

STUDY GUIDE FOR EXAMINATION #1-B
Spring 2010

Define / explain '**epistemology**' as a field of philosophical investigation.

According to the 'standard analysis of knowledge,' knowledge is:

1. _____ **condition/element**

which involves _____ and _____

2. _____ **condition/element**

Three _____ **theories** of which are (list and explain):

1)

2)

3)

3. _____ **condition/element**

which provides _____ for the belief

Six characteristics of **Rationalist epistemology** are:

1)

2)

3)

4)

5)

6)

Identify: Plato and Rene Descartes as rationalists

Six characteristics of **Empiricist Epistemology** are:

1)

2)

3)

4)

5)

6)

Identify: Aristotle as a 'precursor' to empiricism

John Locke and David Hume as empiricists

What is the significance of *tabula rasa*?

Why Did David Hume say that we do not know (as features of "the way the world is") causal connections between events?

What is '**local skepticism**'?

What is '**global skepticism**'?

How was **Immanuel Kant's epistemology** a 'synthesis' account in epistemology?

What was his view of the mind's role in knowing?

What were '**categories of the understanding**' according to Kant?

Explain the nature and importance of '**synthetic apriori**' truths / judgments.

So what was the status of causal relations / 'connections' according to Kant?

- What was the status of the statement: "Every event has a cause?"

Explain Kant's distinction between '**phenomena**' and '**noumena**'

Explain the significance of Kant's statements:

- 1) "Concepts without perceptions are empty. / Perceptions without concepts are blind."
- 2) 'It is true that all knowledge begins with experience. / It is not true that all knowledge arises from experience.'

List and explain eleven accounts / bases of **personal identity**.

1) body self

2)

3)

4)

5)

6)

7)

8)

9)

10)

11) divine constitution / creation self

Explain four theories of **mind and body**:

1) substance dualism

identify: Rene Descartes

identify: Gilbert Ryle

2) physicalism / materialism

a) logical behaviorism:

identify: B.F. Skinner

b) eliminative materialism

identify: Paul Churchland

c) functionalism

identify: Daniel Dennett

d) epiphenomenalism

3) idealism

identify: George Berkeley

4) dual-aspect accounts

Freedom and Determinism

Explain: 'universal causal determinism.'

What questions- problems does it present for human 'freedom'?

Explain:

1) hard determinism

identify: B.F. Skinner

2) soft determinism

identify: Daniel Dennett

3) libertarianism

identify: William James and Richard Taylor

What is the significance for “could have done otherwise / could not have done otherwise” for the freedom-determinism issue?

- Regarding moral responsibility?
- Regarding rationality and truth?
- Regarding personal-self identity?