

Lesson 5

Study Guide

Vocabulary

A Priori
Correspondence Theory of Truth
Empirical Truth
Epistemology
Intuitions
Method of Doubt
Necessary Truth
Objective Truth
Rationalism
Rationality
Skepticism
Subjective Truth
Tabula Rasa
Truth of Reason

Philosophers

René Descartes
Jürgen Habermas
George Wilhelm Friederick Hegel
David Hume
Immanuel Kant
Søren Kierkegaard
John Locke
John Stuart Mill
Friedrich Nietzsche

Descartes tried to doubt everything in order to

- a. prove that nothing is true.
- b. prove that some things are indubitable.
- c. verify empiricism.
- d. become closer to God.

According to Hume, when we observe two billiard balls colliding,

- a. we see the actual cause.
- b. we only see that two events are regularly found together, in constant conjunction
- c. we understand causation as a truth of reason.
- d. we grasp the principle of universal causality.

According to John Locke, the human mind at birth

- a. is already in possession of philosophical knowledge.

- b. comes furnished with innate ideas.
- c. is a blank tablet (*tabula rasa*).
- d. has a clear and distinct idea of God.

According to Quine, if Bill points to a rabbit, Bill's gesture has an "inscrutable" reference. This means that

- a. the concept of rabbit is innate.
- b. Bill's meaning is a matter of reason.
- c. we can't figure out what Bill means by the facts alone.
- d. Bill's actions are meaningless.

Assuming that knowledge is "justified true belief," then, if you know something,

- a. it's enough for it to be true.
- b. it must be a necessary truth.
- c. besides being true, it also has to be justified
- d. it must be an empirical truth.

Necessary truths, such as " $2 + 2 = 4$," are

- a. truths based on experience.
- b. a priori truths.
- c. a posteriori truths.
- d. truths that necessarily change over time.

That "The world exists" and that "Everything that happens has a cause" are examples of

- a. innate ideas.
- b. empirical ideas.
- c. presuppositions of knowledge.
- d. the *tabula rasa*.

When Nietzsche said that "there is no truth," he was really arguing

- a. against the correspondence theory of truth.
- b. that all interpretations of the world were equally valid.
- c. that no interpretations of the world had validity.
- d. against the coherence theory of truth.

Descartes and Spinoza are rationalists.

Select one:

- True
- False

Epistemology means the *theory of knowledge*.

Select one:

- True
- False

Leibniz agrees with Locke that the senses are a sufficient source for all knowledge,

Select one:

True

False

Philosophers and scientists agree that if a statement is true, then it corresponds to the facts.

Select one:

True

False

The German philosopher Jürgen Habermas believes that rationality is not imposed on us by the powerful, but rather something we develop and cultivate in conversation with one another.

Select one:

True

False