

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY
School of Philosophy, Theology & Religion
UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

Knowledge and Reality B
Banner code: PHIL 0821260

10 Credits

MODULE GUIDE
2009/2010

This module outline **must** be read in conjunction with the relevant sections of *The Philosopher's Stone* and the *Philosophy Study Guide*, available from the Philosophy Office (room 107).

MOMD and Erasmus students should pick up a student pack (including the *Stone* and the *Philosophy Study Guide*) from the Philosophy Office. Erasmus students, please note that your attendance and assessment requirements are exactly the same as for all other students on this module. Please see the *Philosopher's Stone* for more information.

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Module convenor: Nikk Effingham
Office number: 114
Email: N.Effingham@bham.ac.uk
Office hours: Monday 2-3pm; Tuesday 2-3pm.
Public Web Resource: www.nikkeffingham.com/teaching.html

Semester: One
Credit rating: 10
Level: C (year 1)

Tutor: Seminars for this module will be taken by a tutor, who is a Postgraduate Teaching Assistant in the Department:

Paul Broadbent
E-mail: PX343@bham.ac.uk
Emma Bullock
E-mail: ECB767@bham.ac.uk

Seminar tutors do not have office hours; however, your seminar tutor will be very happy to talk to you about any aspect of this module by appointment. Please email him or her (or speak to him or her before or after your seminar) to arrange a place and time to meet.

2. ABOUT THE MODULE

MODULE SUMMARY

The first half of the module introduces students to some central topics and issues in epistemology. These will include some of: the definition of knowledge; scepticism; internalism vs externalism about justification; coherentism vs foundationalism about justification; perception; the problem of induction. The second half of the module introduces students to some central topics and issues in metaphysics. These will include some of: the existence of God; the problem of free will; the mind and body; the nature and existence of universals; personal identity; time; the problem of change; causation; laws of nature. The emphasis will be on the critical analysis and evaluation of the philosophical positions and arguments, so that students receive a grounding not only in topics in epistemology and metaphysics but in the methods of analytical philosophy more generally.

3. MODULE ORGANISATION

Lectures: Wednesday 10-11, in the Aston Webb WG5. There will be **no lecture** during Reading Week (week 6).

Seminars: Seminars are fortnightly, starting in week 2 or week 3. Attendance at seminars is compulsory. Seminar groups and times will be arranged during the first lecture of this module, in week 1. It is your responsibility to ensure that you have been allocated to a seminar group; if you do not get assigned to a group, or if you cannot make the time you have been allocated to, please see Janet Elwell in room 107 as soon as possible. **You may not change seminar group without Janet's permission.** Students who attend the wrong seminar group will be marked absent.

If you have seminars on even weeks, **there will be a seminar during Reading Week.**

Work and attendance

The work and attendance requirements for this course are that you:

- **Attend all seminars.** If you are absent from a seminar through illness or for any other reason, you should inform the tutor as soon as possible – if possible, *before* the class.
- **Prepare adequately for seminars** as directed by your tutor or the module convenor. Only students who have prepared adequately may attend seminars. Students who do not turn up with *written answers* to the seminar questions will be asked to leave the seminar.
- **Complete written work on time:** Failure to complete assessed work by the due date constitutes a violation of the work and attendance requirements.

Persistent violations of work and attendance requirements will be reported to the Senior Tutor. If you have difficulties (e.g. personal, financial or family problems) that result in persistent failure to meet the work and attendance requirements, you should talk to your academic tutor or the Welfare Tutor.

Students are required by University regulations to display 'due diligence'. Failure to do so may result in your being barred from assessment, which can lead ultimately to exclusion from your degree programme.

Study budget

The University's Code of Practice specifies that a 10-credit module is expected to require about 100 hours work by students.

For this module, you are recommended to break this down roughly as follows:

Lectures	10 hours
Seminars	5 hours
Preparation for seminars	5 x 6 hours = 30 hours
Writing up seminar/lecture notes	15 hours
Essay preparation	20 hours
Exam preparation	20 hours
TOTAL:	100

Prompt arrival at classes

Students should note that all classes in the University start **on the hour** and should end at 50 minutes past the hour. Late arrival at seminars may result in your being marked absent; if you arrive late it is your responsibility to ensure that your presence has been noted.

4. ASSESSMENT

The assessment for this module is as follows:

This module is jointly assessed with Knowledge and Reality A. The contribution of the assessment for this module to the total overall mark for both modules is: (a) One 1500-word essay (25%) and (b) one exam question in a 90-minute exam (25%).

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

For the Philosophy Department's assessment criteria and guidance on how to meet them, see the *Philosophy Study Guide*.

ASSESSED ESSAYS

One essay of 1,500 words should be chosen from the list provided below.

Presentation

Essays must be typed in at least 12 point in a readable font, with wide margins and page numbers, and should **not** be single spaced. They should include proper bibliography and references; **marks will be deducted for inadequate referencing/bibliography**. See the *Study Guide* for guidelines and the *Philosopher's Stone* for information about penalties.

Failure to provide adequate referencing can amount to plagiarism. Plagiarism is a form of cheating and can lead to exclusion from your degree programme. Please see the *Study Guide* for guidance on avoiding plagiarism and the *Philosopher's Stone* for information about how cases of plagiarism are dealt with.

Word limit

Your essay MUST NOT exceed the word limit stated above. **You must state the exact number of words used (excluding bibliography) at the end of the main text of your essay, and again on the essay submission form.** If you fail to do this, your essay may be returned to you so that you can add this information, and this may significantly delay the marking process.

See the *Philosopher's Stone* for more information about the word limits and penalties for exceeding them.

Deadlines

The essay must be handed in by 12.30 pm Tuesday, 2nd March 2010.

See the *Philosopher's Stone* for information about the granting of extensions and penalties for unexcused late submission. Late submissions for which no extension has been granted will be penalised at a rate of 5 marks per day.

Handing in your essay

You must hand **two copies** of your essay by 12.30pm on the due date, to the Philosophy Office. An essay submission form must be included with your essay; you can fill this in when you submit your essay. See the *Philosopher's Stone* for more information about essay hand-ins.

Uploading your essay to turnitinUK

You must upload your essay to turnitinUK prior to handing in the hard copies. You will be asked to tick a box confirming this on the essay submission form, and your essay will not be accepted unless you have ticked the box (or attach the form excusing you from this, signed by the Department's plagiarism officer). The essay you submit in hard copy **MUST** be exactly the same as the one you upload to turnitinUK. However if discrepancies do occur, it will be the hard copy that is assessed. See the *Philosopher's Stone* for more information.

Return of assessed essays

A report on your assessed essay should be available by 6th April 2010, provided the essay is submitted on time. You will receive an email (to your bham.ac.uk account) as soon as your essay is available to pick up from the Philosophy Office; please **do not try to pick up your essay before you have received the email.**

Please note that all essay marks are provisional until confirmed by the Board of Examiners in June. Note also that you are **NOT** entitled to question the academic judgement of the person marking your essay. If you are unhappy with your mark, you should make an appointment with the member of staff who marked the essay to discuss your performance. If you are still not satisfied, you can raise the issue with the Head of Department, who may then arrange for a second member of staff to look at the essay. The HoD will not do this unless you have already discussed your essay with the person who marked it.

Students are welcome to discuss their essay with the module convenor or their academic tutor during office hours.

Essay Information

You can find essential guides to writing University level essays in the *Study Guide*. You may also want to look at appropriate web resources. A sample can be found at www.nikkeffingham.com/guidelines.html.

ESSAY TITLES

- (1) Did you choose to answer this question?

NB: As with the other questions, and most essay questions in general, keep your discussion to one or two issues/lines of argument.

- (2) If a machine wiped my memories and replaced them with memories from a school teacher called John Smith, would I still exist and think I was now called 'John Smith'?

NB: This question does not ask for a description of what people have *historically* said about this question.

- (3) Imagine John is tall and Jack is tall. With reference to one line of argument, discuss whether there are just two things (Jack and John) or three things (Jack, John and the thing they have in common) in that scenario.

NB: This question does not ask for an extensive history of universals or a survey of what arguments there are, for or against, their existence.

EXAMINATION

This module is jointly assessed with Knowledge and Reality A. One 90-minute exam will be set during the May/June examination period, in which you must answer ONE question for this module and ONE question for Knowledge and Reality A. The exam question for Knowledge and Reality B will cover only the second half of the module.

Example exam papers will be posted on the web resource and WebCT by the end of January 2010.

5. OUTLINE OF THE MODULE

Week 1 (beginning 12 Jan):	Personal Identity
Week 2 (beginning 19 Jan):	Free Will I
Week 3 (beginning 26 Jan):	Free Will II
Week 4 (beginning 2 Feb):	Properties I
Week 5 (beginning 9 Feb):	Properties II

WEEK 6 (beginning 16 February): READING WEEK (no lectures)

Week 7 (beginning 23 Feb):	Material Constitution
Week 8 (beginning 2 Mar):	Time
Week 9 (beginning 9 Mar):	Consciousness I
Week 10 (beginning 16 Mar):	Consciousness II
Week 11 (beginning 23 Mar):	Infinity and Paradox

Seminar topics

Topic 1 (week 2/3): Personal Identity

Required reading: *Riddles of Existence* chapter 1; Dennett, D. 1986. *Brainstorms* Brighton: Harvester Press: chapter 17 (available from <http://www.newbanner.com/SecHumSCM/WhereAmI.html>)

Topic 2 (week 4/5): Free Will

Required reading: *Riddles of Existence* chapter 6; van Inwagen, P., 1993. *Metaphysics*, Oxford: OUP chapter 11 (in coursepack).

Topic 3 (week 6/7): Properties

Required reading: *Riddles of Existence* chapter 8; Russell, B., 1967. *Problems of Philosophy*. Oxford: OUP: chapter 9 (in coursepack).

Topic 4 (week 8/9): Time

Required reading: *Riddles of Existence* chapter 3; Taylor, R. 1955. 'Spatial and Temporal Analogies and the Concept of Identity', *The Journal of Philosophy* 52: 599-612 (available on-line via the eLibrary).

Topic 5 (week 10/11): Consciousness

Required reading: Nagel, T. 1987. *What Does It All Mean?* Oxford: OUP Chapter 4 (in coursepack); Nagel, T. 1974. 'What is it like to be a bat?', *The Philosophical Review* 83: 435-50 (available on-line via the eLibrary).

6. READING LIST

Compulsory purchase: You will require the coursepack. It will be distributed in the first lecture, and can be purchased from the Philosophy Office thereafter. You must also get hold of *Riddles of Existence* by Earl Conee and Ted Sider. Copies should be available in Waterstones.

Recommended purchases: I **highly** recommend purchasing additional texts from the recommended reading list below. Indeed, if a number of you club together you can each buy a different text, thus making available to you as a group a wider variety of books.

Course pack: A course pack is available for this module for £1. This includes the readings for the seminars. If you have not yet bought a course pack, please buy one from the Philosophy Office.

Reading list

What follows is a general reading list, and after that a list specific for each topic. All texts can be found either in the library or online. Tougher and more challenging texts are marked with a †.

(†) Armstrong, D., 1989. *Universals: An Opinionated Introduction*. Boulder: Westview Press.

Aune, B., 1985. *Metaphysics: The Elements*. Minnesota: Minnesota Press.

Baillie, J. 1993. *Problems in Personal Identity*, New York: Paragon House.

Beebee, H. and Dodd, J., 2007. *Reading Metaphysics*, Oxford: Blackwell.

Blackburn, S. 1999. *Think*, Oxford: OUP.

Conee, E. and Sider, T., 2006. *Riddles of Existence*. Oxford: OUP.

Crane, T. 2003. *The Mechanical Mind 2nd Edition*, London: Routledge.

- (†) Dainton, B. 2001. *Time and Space*, Chesham: Acumen.
- Dennett, D. 1986. *Brainstorms*, Brighton: Harvester Press.
- Ekstrom, L. 2000. *Free Will* Oxford: Westview Press.
- Faris, J. 1996. *The Paradoxes of Zeno* Aldershot: Avebury.
- Gale, R. 2002. *The Blackwell Guide to Metaphysics*. Oxford: Blackwell.
- Garrett, B. 2006. *What is this thing called metaphysics?* London: Routledge.
- Graham, G. 1998. *Philosophy of Mind: An Introduction* Oxford: Blackwell.
- Honderich, T. (2002). *How Free Are You?* Oxford: OUP.
- Hospers, J., 1997. *An Introduction to Philosophical Analysis 4th Edition*. Upper Sadle River: Prentice-Hall.
- Huggett, N. 1999. *Space From Zeno to Einstein*, London: MIT Press.
- Kane, R. (2005). *A Contemporary Introduction to Free Will* Oxford: OUP.
- Kenny, A. 1978. *Freewill and Responsibility* London: Routledge.
- Kim, J. and Sosa, E. 1999. *Metaphysics: An Anthology*, Oxford: Blackwell.
- Kirk, R. 2003. *Mind and Body*, Chesham: Acumen.
- (†) Laurence, S. and MacDonald, C., 1998. *Contemporary Readings in the Foundations of Metaphysics*. Oxford: Blackwell.
- (†) Le Poidevin, R., 1991. *Change, Cause and Contradiction*. London: Macmillan.
- Loux, M., 1998. *Metaphysics: A Contemporary Introduction*. London: Routledge.
- Loux, M., 2001. *Metaphysics: Contemporary Readings*. London: Routledge.
- Loux, M. and Zimmerman, D. (eds.), 2003. *The Oxford Handbook of Metaphysics*. Oxford: OUP.
- (†) Lowe, E., 2002. *A Survey of Metaphysics*. Oxford: OUP.
- McFee, G. 2000. *Free Will* Chesham: Acumen.
- Mellor, D. and Oliver, A. (eds.), 1997. *Properties*. Oxford: OUP.
- Merricks, T., 2001. *Objects and Persons*. Oxford: OUP.
- Moore, A. 1990. *The Infinite 2nd Edition* London: Routledge..
- Moreland, J., 2001. *Universals*. Chesham: Acumen.
- Noonan, H. 1989. *Personal Identity*, London: Routledge.
- O'Connor, D. 1971. *Free Will*, London: Macmillan.
- Perry, J. (ed.) 1975. *Personal Identity*, London: University of California Press.
- Perry, J. 2002. *Identity, Personal Identity, and the Self*, Cambridge: Hackett Publishing Company.
- (†) Rea, M. (ed.), 1997. *Material Constitution: A Reader*. Oxford: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers Inc.
- Rescher, N. 2001. *Paradoxes* Illinois: Open Court Publishing
- Sainsbury, R. 2009. *Paradoxes 3rd Edition* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Salmon, W. 2001. *Zeno's Paradoxes* Cambridge: Hackett Publishing Company.
- Schlesinger, G. 1980. *Aspects of Time*, Cambridge: Hackett Publishing Company.
- Schlesinger, G. 1983. *Metaphysics*, Oxford: Blackwell.
- Shoemaker, S. and Swinburne, R. 1984. *Personal Identity*, Oxford: Blackwell.
- (†) Sider, T., 2001. *Four-Dimensionalism*. Oxford: OUP.
- Smart, J. 1964. *Problems of Space and Time*, London: MacMillan Ltd.
- Smith, Q. and Oaklander, L. 1995. *Time, Change and Freedom*, London: Routledge.

- Sorabji, R. 1983. *Time, Creation and the Continuum* Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- Sorenson, R. 2005. *A Brief History of the Paradox*, Oxford: OUP.
- Taylor, R., 1983. *Metaphysics 3rd Edition*. Englewood Cliffs: Prentic-Hall.
- Thornton, M. 1989. *Do we have free will?* Bristol: Bristol Classical Press.
- (†) van Inwagen, P., 1990. *Material Beings*. London: Cornell University Press.
- van Inwagen, P., 1993. *Metaphysics*. Oxford: OUP.
- van Inwagen, P. and Zimmerman, D. (eds.) 1998. *Metaphysics: The Big Questions*. Oxford: Blackwell.
- Watson, G. (ed.) 1982. *Free Will* Oxford: OUP.

A good general metaphysics dictionary is:

Kim, J. and Sosa, E. (eds.), 1995. *A Companion to Metaphysics*. Oxford: Blackwell.

Here is a list for each topic. Don't feel compelled to read them all (that would, in fact, be very foolish); don't feel compelled to read all of the chapters listed for each book (only read ones that you find accessible and useful); don't feel compelled to understand *everything* in each chapter/article (part of acquiring research skills is learning the ability to ignore things you don't understand whilst still getting a grasp of what is going on); don't feel compelled to only read from this list (part of acquiring research skills is managing to figure out what else you need to read on your own – the list below is just meant to be a starting point into further research). Particularly difficult sources are marked with a †.

Topic One: Personal Identity

Ayers, M., 1991. *Locke*. London: Routledge Volume 2, part 3; Baille; Beebee and Dodd 1; Blackburn 4; Chappell, V. (ed.), 1998. *Locke*. Oxford: OUP. Chapter 8; Dennett 4; Garrett 8; Kim and Sosa Part 6; Jolley, N., 1984. *Leibniz and Locke*. Oxford: Clarendon Press. Chapter 7; Lowe, E., 1995. *Locke on Human Understanding*. London: Routledge. Chapter 5; Mackie's *Problems from Locke* Chapter 6; Noonan; Perry (1975); Perry (2002); Shoemaker and Swinburne; van Inwagen (1993) chapter 10.

Topic Two: Free Will

Aune 9; Beebee and Dodd 2; Blackburn 3; Dennett 4; Ekstrom; Garrett 7; Honderich; Hospers 5; Kane; Kenny; Loux and Zimmerman 19-20 (*I won't lie; I've never read either of these chapters, but they might be useful*); McFee; O'Connor; Smith and Oaklander 9-11; Taylor 5; Thornton; van Inwagen and Zimmerman 39-42; Watson; *Stanford Encyclopaedia* (has articles on free will, compatibilism, determinism etc.)

Topic Three: Properties

Armstrong; Aune 3; Beebee and Dodd 4; Gale 7; Garrett 3; † Laurence and MacDonald 11-13, 24-26; Loux (1998) 1-2; Loux (2001) 1-5; Loux and Zimmerman 1-2; Lowe 19-20; Mellor and Oliver; Moreland; † Oliver 'The Metaphysics of Properties', *Mind* 105; Schlesinger (1983) 6; † van Cleve, J. 'Predication without universals' *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 54; van Inwagen and Zimmerman 1-4; *Stanford Encyclopaedia* (good article on nominalism).

Topic Four: Material Objects

Burke, M., 'Copper Statues and Pieces of Copper' *Analysis* 52; Loux (1998) 6; Loux (2001) 20; Lowe 2-4; Merricks 2; Olson, E., 'Composition and Coincidence' *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly* 77; Rea Introduction, 1-2, 9,12, 17; Sider 5 (*hard in places; just skip those sections – a lot of sections are accessible, but some aren't*); Sider, T. 'Temporal Parts' from

Contemporary Debates in Metaphysics; Sorenson 10; † van Inwagen (1990) 8-10. *Stanford Encyclopaedia* (has articles on material constitution, temporal parts etc.)

Topic Five: Time

Garrett 5-6; Le Poidevin; Lewis, D. 1976. 'The Paradoxes of Time Travel', *American Philosophical Quarterly* 13: 145-52; Lowe 13, 17; Schlesinger (1980); Schlesinger (1983) 4; Shoemaker, S. 1969. 'Time Without Change', *The Journal of Philosophy* 66: 363-81; † Sider 2; Smart, parts 3 and 4; Smith and Oaklander 5-6; Sorabji (all is relevant, but ch. 6 might be especially useful to some);

Topic Six: Consciousness

Blackburn 2; Chalmers, D., 1995. 'Facing Up to the Problem of Consciousness', *Journal of Consciousness Studies*, 2: 200-19 (can be accessed at the homepage of David Chalmers); † Chalmers, D. 1996. *The Conscious Mind*; Crane 6; Dennett 3; Jackson, F. 1982. Epiphenomenal Qualia, *The Philosophical Quarterly* 32: 127-36; Graham 10; Kirk 4; Lycan, W. (ed). 1999. *Mind and Cognition 2nd Edition* part 6

Topic Seven: Infinity and Paradox

Faris; Huggett 3; Le Poidevin (in coursepack); Loux (2001) 4; Lowe 16; Moore; Rescher 6; Salmon; Sainsbury 1; Smith and Oaklander, Part One; Sorabji Part 5; Sorenson 4.

7. TUTORIAL QUESTIONS

Here are all the questions for the seminars this semester. Particularly difficult questions are so noted, and students shouldn't feel depressed if they have difficulty tackling them. Note that *all* students must have prepare adequately for seminars. **Students who do not turn up with written answers to the seminar questions will be asked to leave the seminar.** Not all questions need be answered – it is sufficient for you to attend with one full side of A4 typed in size 12 Times New Roman, or equivalent.

Seminar One: Personal Identity

- (1) Define the following: numerical identity; qualitative identity.
- (2) If I was involved in accident and had to have my leg replaced, would I still be me? Next imagine that my body was being eaten away and scientists replaced one cell a day with a silicon equivalent until my entire body (including my brain) was made of silicon. Would *I* have survived that change? Would my *body* have survived the change into being made of silicon (if you answer 'yes', then does it matter *how fast* they replace the cells? What if the scientists replaced them *all* instantaneously)? Does any of this indicate that personal identity doesn't depend upon bodily continuity?
- (3) If you were involved in an accident and lost all of your mental capacities, forgetting everything from your memories to your ability to walk and talk, would the person after that accident be you? If not, who would that person's mother and father be?
- (4) If in the year 2200 AD scientists were able to accurately calculate what Hitler had experienced throughout his entire life, and they were able to import those memories into some other person, would we be right to put that person on trial for war crimes committed in the years 1939-1945? [Turn over for more questions]

- (5) In the *Brainstorms* extract, where is Dennett? If he is only where his brain is, how much does he weigh? Does he weigh that much when his brain is in his body?
- (6) If he is where his body is, is it true that when he slumps unconscious trying to defuse the device that he is 'travelling faster than light'? Compare to this scenario. Imagine I own a building which I use as a restaurant called *Nikk's Flash Fried Cow Bits Eatery*. Imagine I sell my building to be used as a post office, whilst simultaneously buying a different building in America. The next day, in America, *Nikk's Flash Fried Cow Bits Eatery* opens for business. Does that mean, at the point of signing the contract, that the restaurant travels faster than the speed of light? If so, are physicists wrong when they say nothing travels faster than light?
- (7) Is Hubert numerically identical to Yorrick? If he isn't, whose body is it that's giving the talk in the fictional narrative? Would you undergo the same operation detailed in the extract? If not, why not?

Seminar Two: Free Will

- (1) Define the following: Determinism; Indeterminism; Fatalism; Free Will, Possible World.
- (2) In possible world talk, how do you express the following: Necessarily, $2+2=4$; It is impossible that there are round squares; it is physically impossible that pigs might fly; It's possible that the Queen of England is a four-dimensional lizard creature; I am essentially human. That last one is a tricky one.
- (3) What is compatibilism? Discuss.
- (4) Imagine all of your actions are determined, such that it was true at the Big Bang that the chain of cause and effects would lead to you being in the tutorial you are in. Could you nevertheless have chosen to not be in this tutorial?
- (5) Imagine that the universe is *not* determined, and instead governed by random laws. Could you have chosen to not have been in this tutorial?
- (6) What is van Inwagen's anti-compatibilist argument? How plausible do you find it?
- (7) Should we set Charles Manson (a famous murderer) free from prison because he didn't have any choice about what it was that he was doing?

Seminar Three: Properties

- (1) Define the following: universal; instantiation; exemplification; nominalism; trope. The last one is harder.
- (2) What is the paradox of non-self exemplification? What theories would have a problem with it?
- (3) What is the regress argument (discussed by Conne on p. 164)? Is it a problem?
- (4) If properties exist, where are they? Can properties have a certain shape or colour?
- (5) If properties don't exist, how is it that sentences like 'Red resembles orange more than it does blue' are true?
- (6) What are Russell's reasons for thinking universals exist? Are they good reasons?

Seminar Four: Time

- (1) Define the following terms: temporal part; eternalism; presentism; A-theory; B-theory; tensor; detenser.
- (2) Concentrate on three analogies from Taylor, and explain why Taylor thinks they demonstrate space and time are analogous. Are they good analogies?
- (3) Do these analogies give us good reason to think that all times exist? If not, why not?
- (4) Is time travel possible? If it is, does this give us any reason to think times other than the present moment exist?
- (5) Is it true that 1066AD exists? Does it even make sense to say 1066 AD exists or is this just some weird philosophical claptrap?

Seminar Five: Consciousness

- (1) Define the following terms: substance dualism; property dualism; physicalism; supervenience; qualia; zombie.
- (2) Do you think someone can know what it is like to be in pain if they've never been in pain? Or imagine what it is like to be in love if they've never been in love? Is this different from imagining how one *behaves* if they're in pain or in love?
- (3) Do you think it's possible – in principle – for you to learn everything about how a bat's brain works? Can you imagine what it is like to be a bat? If you answer 'yes' to the first question, and 'no' to the second, how does this bear on the question of physicalism?
- (4) Is it possible to meet someone who can see an extra colour that the rest of us never see? In other words, when he sees red apples he says some of them are red but some of them are a totally different colour – murple – and we're all colour blind when it comes to the murple things?
- (5) Are zombies possible? How does this bear on the physicalist/dualist debate?
- (6) Do you understand any of the following claims, and if so could you explain them to someone else? If you do understand them, are you making identity claims; or claiming that one thing *causes* another; or claiming one thing is *composed* of another thing; or... what?
 - a. Matter is energy
 - b. Heat is the kinetic motion of atoms
 - c. Genes are DNA
 - d. Water is H₂O
 - e. Being in pain is a brain state