thing; if it's false, Excel does another. In this case the IF statement checks to see if cell E9 is blank.

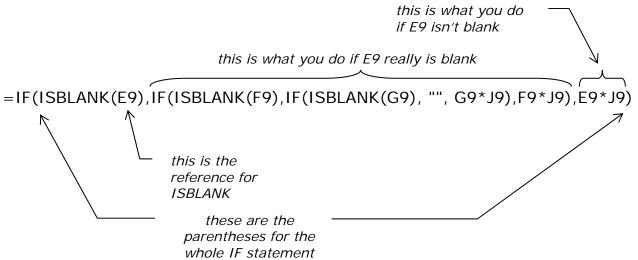


E9 isn't blank, so it multiplies the value contained in E9 by the rate specified in J9.

The simple syntax is

= IF (true/false condition, do-if-true, do-if-false)

When you have nested if statements, it looks a lot hairier, but it's a little easier to understand if you work from the outside-in:



The first thing it does is check if E9 is blank. If it is, Excel multiplies E9 by J9. If it's not blank, there's another IF statement that asks Excel to check if F9 is blank. If it is, Excel multiplies F9 by J9. If it isn't blank, Excel checks if G9 is blank. If it is, Excel does nothing—that's what the "" means. If it isn't, Excel multiplies G9 by J9.