

THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE

LINKING QUESTIONS

	KNOWLEDGE PROBLEMS	LANGUAGE	PERCEPTION	REASON	EMOTION	MATH	NATURAL SCIENCES	HUMAN SCIENCES	HISTORY	THE ARTS	ETHICS	RELIGION	TRUTH WISDOM
LANGUAGE	Does some knowledge lie beyond language?		How does the way we describe something affect the way we see it?	How can vague language lead to bad reasoning?	Is language used more to describe or persuade?	How is math like a language?	What role do metaphors play in science?	Can questionnaires be written in neutral language?	Can historical events be described in neutral language?	How do poets help to keep language alive?	Is all language value laden?	Does religious experience lie beyond language?	Does language hide the truth more than reveal it?
PERCEPTION	How trustworthy are our senses?	How does language affect the way we see things?		Should we trust reason rather than perception?	To what extent do emotions color our perceptions?	Does perception play any role in math?	How far do expectations influence observation?	To what extent does observing human beings affect their behavior?	How reliable is eye-witness testimony as a primary source?	To what extent do the arts help us to see the world with new eyes?	To what extent is our perception of things colored by values?	How should alleged religious experience be interpreted?	How far can our senses be trusted to give us the truth?
REASON	How can we justify logic?	How many arguments turn out to be about the meanings of words?	Which is a more reliable source of knowledge, perception or reason?		Are we driven more by reason or emotion?	Can math be reduced to logic?	Is there a logic of scientific discovery?	Can we assume that human beings are rational animals?	What common fallacies arise in studying history?	What role does reason play in artistic creation?	How important is consistency in moral reasoning?	What arguments are there for the existence of God?	How important are coherence and consistency for truth?
EMOTION	How reliable are our feelings and emotions?	Does the way you describe something affect how you feel about it?	How does your mood affect your perception of things?	Can emotion be rational?		How important is intuition in math?	What does biology tell us about the emotions?	How can a social scientist avoid becoming emotionally involved?	What role should empathy play in a historian's work?	Is art the language of the emotions?	Is ethics more a matter of the head or the heart?	What role does emotion play in religious belief?	If you feel something deeply enough, does that make it true?
MATH	How does mathematics relate to the world?	How is math like a language?	Does perception play any role in math?	Can math be reduced to logic?	How important is intuition in math?		Is the book of nature written in the language of math?	To what extent can we measure human phenomena?	What role do statistics play in history?	What is the connection between music and math?	Do moral truths exist in the same kind of way as math truths?	Do math truths exist "in the mind of God"?	Are math truths timeless and universal?
NATURAL SCIENCES	How certain is scientific knowledge?	What role do metaphors play in science?	How far do expectations influence observation?	Is there a logic of scientific discovery?	What does biology tell us about the emotions?	Is the book of nature written in the language of math?		How do the human sciences differ from the natural sciences?	Can the scientific method be applied to history?	What role does creative imagination play in the sciences?	Are scientists morally responsible for how their discoveries are used?	Do science and religion contradict one another?	Is the scientific method the best way of trying to find the truth?

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HUMAN SCIENCES	Can human behavior be predicted?	Is language unique to human beings?	How does the act of observation influence what is observed?	Are human beings rational animals?	How much of a problem is bias in the social sciences?	How useful are mathematical models in the human sciences?	How do the human sciences differ from the natural sciences?		How does history differ from other social sciences?	How does literature help us understand human nature?	How do ethical factors affect experiments in the human sciences?	What can psychology tell us about the nature of religious belief?	Do human beings have any privileged access to the truth?
HISTORY	Can history be unbiased?	Is it possible to describe historical events in unbiased ways?	Should we trust eyewitness evidence?	What kinds of bad reasoning can typically be found in history?	What role does empathy play in the historian's work?	What role do statistics play in history?	Should scientists know about the history of their subjects?	How does history differ from other social sciences?		How much can we learn about the past from the history of art?	Does history show that we have made moral progress?	Does history have some kind of plan or purpose?	Does the history of ideas suggest we are getting closer to the truth?
THE ARTS	Do the arts give us knowledge?	Is art the language of the emotions?	To what extent do the arts help us to see the world with new eyes?	What is the relation between creativity and rationality?	Do the arts provoke emotions or purge them?	How important is beauty in math?	What role does imagination play in the sciences?	Do we learn more about human nature from psychology or literature?	How is history similar to fiction? How is it different?		to what extent should the arts have a moral function?	How similar is human creativity to divine creativity?	What relation, if any, is there between beauty and truth?
ETHICS	Are values objective or subjective?	Should offensive language be censored?	Do good people see the world differently than bad people?	How important is consistency in moral reasoning?	Is ethics more a matter of the heart than the head?	Are basic ethical truths as certain as basic mathematical truths?	What are the moral responsibilities of scientists?	how do ethical factors limit experiments in the social sciences?	Should historians make moral judgments about the past?	To what extent do the arts civilize people?		Are values based on religion?	Is truth more important than happiness?
RELIGION	Can we know what the meaning of life is?	Does religious experience lie beyond language?	What role does interpretation play in religious experience?	Is faith rational or irrational?	What role does emotion play in religious belief?	Do mathematical truths exist "in the mind of God"?	How similar is "faith in the order of the universe" to religious faith?	Can the mind survive without the body, as most religions teach?	What role has religion played in shaping history?	How can we compare artistic creation and divine creation?	How have religions shaped people's moral beliefs?		Does religious truth lie beyond human understanding?