

PART ONE

The Role of Philosophy

Multiple Choice Questions

1. Even though each academic field has its particular area of questions and phenomena that it studies, ultimately all knowledge is ...

- a. uncertain.
- b. deductive.
- c. relative.
- d. connected.

Answer: d

2. Every major scientific discipline was once part of ...

- a. religion.
- b. philosophy.
- c. superstitions.
- d. mathematics.

Answer: b

3. Physics, chemistry, biology, and astronomy are studied by those we now call “scientists,” but they were originally called ...

- a. humanists.
- b. agnostics.
- c. natural philosophers.
- d. historiographers.

Answer: c

4. While many people may imagine Albert Einstein working in a laboratory or gazing through a telescope, his theory of relativity was born from a _____ that was inspired when he envisioned flying through space at the speed of light.

- a. thought experiment
- b. controlled experiment
- c. research laboratory
- d. skeptical assessment

Answer: a

5. After graduating from college, Einstein worked as ...

- a. a laboratory assistant in a physics department.
- b. a clerk in the Swiss government patent office.
- c. an insurance salesperson.
- d. a mathematics high school teacher.

Answer: b

6. Against the prevailing view of the concept of time, Einstein's radical new idea was that time is not absolute, it is ...

- a. relative to our perspective.
- b. based on a reductive notion of space.
- c. the same for everyone.
- d. derived from our position around the sun.

Answer: a

7. In order to see the interrelatedness of knowledge, the reading looked at one extended example, the problem of ...

- a. pollution.
- b. climate change.
- c. crime.
- d. economic disparity.

Answer: c

8. The area of philosophy that concentrates on the study of knowledge is called ...

- a. forensics.
- b. metaphysics.
- c. morphology.
- d. epistemology.

Answer: d

9. Criminal trials rely on both the physical evidence (the epistemological questions) and the _____ of the prosecution and the defense.

- a. metaphysical aspects
- b. logical arguments
- c. motivation
- d. culpability

Answer: b

10. If the trial ends with a guilty verdict, then it enters the punishment phase. Here the philosophical questions concern the areas of _____ and _____.

- a. ethics; political philosophy
- b. certainty; celerity
- c. science; history
- d. culture; religion

Answer: a

11. The branch of philosophy that deals with what are often called “the ultimate questions of reality” is called ...

- a. ethics.
- b. cosmology.
- c. interactionism.
- d. metaphysics.

Answer: d

True or False Questions

1. Even though each academic field has its particular area of questions and phenomena that it studies, ultimately all knowledge is deductive.

Answer: False

2. Every major scientific discipline was once part of philosophy.

Answer: True

3. Physics, chemistry, biology, and astronomy are studied by those we now call “scientists,” but they were originally called “natural philosophers.”

Answer: True

4. While many people may imagine Albert Einstein working in a laboratory or gazing through a telescope, his theory of relativity was born from a thought experiment that was inspired when he envisioned flying through space at the speed of light.

Answer: True

5. After graduating from college, Einstein worked as a mathematics high school teacher.

Answer: False

6. Against the prevailing view of the concept of time, Einstein's radical new idea was that time is not absolute; it is derived from our position around the sun.

Answer: False

7. In order to see the interrelatedness of knowledge, the reading looked at one extended example, the problem of crime.

Answer: True

8. The area of philosophy that concentrates on the study of knowledge is called "epistemology."

Answer: True

9. Criminal trials rely on both the physical evidence (the epistemological questions) and the culpability of the prosecution and the defense.

Answer: False

10. If the trial ends with a guilty verdict, then it enters the punishment phase. Here the philosophical questions concern the areas of ethics and political philosophy.

Answer: True

11. The branch of philosophy that deals with what are often called "the ultimate questions of reality" is called "metaphysics."

Answer: True

Essay Questions

1. Discuss how the reading illustrates the interconnectedness of knowledge. Give some specific examples to illustrate this idea.
2. Describe the thought experiment that Einstein used to develop his theory of relativity.
3. Explain how the reading connected the area of epistemology to a crime.
4. Give some specific examples of epistemological questions.
5. Explain how the reading connected the area of metaphysics to a crime.
6. Explain how the reading connected the area of ethics to a crime.

7. Explain how the reading connected the area of political philosophy to a crime.
8. Explain how the reading connected the area of logic to a crime.
9. Describe how the defendant and the judge, who was about to pronounce sentencing, both used the idea of free will and choice to explain their actions.