

Contents

Preface xv

CHAPTER 1 The Nature of Philosophy 2

1

1.1 What Is Philosophy? 4

Plato's Allegory of the Cave 4

Plato's Allegory and "Doing" Philosophy 6

thinking critically Assumptions and Critical Thinking 8

The Diversity of Philosophy 9

thinking critically Reasoning 10

1.2 The Traditional Divisions of Philosophy 11

Epistemology: The Study of Knowledge 11

thinking critically Avoiding Vague and Ambiguous Claims 12

Metaphysics: The Study of Reality or Existence 13

Philosophy and Life Philosophical Issues 15

thinking critically Supporting Claims with Reasons and Arguments 15

Ethics: The Study of Values 16

Other Philosophical Inquiries 18

1.3 A Philosopher in Action: Socrates 19

Euthyphro: Do We Know What Holiness Is? 20

thinking critically Evaluating Arguments 24

The Republic: Is Justice Whatever Benefits the Powerful? 24

The Apology: Socrates' Trial 27

Crito: Do We Have an Obligation to Obey the Law? 31

Philosophy and Life Breaking the Law for the Sake of Justice 35

thinking critically Identifying Premises, Conclusions,
and Assumptions 35

1.4 The Value of Philosophy 38

Achieving Freedom 38

Building Your View of Life 39

Cultivating Awareness 39

Philosophy and Life Albert Ellis and Rational Emotive
Behavior Therapy 40

Learning to Think Critically 40

The Theme of This Text 41

Chapter Summary 41

1.5 Reading 43

Voltaire, "Story of a Good Brahmin" 44

1.6 Historical Showcase: The First Philosophers 45

Pre-Socratic Western Philosophers 45

Eastern Philosophers 47

CHAPTER 2 Human Nature 50**2****2.1 Why Does Your View of Human Nature Matter? 52****thinking critically** Deductive Arguments, Validity, and Soundness 54

The Importance of Understanding Human Nature 56

Philosophy and Life Is Selflessness Real? 57**2.2 What Is Human Nature? 58**

The Rationalistic Version of the Traditional Western View of Human Nature 59

Philosophy and Life Is Human Nature Irrational? 62

The Judeo-Christian Version of the Traditional Western View of Human Nature 66

The Darwinian Challenge 70

thinking critically Inference to the Best Explanation 76

The Existentialist Challenge 78

The Feminist Challenge 81

2.3 The Mind–Body Problem: How Do Your Mind and Your Body Relate? 86

The Dualist View of Human Nature: You Are an Immaterial Mind with a Material Body 88

thinking critically Evaluating an Argument's Premises 92

The Materialist View of Human Nature: You Are Your Physical Body 94

The Mind/Brain Identity Theory of Human Nature: Your Mind Is Your Brain 95

The Behaviorist View of Human Nature: Your Mind Is How You Behave 97

The Functionalist View of Human Nature: Your Mind Is Like a Computer 100

Eliminative Materialism: You Have No Mind 104

The New Dualism: Your Mind Has Nonphysical Properties 105

2.4 Is There an Enduring Self? 107

The Soul Is the Enduring Self 111

Consciousness as the Source of the Enduring Self 111

The No-Self View 113

2.5 Are We Independent and Self-Sufficient Individuals? 118

The Atomistic Self 118

The Relational Self 120

- Power and Hegel 122
- Culture and Self-Identity 123
- Search for the Real Self 125
- Chapter Summary 126
- 2.6 Readings 128**
 - Kate Chopin, "The Story of an Hour" 129
 - Janice M. Steil, "Contemporary Marriage: Still an Unequal Partnership" 130
 - Jean Grimshaw, "Women's Identity In Feminist Thinking" 131
- 2.7 Historical Showcase: Plato, Aristotle, and Confucius 133**
 - Plato 133
 - Aristotle 140
 - Confucius 145

CHAPTER 3 Reality and Being 150

3

- 3.1 What Is Real? 152**
 - Philosophy and Life** The Experience Machine, or Does Reality Matter? 154
 - Metaphysical Questions of Reality 154
 - The Search for Reality 155
- 3.2 Reality: Material or Nonmaterial? 155**
 - Materialism: Reality as Matter 156
 - Objections to Materialism 160
 - Philosophy and Life** The Neutrino 162
 - Idealism: Reality as Nonmatter 163
 - Philosophy and Life** Our Knowledge of the World 168
 - thinking critically** Conditional Arguments 173
 - Objections to Idealism 175
- 3.3 Reality in Pragmatism 178**
 - Pragmatism's Approach to Philosophy 179
 - The Pragmatic Method 180
 - Objections to Pragmatism 183
- 3.4 Reality and Logical Positivism 184**
 - Philosophy and Life** Parallel Universes 187
 - thinking critically** Categorical Syllogism Arguments 188
 - Objections to Logical Positivism 191
- 3.5 Antirealism: The Heir of Pragmatism and Idealism 193**
 - Proponents of Antirealism 194
 - Objections to Antirealism 197
- 3.6 Is Freedom Real? 200**
 - Determinism 202
 - Libertarianism 207

Philosophy and Life Does Our Brain Make Our Decisions Before We Consciously Make Them? 212

Compatibilism 213

3.7 Is Time Real? 218

Time and Human Life 218

Augustine: Only the Present Moment Is Real 219

McTaggart: Subjective Time Is Not Real 221

Kant: Time Is a Mental Construct 223

Bergson: Only Subjective Time Is Real 225

Chapter Summary 226

3.8 Readings 228

Sophocles, "Oedipus the King" 229

Robert C. Solomon, "Fate and Fatalism" 238

3.9 Historical Showcase: Hobbes and Berkeley 240

CHAPTER 4 Philosophy, Religion, and God 250

4

4.1 The Significance of Religion 252

Defining Religion 253

Religious Belief, Religious Experience, and Theology 254

4.2 Does God Exist? 255

The Ontological Argument 256

The Cosmological Argument 260

Philosophy and Life Religion and Science 265

The Design Argument 266

thinking critically Arguments by Analogy 268

4.3 Atheism, Agnosticism, and the Problem of Evil 275

Atheism 275

Philosophy and Life God's Omniscience and Free Will 284

Agnosticism 285

thinking critically Formal and Informal Fallacies 287

4.4 Traditional Religious Belief and Experience 290

Religious Belief 290

"The Will to Believe" 290

Personal Experience of the Divine 295

4.5 Nontraditional Religious Experience 299

Radical Theology 299

Feminist Theology 307

Eastern Religious Traditions 310

Chapter Summary 314

4.6 Readings 316

Fyodor Dostoevsky, "Excerpt From *The Brothers Karamazov*" 316

William P. Alston, "The Inductive Argument from Evil and the Human Cognitive Condition" 318

4.7 Historical Showcase: Aquinas, Descartes, and Conway 321**CHAPTER 5 The Sources of Knowledge 336****5****5.1 Why Is Knowledge a Problem? 338**

Acquiring Reliable Knowledge: Reason and the Senses 341

The Place of Memory 342

5.2 Is Reason the Source of Our Knowledge? 343

Descartes: Doubt and Reason 345

Innate Ideas 352

Philosophy and Life Innate Ideas? 356

5.3 Can the Senses Account for All Our Knowledge? 359

Locke and Empiricism 359

Philosophy and Life Science and the Attempt to Observe Reality 364

Berkeley and Subjectivism 366

Hume and Skepticism 370

thinking critically Inductive Generalizations 376

5.4 Kant: Does the Knowing Mind Shape the World? 383

Hume's Challenge 383

The Basic Issue 384

Space, Time, and Mathematics 386

Philosophy and Life Knowledge and Gestalt Psychology 387

Causality and the Unity of the Mind 390

Constructivist Theories and Recovered Memories 396

5.5 Does Science Give Us Knowledge? 398

Inductive Reasoning and Simplicity 399

Philosophy and Life Society and Truth 401

The Hypothetical Method and Falsifiability 402

Paradigms and Revolutions in Science 405

thinking critically Distinguishing Science from Pseudoscience 407

Is the Theory of Recovered Memories Science or Pseudoscience? 409

Chapter Summary 409

5.6 Readings 412

Ambrose Bierce, "An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge" 412

Peter Unger, "A Defense of Skepticism" 416

Thomas Nagel, "How Do We Know Anything?" 418

5.7 Historical Showcase: Hume 419

CHAPTER Truth 426

6

6.1 Knowledge and Truth 428

Knowledge as Justified True Belief 429

6.2 What Is Truth? 432

Correspondence Theory 433

Philosophy and Life Truth and Paradox 434

Coherence Theory 439

Philosophy and Life Historical Facts 445

Pragmatic Theory 447

Does Truth Matter? 451

Reconciling the Theories of Truth 453

6.3 Does Science Give Us Truth? 454

The Instrumentalist View 455

The Realist View of Science 457

The Conceptual Relativist View 458

6.4 Can Interpretations Be True? 461

Symbolic Interpretation and Intention 463

Wittgenstein and the Ideal Clear Language 465

Gadamer and Prejudice 467

Chapter Summary 470

6.5 Readings 471

Ryunosuke Akutagawa, "In a Grove" 472

Hugh Tomlinson, "After Truth: Post-Modernism and the Rhetoric of Science" 475

John Searle, "Reality and Truth" 476

6.6 Historical Showcase: Kant 477

The Problem of Synthetic *a Priori* Knowledge 478

Space, Time, and Mathematics 479

Our Unified Mind Must Organize Sensations into Changing Objects 480

Causality Is in the World As We Experience It 482

Two Versions of the Categorical Imperative of Morality 483

The Moral Argument for God's Existence 484

CHAPTER Ethics 486

7

7.1 What Is Ethics? 488

7.2 Is Ethics Relative? 490

7.3 Do Consequences Make an Action Right? 497

Ethical Egoism 499

Utilitarianism 501

Some Implications of Utilitarianism 507

- 7.4 Do Rules Define Morality? 510**
 Divine Command Theory 510
Philosophy and Life Embryonic Stem Cell Research 513
 Implications of Divine Command Ethics 517
 Kant's Categorical Imperative 519
 Buddhist Ethics 528
- 7.5 Is Ethics Based on Character? 533**
 Aristotle's Theory of Virtue 534
 Love and Friendship 540
 Male and Female Ethics? 543
 Conclusions 547
- 7.6 Can Ethics Resolve Moral Quandaries? 549**
 Abortion 550
 Euthanasia 555
thinking critically Moral Reasoning 560
 Chapter Summary 562
- 7.7 Readings 564**
 Fyodor Dostoyevsky, "The Heavenly Christmas Tree" 564
 Peter Singer, "Famine, Affluence, and Morality" 566
- 7.8 Historical Showcase: Nietzsche and Wollstonecraft 568**
 Nietzsche 568
 Wollstonecraft 573

CHAPTER**8****Social and Political Philosophy 578**

- 8.1 What Is Social and Political Philosophy? 580**
- 8.2 What Justifies the State and Its Power? 582**
 Hobbes and the War of All against All 584
 Locke and Natural Moral Laws 587
 Contemporary Social Contract: Rawls 592
 The Communitarian Critique 594
 Social Contract and Women 599
- 8.3 What Is Justice? 603**
Philosophy and Life Society and the Bomb 605
 Justice as Merit 606
 Justice as Equality 609
 Justice as Social Utility 611
 Justice Based on Need and Ability 613
 Justice Based on Liberty 615
Philosophy and Life Welfare 616
- 8.4 Limits on the State 621**
 Unjust Laws and Civil Disobedience 622
 Freedom 626

Human Rights	630
War and Terrorism	634
Philosophy and Life	The Purpose of Business 645
Chapter Summary	647

8.5 Readings 649

Erich Maria Remarque, "From <i>All Quiet on the Western Front</i> "	649
Bertrand Russell, "The Ethics of War"	651

8.6 Historical Showcase: Marx and Rawls 653

Marx	653
Rawls	660

CHAPTER 9 Postscript: The Meaning of Life 666

9

9.1 Does Life Have Meaning? 668

What Does the Question Mean?	670
------------------------------	-----

9.2 The Theistic Response to Meaning 671

9.3 Meaning and Human Progress 674

9.4 The Nihilist Rejection of Meaning 676

9.5 Meaning as a Self-Chosen Commitment 678

Chapter Summary	682
-----------------	-----

Glossary	683
----------	-----

Index	687
-------	-----

8