

The Cave			
BELIEF OF AN EXTERNAL WORLD	Mind-independent	Mind-dependent	ILLUSION OF SELF
Intelligible World	Forms	Knowledge	Knowledge
Abstract	Concepts	Reason	Higher-being
-----	-----	-----	-----
Visible World	Physical Objects	Perception	Belief/Opinion
	Images/ dreams	Sensation	Animalistic
		Imagination	
	=====		
<b>Vertical Line</b>	Belief of an external world is separate from the illusion of self		
<b>Horizontal Line</b>	"Great Line of Being"	Separates knowledge from opinion	Perceived   Nonperceived
=====	=====	=====	=====
Descartes, Spinoza	Rationalism	Empiricism	Locke, Hume
	<b>Reality </b>	<b> Mental States</b>	
	Abstract	Concepts	
		Perception	
	-----	-----	
	Physical	Sensation	

**Plato**

**Plato's Apology - If the future resembles the past**

Socrates - On trial for Impiety and Corrupting the minds of the youth

1. Guilty of needless curiosity
2. Corrupting the youth, not acknowledging the gods - stories

UNSTABLE democracy

*Initial Defence*

Delphi's "Place" - to talk to the oracle - High Standing

Oracle - told by the muses/Hermes, Socrates is the wisest

Know thy self

Nothing in excess

Surety brings ruin

*Skepticism of his wisdom*

*Idea of Hubris*

Not "knowing thy self." - arrogance

Hubris - a type of Pride

Socrates -doubts the story given by the gods

*moving from story to theory*

(1) Presocratics : The Original 'Natural' Scientists:  
Attributed LESS 'agency' to natural events.  
Looked for the fundamental constituents/processes/realities.

(2) Sophists: The Original Relativist Social Scientists



### Plato (cont)

Protagoras: "Man is the measure of all things"

Gorgias: "Persuasion is the most valuable art."

Thrasymachus: "Morality is the advantage of the stronger."

- not well thought of

- Seen as more dangerous

- sells "knowledge"

*Socrates tries to distance himself from the Sophists* - cares for his soul, doesn't want to teach others

**Elenchus**: Socratic method of eliciting truth by dialectic

**Aporia**: Intellectual impasse - Contradiction in a theory/text argument

*Socratic Irony/ Socratic Paradox*

*What is Knowledge*

Socrates - knowledge is knowing the Good for the soul.

The reality of morality Vs Appearance of morality

Authority -reason, not power

Real justice will not appeal to emotions.

What are the moral and political implications of the Apology?

Socrates puts:

reason above convention

dialectic above rhetoric

principle above sentiment

rational consistency above unreflective social habit

ordinary speech above emotional rhetorical flourish

He puts the reality of morality (genuine care of the soul) above the appearance of morality (care of reputation).

Real authority is not power; it's reason.

Real justice cannot be overridden by sentiment.

### **Crito**

Socrates vs the Law

Crito's commitment to "Appearance" and "convention."

Elevating reason to a high standard- Apology

Elevating Justice to a high standard - Crito

Crito - the personification of convention - Mercy signing, to be a good person or to defend my friend.

"The Laws" conversion with Socrates.

Disobedience cannot be justified due to personal inconvenience

"To know the good is to do the good"

Escaping justice would harm his soul

Source of sin - ignorance

### **The Euthyphro Problem**

What grounds morality/Justice

Is Good good? Or Good because the gods will it?

Intellectualism/ Realism Vs Voluntarism/ Moral Antirealism

Good because its good Vs The Good is willed by God

*What is Piety*

2 Problems



### Plato (cont)

1. Follow by example,
2. What the gods love - Piety can't be something the gods love and don't love at the same time

#### *Intellectualism/ Realism*

Morality is rationally accessible and is understood independently from Divine Will.

In being all-powerful, He is subjective to His goodness?

#### *Moral Antirealism*

The Good is willed by God

- what is good for the soul unless it is subjective to God's will
- universal approval - ability to stand outside of the commandments
- sin has no context unless God forbids it

#### **Republic**

A "good State" and "good" people are interdependent.

#### *The soul*

Rational - Appetite - Spirit / Reasoning/logic - Cravings/anamalistic - emotions/anger

Integrated + Hermonius = Functional Human

If the community has functional humans = State well functioning

Rational - Appetite - Spirit / Rational - Farming/blacksmith/etc - Military

#### **The Cave**

> Might makes right

> Pulled out - can't see until the shadows

> Enlightening - reasoning happens

> Shares - self indulges

Knowledge depends on Moral effort resulting in insight. - Orienting your soul towards the Good

**JTB theory - Justified True Belief, To have (Propositional, perceptual) knowledge one must have justified true belief**

Requirements

1. True Opinion/Belief
2. An account
3. Justified
- 4? - cannot be a consequence of good fortune

State of Knowing Vs State of Believing

### Rationalism and Empiricism

**Rationalism** - Descartes, Spinoza

To acknowledge to be sensitive or responsive to reasons *introspection* on the intellect and the *necessary* relationships between concepts and reality.

**Empiricism** - Locke, Hume

The most important knowledge results from the accumulation of *reflection on sense experience* and observations of reality

- Memories

The Christian Rationalist - Rene Descartes

Fr. of Modernism - Elevate the human mind to a place it hasn't been before due to knowing ourselves.

#### **Methodological doubt**

Contrast with Plato

- Platonist: To have understanding need to turn your soul(mind) to above
- Descartes: To know is to doubt

1. Dream Hypothesis



### Rationalism and Empiricism (cont)

#### 2. Evil Demon Hypothesis

God's existence is knowable

- Wax example - Physical world can change and still exist

#### Sponzoza - **Pantheism**

- God is equally in the middle of the earth, surrounds everything and is in everything

- God doesn't have mental states

- Nature = God

#### **Empiricism**

John Locke

- All made equal

- Stays anchored to the five senses

- no innate ideas

David Hume - Skeptical Empiricist

Impressions are sensations, passions and emotions

Complex impressions | Simple Impressions

Complex ideas | Simple Ideas

We are in time; memory cant transport us back in time

Memories and impressions can change through time

Relations of ideas and *matters of fact*

Matter of fact - Sunrise is tomorrow, but it can't be *known*

Mathematics - numbers have a form in reality

*We Create in Relation to our senses*

#### **A Prior Relation - Cause and Effect**

How would Adam know that water is not breathable - Unless there are prior experiences and memories

Hume - Causation is a correlation

**every understanding is linked to a relation of ideas (Experience)**

**A Prior** - Independent to experiences

#### **Problem of Induction**

We *think* the future will resemble the past, But we *cant know* the future will resemble the past.

*induction conclusions* - all swans are white/ the next swan will be white

Need experiences of the past to 'know' the future

The distinction between *thinking (Predictions)* and *knowing (Experiences)*

#### **Rationalist/Empiricist Synthesis**

Immanuel Kant

- Though all our knowledge begins with experience, it does not follow that it all arises out of experience

Human knowing is confined to phenomena (appearances).

We can never know noumena (reality as it is in itself).

Philosophy, Science, and Metaphysics must confine itself to the conditions of possible experience.

The Categories of the Understanding (see page 187) make sense experience intelligible.

Rationalists are right inasmuch as our minds bring concepts (i.e., cognitive norms/limits) to bear upon experience.

Empiricists are right inasmuch as HUMAN thoughts cannot originate without sensation.



