

The Encyclopædia

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Marginalia Specification

Chapter 1. Overview

Marginalia are scholarly annotations that appear alongside canonical text. They represent the ongoing conversation between thinkers across time, providing context, challenge, and extension to the primary text.

Chapter 2. Canon vs Marginalia Rule

2.1. Canonical Text

- Written by Public Domain ("Faculty") voices only
- Must stand alone if all marginalia is removed
- Represents the authoritative treatment of the topic
- Maintains coherent argument structure independent of annotations

2.2. Marginalia

- May include Adjunct, Heretic, and Synthetic voices
- Always marked, dated, targeted, and length-bounded
- Never essential to understanding the canonical text
- Provides scholarly conversation around the canonical text

Chapter 3. Marginalia Types

Type	Description	Typical Use
clarification	Explains or expands a concept for reader understanding	Defining technical terms, providing context
objection	Raises principled disagreement with a claim	Academic critique, methodological concerns
extension	Builds upon or develops an idea further	Connecting to related work, modern applications
crossref	Points to related entries or external sources	Inter-volume connections, bibliography
correction	Notes factual errors or updates to claims	Historical corrections, new evidence
heretic	Articulates a forbidden or neglected perspective	Challenging settled assumptions, dialectical tension
synthetic	AI-generated annotation for children's edition or pedagogy	Simplified explanations, thinking scaffolds

Chapter 4. Required Attributes

Every marginalia block MUST include:

```
[role=marginalia,  
 type=objection,          ①  
 author="Herbert A. Simon", ②  
 status="adjunct",        ③  
 year="1971",             ④  
 length="42",              ⑤  
 targets="paragraph:4",    ⑥  
 scope="local"]           ⑦
```

====

Attention functions less as a faculty than as an economic constraint,
limited by complexity and bounded rationality.

====

- ① **type** (required): One of the allowed type values
- ② **author** (required): Full name of the commentator
- ③ **status** (required): `canonical`, `adjunct`, `heretic`, or `synthetic`
- ④ **year** (required): Year of the comment or original statement
- ⑤ **length** (required): Word count of the annotation
- ⑥ **targets** (required): What element this annotates
- ⑦ **scope** (required): `local` (this entry) or `global` (cross-entry)

Chapter 5. Length Classes

Marginalia must adhere to strict length limits:

Class	Word Range	Usage
short	10–25 words	Brief clarifications, simple cross-references
standard	30–60 words	Most objections, extensions, corrections
extended	80–120 words	Rare; requires editorial approval; flagged for review

Chapter 6. Target Syntax

Targets specify what element the marginalia annotates:

- `paragraph:3` — Third paragraph in the entry
- `section:introduction` — The introduction section
- `claim:intentionality` — A specific claim about intentionality
- `entry:Attention` — The entire entry (global reference)
- `volume:1` — Volume-level annotation

Chapter 7. Status Definitions

7.1. canonical

Reserved for the primary author of the entry. Used when the canonical author adds their own clarifying notes.

7.2. adjunct

Scholars who extend or clarify the canon. May agree or disagree, but work within the established framework.

7.3. heretic

Voices that challenge fundamental assumptions. Present forbidden or neglected perspectives that the canonical text does not consider.

7.4. synthetic

AI-generated annotations, typically for pedagogical purposes in the Children's Edition. Always clearly marked.

Chapter 8. Peer Review as Marginalia

Peer review outputs become marginalia rather than hidden reports:

- **Reviewer A:** Sympathetic clarifier (3–8 notes, **clarification** or **extension**)
- **Reviewer B:** Principled dissenter (3–8 notes, **objection** or **heretic**)

All review marginalia are: * Signed with reviewer name * Dated with review date * Targeted to specific passages * Short to standard length

Chapter 9. Editorial Policy

9.1. Approval Process

1. Author submits entry with canonical text
2. Editorial board assigns reviewers
3. Reviewers submit marginalia (not hidden reports)
4. Author may respond with additional marginalia
5. Final compilation reviewed for length compliance

9.2. Annual Candlemas Revision

During the annual revision cycle:

- * High-value marginalia may be promoted into canon
- * Outdated marginalia may be retired
- * Length compliance is re-verified
- * Cross-references are updated for new volumes

Chapter 10. Children's Edition Considerations

For the Children's Edition:

- * Synthetic marginalia may be used for thinking scaffolds
- * Language is simplified but ideas remain intact
- * Open questions replace definitive closures
- * "Side Note" synthetic voices provide gentle guidance

Chapter 11. Examples

11.1. Canonical Text Block

```
[role=canonical]
=====
When you pay attention, your mind chooses one thing and lets other things fade.
You can notice this happening.

Try listening to two sounds at once. One becomes clear, and the other slips away.
This does not mean the other sound is gone. It means your mind is not holding it.
=====
```

11.2. Clarification Marginalia

```
[role=marginalia,
type=clarification,
author="Side Note",
status="synthetic",
year="2026",
length="22",
targets="paragraph:2",
scope="local"]
=====
A "limit" can still be useful. A lantern shines by not lighting everything.
=====
```

11.3. Heretic Marginalia

```
[role=marginalia,
type=heretic,
author="Simone Weil",
status="heretic",
year="1947",
length="21",
targets="entry:Attention",
scope="global"]
=====
Attention is not effort, but the suspension of the self.
=====
```

Chapter 12. Front Matter

Front Matter

Chapter 13. Preface to Volume I

This first volume of *The Encyclopædia* opens with **Mind**, fitting for Candlemas—the feast of light returning, when we emerge from winter’s interiority to examine what has been germinating in darkness.

The entries herein explore the territory of mental life: attention and its limits, consciousness and its mysteries, the interplay of thought, memory, and will. We begin where inquiry itself begins—in the activity of a mind seeking to understand.

Chapter 14. Editorial Note

This Adult Edition presents canonical texts from public domain Faculty voices. Marginalia from adjunct, heretic, and synthetic commentators appears in the margins, marked and attributed according to the *Marginalia Specification*.

The canonical text stands alone. If all marginalia were removed, each entry would remain coherent and complete. The marginalia exists to show the ongoing conversation—agreements, objections, extensions—that scholarship requires.

Chapter 15. How to Read This Volume

15.1. Canonical Text

The main body of each entry, written by the attributed Faculty author, appears in the central column. This is the authoritative treatment of the topic.

15.2. Marginalia

Annotations appear in the outer margin, linked to specific passages. Each note includes:

- **Author:** Who wrote the annotation
- **Status:** Canonical, Adjunct, Heretic, or Synthetic
- **Type:** Clarification, Objection, Extension, etc.
- **Year:** When the note was written or the original statement made

15.3. Cross-References

Links to related entries appear as → **See: Entry Name**. These may point to entries within this volume or to other volumes.

Chapter 16. Acknowledgments

The editors thank the Inquiry Institute for stewarding this project, the Faculty for their voices, and the reviewers for their principled marginalia.

Chapter 17. Volume Contents

Entry	Author	Type	Pages
Attention	William James	Major	8–12
Consciousness	Henri Bergson	Major	10–12
Experience	John Dewey	Major	8–10
Intelligence	Jean Piaget	Major	8–10
Abstraction	Alfred North Whitehead	Standard	4–6
Affect	Baruch Spinoza	Standard	4–6
Agency	Aristotle	Standard	4–6
Awareness	Edmund Husserl	Standard	4–6
Belief	Charles Sanders Peirce	Standard	4–6
Cognition	Ulric Neisser	Standard	4–6
Dream	Sigmund Freud	Standard	4–6
Emotion	Charles Darwin	Standard	4–6
Habit	William James	Standard	4–6
Imagination	Samuel Taylor Coleridge	Standard	4–6
Memory	Henri Bergson	Standard	4–6
Perception	Maurice Merleau-Ponty	Standard	4–6
Reason	Immanuel Kant	Standard	4–6
Self	William James	Standard	4–6
Sensation	Ernst Weber	Standard	4–6
Sleep	Aristotle	Standard	4–6
Thought	Hannah Arendt	Standard	4–6
Will	Arthur Schopenhauer	Standard	4–6
Animal Mind	Jakob von Uexküll	Boundary	6–8
Artificial Mind	Alan Turing	Boundary	8–10
Collective Mind	Émile Durkheim	Boundary	6–8
Mind–Body Problem	René Descartes	Boundary	6–8
Ignorance (Mental)	Socrates	Closing	2–4
Uncertainty (Subjective)	Blaise Pascal	Closing	2–4
Not-Knowing	Nicholas of Cusa	Closing	2–3

Chapter 18. Volume I: Mind

18.1. Attention

This entry will explore attention as "the taking possession by the mind, in clear and vivid form, of one out of what seem several simultaneously possible objects or trains of thought."

Topics to cover: - Focalization and concentration of consciousness - Voluntary vs. involuntary attention - The selective nature of attention - The stream of consciousness and attentional focus - Attention and the will - Educational implications of attentional capacity

[role=marginalia, type=objection, author="Herbert A. Simon", status="adjunct", year="1971", length="42", targets="paragraph:4", scope="local"]

Attention functions less as a faculty than as an economic constraint, limited by complexity and bounded rationality.

[role=marginalia, type=heretic, author="Simone Weil", status="heretic", year="1947", length="21", targets="entry:Attention", scope="global"]

Attention is not effort, but the suspension of the self.

18.2. Consciousness

This entry will explore consciousness as durée (duration)—the continuous flow of inner experience that cannot be adequately captured by spatial metaphors or discrete measurements.

Topics to cover: - Duration vs. clock time - The qualitative multiplicity of conscious states - Memory and the persistence of the past in the present - Intuition as the mode of knowing consciousness - Critique of associationist psychology - Freedom and the creative evolution of mind

18.3. Experience

This entry will explore experience not as a subjective inner state but as the transactional relationship between organism and environment—doing and undergoing, action and consequence.

Topics to cover: - Experience as interaction with environment - The continuity of experience - Primary and reflective experience - Consummatory experience and aesthetic quality -

18.4. Intelligence

This entry will explore intelligence as adaptation—the progressive equilibration between assimilation and accommodation that structures cognitive development.

Topics to cover: - Sensorimotor origins of intelligence - The construction of schemes - Assimilation and accommodation - Stages of cognitive development - Operations and reversibility - The genesis of logical structures

18.5. Abstraction

This entry will explore abstraction as the selective attention to certain features of experience while ignoring others—the "fallacy of misplaced concreteness" when abstractions are mistaken for the full reality from which they were drawn.

Topics to cover: - The nature of abstractive hierarchies - High abstractions and low abstractions - The fallacy of misplaced concreteness - Abstraction and scientific method - The concrete and the abstract in philosophy

18.6. Affect

This entry will explore the affects (affectus) as modifications of the body's power of acting, accompanied by ideas of these modifications—the three primary affects being joy, sadness, and desire.

Topics to cover: - Conatus and the striving to persevere - Joy as increase in power of acting - Sadness as decrease in power of acting - Desire as the essence of human being - The passions and their bondage - The intellectual love of God

18.7. Agency

This entry will explore agency as the capacity for self-originated action—the difference between what we do and what merely happens to us, grounded in practical reason and deliberation.

Topics to cover: - Voluntary and involuntary action - Choice (prohairesis) and deliberation - The rational soul and its faculties - Character and habit in action - Responsibility and moral agency

18.8. Awareness

This entry will explore awareness through the phenomenological method—the structures of intentionality by which consciousness is always consciousness **of** something.

Topics to cover: - Intentionality and directedness - Noesis and noema - The natural attitude and the epoché - Horizons of awareness - Pre-reflective and reflective awareness

18.9. Belief

This entry will explore belief as the settlement of doubt—a habit of action that guides our conduct until irritated into inquiry by the unexpected.

Topics to cover: - The fixation of belief - Doubt as the irritation that spurs inquiry - Belief as habit of action - Methods of fixing belief - The community of inquiry - Fallibilism and the growth of belief

18.10. Cognition

This entry will explore cognition as the processes by which sensory input is transformed, reduced, elaborated, stored, recovered, and used—the active construction of meaning from information.

Topics to cover: - Information processing and mental representation - Perception as constructive activity - Memory and retrieval - Pattern recognition and categorization - The ecological approach to cognition - Cognition in the real world

18.11. Dream

This entry will explore the dream as the royal road to the unconscious—the distorted fulfillment of a repressed wish, revealed through interpretation of manifest and latent content.

Topics to cover: - The dream as wish-fulfillment - Manifest and latent content - The dream-work: condensation, displacement, symbolization - Day residues and childhood memories - The interpretation of dreams - Dreams and the unconscious

18.12. Emotion

This entry will explore the expression of emotions as evolved behaviors shared across species—the continuity between human emotional life and that of other animals.

Topics to cover: - The principle of serviceable associated habits - The principle of antithesis - Direct action of the nervous system - The expression of emotions in man and animals - Universal expressions and their recognition - The evolution of emotional behavior

18.13. Habit

This entry will explore habit as the enormous flywheel of society—the plastic nature of nervous tissue that allows actions to become automatic, freeing consciousness for higher work.

Topics to cover: - The plasticity of the nervous system - Habit as conserved energy - The laws of habit formation - The ethical significance of habit - Habit and character - The educability of habit

18.14. Imagination

This entry will explore the distinction between primary and secondary imagination—the living power and prime agent of all human perception versus the echo of that power in artistic creation.

Topics to cover: - Primary imagination as living perception - Secondary imagination as creative power - Fancy versus imagination - The esemplastic power - Imagination and poetry - The reconciliation of opposites

18.15. Memory

This entry will explore the two forms of memory: habit-memory (motor patterns inscribed in the body) and pure memory (the preservation of the past in itself).

Topics to cover: - Habit-memory and motor mechanisms - Pure memory and the cone of duration - The survival of images - Recognition and attention to life - Memory and matter - The virtual and the actual

18.16. Perception

This entry will explore perception as the primordial contact with the world—the bodily engagement through which meaning emerges before reflective thought.

Topics to cover: - The primacy of perception - The lived body (*corps propre*) - The phenomenal field - Motor intentionality - The chiasm of perceiver and perceived - Perception and expression

18.17. Reason

This entry will explore reason as the faculty of principles—the power to seek the unconditioned, to unify experience under ever higher principles, and to regulate (though not constitute) knowledge.

Topics to cover: - Pure and practical reason - The architectonic of reason - The regulative use of ideas - The antinomies of pure reason - Reason and freedom - The limits of reason

18.18. Self

This entry will explore the constituents of the self—the material, social, and spiritual selves, and the pure ego that knows them all.

Topics to cover: - The empirical self and the pure ego - The material self (body, possessions) - The social self (recognition by others) - The spiritual self (inner subjectivity) - Self-seeking and self-estimation - The hierarchy of selves

18.19. Sensation

This entry will explore sensation as the elementary unit of experience—the just noticeable differences that reveal the lawful relationship between physical stimuli and psychological experience.

Topics to cover: - Weber's law and just noticeable differences - The psychophysical relationship - Thresholds of sensation - The muscular sense - Sensory modalities - Sensation and measurement

18.20. Sleep

This entry will explore sleep as the privation of wakefulness—the state in which the common sense is bound, arising from the evaporation of nutriment in the heart.

Topics to cover: - Sleep and waking as contraries - The common sense and sleep - The physiological account of sleep - Sleep in relation to the soul's faculties - Prophetic dreams and their nature - The necessity of sleep for animals

18.21. Thought

This entry will explore thinking as the inner dialogue of the soul with itself—the withdrawal

from appearance that is necessary for making judgments in the world.

Topics to cover: - Thinking and the two-in-one - The wind of thought - Thinking and common sense - The banality of thoughtlessness - Thinking and judging - The life of the mind

18.22. Will

This entry will explore the will as the thing-in-itself—the blind, ceaseless striving that underlies all representation and manifests in every phenomenon from stone to human.

Topics to cover: - The world as will and representation - Will as the inner nature of phenomena - The objectification of will - The denial of the will to live - Will and suffering - Aesthetic contemplation and the will

Chapter 19. Boundary Entries

19.1. Animal Mind

This entry will explore the Umwelt—the perceptual world unique to each species, constituted by the organism's receptors and effectors, forming a self-contained bubble of meaning.

Topics to cover: - The concept of Umwelt - Functional circles (perception and action) - The tick as paradigmatic example - Species-specific worlds of meaning - Against anthropomorphism - The biological roots of subjectivity

19.2. Artificial Mind

This entry will explore the imitation game—the question of whether machines can think, and what it would mean for a machine to give answers indistinguishable from a human's.

Topics to cover: - The imitation game (Turing test) - Objections and replies - The digital computer as universal machine - Learning machines - The question of consciousness in machines - Thinking and computation

19.3. Collective Mind

This entry will explore the collective consciousness—the totality of beliefs and sentiments common to the average members of a society, forming a system with its own life.

Topics to cover: - Collective representations - Social facts as things - Mechanical and organic solidarity - The sacred and the profane - Collective effervescence - Society as a reality sui generis

19.4. Mind–Body Problem

This entry will explore the real distinction between mind and body—thinking substance and extended substance—and the mystery of their union in the human composite.

Topics to cover: - The method of doubt - The cogito and the certainty of the mind - The nature of extended substance - The real distinction of mind and body - The union of mind and body - The pineal gland and interaction

Chapter 20. Closing Entries

20.1. Ignorance (Mental)

This entry will explore the wisdom of knowing that one does not know—the Socratic recognition that awareness of our ignorance is the beginning of inquiry.

Topics to cover: - The oracle and the examined life - Knowing that one does not know - Elenchus and the exposure of false knowledge - Ignorance as the beginning of wisdom - The gadfly and the unexamined life

20.2. Uncertainty (Subjective)

This entry will explore the human condition of uncertainty—caught between infinite spaces that terrify us, we wager without certainty yet must still act.

Topics to cover: - The human condition between two infinities - The misery and grandeur of man - The wager and decision under uncertainty - The heart has its reasons - Diversion and the avoidance of self

20.3. Not-Knowing

This entry will explore docta ignorantia—learned ignorance—the recognition that the more precisely we approach the infinite, the more our knowledge reveals its own limits.

Topics to cover: - The coincidence of opposites - The infinite and the finite - Learned ignorance as highest wisdom - The limits of rational knowledge - God as the maximum and minimum

Chapter 21. Back Matter

Back Matter

Chapter 22. Index of Names

A comprehensive index of all persons mentioned in Volume I, including canonical authors, marginalia contributors, and cited scholars.

[Index to be generated during final compilation]

Chapter 23. Index of Subjects

A thematic index covering all topics discussed across entries.

[Index to be generated during final compilation]

Chapter 24. Bibliography

24.1. Primary Sources

Works by canonical authors consulted in preparing this volume:

- Aristotle. *De Anima* (On the Soul). Trans. J. A. Smith.
- Bergson, Henri. *Matter and Memory*. 1896.
- Darwin, Charles. *The Expression of the Emotions in Man and Animals*. 1872.
- Descartes, René. *Meditations on First Philosophy*. 1641.
- Dewey, John. *Experience and Nature*. 1925.
- Durkheim, Émile. *The Rules of Sociological Method*. 1895.
- Husserl, Edmund. *Ideas I*. 1913.
- James, William. *The Principles of Psychology*. 1890.
- Kant, Immanuel. *Critique of Pure Reason*. 1781.
- Nicholas of Cusa. *De Docta Ignorantia* (On Learned Ignorance). 1440.
- Pascal, Blaise. *Pensées*. 1670.
- Peirce, Charles Sanders. *Collected Papers*. 1931-1958.
- Piaget, Jean. *The Psychology of Intelligence*. 1947.
- Plato. *Apology of Socrates*.
- Schopenhauer, Arthur. *The World as Will and Representation*. 1818.
- Spinoza, Baruch. *Ethics*. 1677.
- Turing, Alan. "Computing Machinery and Intelligence." *Mind*, 1950.
- Uexküll, Jakob von. *A Foray into the Worlds of Animals and Humans*. 1934.
- Weber, Ernst. *De Tactu*. 1834.
- Whitehead, Alfred North. *Process and Reality*. 1929.

24.2. Secondary Sources

Scholarship informing the marginalia and editorial apparatus:

[To be compiled during editorial review]

Chapter 25. Notes on the Marginalia

This volume includes marginalia from the following contributors:

25.1. Adjunct Voices

Scholars whose work extends or clarifies the canonical texts.

[Contributor list to be compiled]

25.2. Heretic Voices

Thinkers who challenge fundamental assumptions of the canonical texts.

[Contributor list to be compiled]

25.3. Synthetic Voices

AI-generated annotations for pedagogical clarity, clearly marked.

[None in Adult Edition]

Chapter 26. Candlemas Notes

This section documents changes made during the annual revision cycle:

26.1. Year 1 (2026)

- Initial publication of Volume I: Mind
- 27 entries covering the territory of mental life
- Marginalia collected from peer review process

Chapter 27. Colophon

The Encyclopœdia, Volume I: Mind

- **Edition:** Adult
- **Publisher:** Inquiry Institute
- **Season:** Candlemas (Spring)
- **Year:** 2026

Typeset using AsciiDoc and LaTeX. The marginalia layout follows the Talmudic tradition of commentary surrounding canonical text.

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Chapter 28. Errata

[No errata at time of publication]

Corrections may be submitted to: editors@inquiry.institute

Chapter 29. Cross-Volume Index

References to concepts that appear in other volumes:

- Language → Volume II: Language & Meaning
- Measurement → Volume IV: Measure
- Knowledge → Volume VII: Knowledge
- History → Volume VIII: History
- Ethics → Volume IX: Ethics
- Machines → Volume X: Machines

Chapter 30. Coming in Volume II

Language & Meaning opens the Summer season with entries on:

- Sign, Symbol, Metaphor
- Grammar, Syntax, Semantics
- Translation, Interpretation
- Rhetoric, Persuasion
- And more...