

Evidence, Intuition, and Theoretical Virtues Notes Questions

Grade Type: Homework

Due Date: September 21st (A, B, C, D, E)

Instructions: The following questions are to be copied into your Philosophy notebook. Leave space (either between each question or at the end of the question list) for answers to be filled in throughout this section of the unit. Be sure to show me your completed copied questions list in class on the specified due date.

1. If someone wants to believe that MSD is true, and they want to believe that hotdogs are not sandwiches, what's their problem?
2. What is the Stuck Between Theory and Counterexample Problem?
3. What is Equal Consideration? What does it have to do with Utilitarianism and Can't Transplant?
4. Why, for some people, might the Trolley Problem be an example of the Stuck Between Theory and Counterexample Problem?
5. What is the potential definition of Friendship?
6. What does Equal Consideration have to do with Utilitarianism and Friendship is Permitted?
7. Why, for some people, might the potential definition of Friendship be an example of the Stuck Between Theory and Counterexample Problem?
8. What is a reason to think that philosophical intuition isn't the same as our physical senses?
9. What is accuracy?
10. What was Eddington's Observation? Why did that observation show that General Relativity (Einstein's theory of gravity) is more accurate than Classical Mechanics (Newton's theory of gravity)?
11. What is testability?
12. Why is it better for a theory to be risky?
13. What is the Five-Minute Universe? Why isn't it testable?
14. What is scope?
15. Explain why Guilty Dog has wide scope.
16. What is simplicity (parsimony/Occam's razor)?
17. Compare and contrast Parents Theory and Santa Theory: are these theories accurate? Are they simple?
18. What is Inference to the Best Explanation?
19. (leave lots of space) Illustrate the Stuck Between Theory and Counterexample Problem as a scale.
20. What does it mean for a theory to be consistent with the evidence?
21. Explain how both Geocentrism and Heliocentrism can accurately predict retrograde motion (you may illustrate this).
22. What is the Evidence is Not Enough Problem? How is the example of retrograde motion an example of solving this problem?