Brian Petersen

P. 4 - Murphy

Feelings About Philosophy

Philosophy comes from *philosophia*; a Greek word which means "love of wisdom"; and as far as I have been able to observe from *Man is the Measure*, our focus on metaphysics, and our in depth class discussions about personalities in class, I conclude that philosophy is the love of wisdom and the yearning of more knowledge. My personal feelings and opinions about philosophy, more specifically metaphysics, are based upon this Greek meaning and from what I have already observed. My feelings can be best summarized into this statement: Humans are cursed with self-awareness and with a natural interest in the fundamental problems of the universe.

To begin with, I want to clarify why I say "humans are cursed with self-awareness". Humans are self-aware creatures, meaning that they are aware of themselves as an individual and as a separate entity of their external environment. Because of this self-awareness, the individual will begin to ask philosophical questions. These questions might include: Who am I?, What am I?, What is my place in this universe?, and What is my purpose?, etc. The questions tend to be focused on the individual and with their relation to the universe.