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HUM 102

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Weekly Worksheet 1

D.

**2. What are the main features of pre-philosophical thinking, and how was it different from philosophy? Do you agree with this distinction? Why or why not?**

Answer: Humans had the same questions as now from the very beginning of human civilization, which is regarded as pre-philosophical thinking. The main questions of pre-philosophical thinking were the nature of reality, life, and death, in addition to the purpose of life in general. The approach to answering these questions was mostly theology-centric as found in the literature of that time. For instance; *The Epic of Gilgamesh,* a Mesopotamian epic depicts a hero named Gilgamesh who searches for answers from God. This resembles the lack of human reasoning to approach to find answers in pre-philosophical thinking. On the other hand, philosophy does not limit itself to the so-called deep questions; rather it includes also matters such as morality, logic, beauty, politics, and many others. Moreover, the approach itself is also distinguished from previous thinking. As found in the works of Thales, a pre-socratic philosopher used reasoning to find the shape of the world. It seems that they used human reasoning rather than searching for answers in theology. I agree with the distinction as time has passed, the thinking has evolved and became much more versatile regarding the content and approach. This evolution is the very nature of the human psyche, which is fueling the notion of philosophy.