

Lesson 7

Study Guide

Vocabulary:

Absolute
Freedom
Compatibilism
Determinism
Freedom
Freedom (determinist's view):
Freedom (existentialist's view):
Freedom (indeterminist's view):
Hard
Determinism
Heisenberg
Uncertainty
Principle
Indeterminism
Libertarians
Negative
Freedom
Positive
Freedom
Practical
Reason
Principle of Alternative Possibilities
Principle of Universal Causality
Soft Determinism

Philosophers:

Frithjof Bergmann
Harry Frankfurt
Erik Fromm
Werner Heisenberg
David Hume
Immanuel Kant
Jean-Jacques Rousseau
Jean-Paul Sartre

Soft determinists believe that

- freedom and determinism are compatible.
- freedom and determinism are incompatible.
- determinism is false.

d. determinism has many therapeutic remedies that can help us cope with difficult times.

When Sartre said, "We were never more free than during the German occupation," he meant that

- a. the occupied people were able to escape from their everyday concerns and relationships.
- b. the occupied people confronted the fact of their freedom and the need to make a commitment.
- c. soft determinism is false.
- d. soft determinism is true.

If soft determinism is true, then

- a. we can continue to hold people responsible for their actions, even if their actions are determined.
- b. we cannot continue to hold people responsible for their actions because their actions are determined.
- c. we must accept the fact that we are unable to act freely.
- d. we must accept the fact that we have no control over our actions.

Existentialists agree with Kant in asserting that

- a. indeterminism is false.
- b. even if determinism is false, we must take the tragic view of ourselves as necessarily unfree.
- c. soft determinism is false.
- d. our decisions and actions cannot be viewed as having any causes whatsoever.

According to Frithjof Bergmann, our culture

- a. has a schizophrenic view of freedom.
- b. has a deterministic view of freedom.
- c. has a single view of freedom.
- d. does not really believe in freedom.

In the statement "Every event has its *sufficient* natural explanatory cause(s)," the word *sufficient* means that the cause is

- a. incapable of bringing the event about by itself.
- b. indeterminate.
- c. necessary for the event to occur.
- d. capable of bringing the event about by itself.

David Hume, who was a soft determinist, believed that we could say that an act was free

- a. the person performing it was not morally blameworthy.
- b. if it followed from a person's "character."
- c. so long as indeterminism was true.
- d. so long as its past causes were not sufficient to produce it.

The determinist's claim that every event has a sufficient explanation seems hard to disagree with because

- a. it implies that positive freedom is possible.
- b. it implies that negative freedom is possible.
- c. it appears to be a basic presupposition of knowledge.

The statement that we are "condemned to be free" was made by

- a. Immanuel Kant.
- b. John Stuart Mill.
- c. Jean-Paul Sartre.
- d. David Hume.

If having a choice means to be able to do either A or B, then determinism seems to imply

- a. that freedom of choice is an achievement.
- b. positive freedom.
- c. that people must be forced to be free.
- d. that there is no real choice.

In the history of the United States, the emergence of freedom of personal choice has

- a. never been achieved.
- b. threatened and sometimes destroyed the peaceful harmony of conformist communities.
- c. nearly always resulted in benefits for all.
- d. nearly always resulted in a lessening of social conflict.

Assume that determinism is true about your body's movements. Assume also that your consciousness, unlike your body, is not part of the scheme of determinism, and so is free to make decisions, free to choose what to do. If these assumptions are true, then it follows that

- a. only rational freedom is possible.
- b. determinism is true even of your consciousness.
- c. your consciousness cannot have an effect on the body's movements and actions.
- d. your consciousness can have an effect on the body's movements or actions.

"The only liberty which can be a real thing [is] the liberty of the State and of the individual within the State" was stated by

- a. John Locke.
- b. Benito Mussolini.
- c. Karl Marx.
- d. Patrick Henry.