

Philosophy of Mind

Learning Guide: Learning Through Questions

1. Philosophy of Mind is the philosophical discipline that enquires into the nature of the mind and mental events as well as the relationship that exists between the mind and the body. What is the major duty of the philosophy of mind and what methods does it employ in studying the mind?
2. The human mind is an intricate configuration of many specific operations and it is considered as one of the greatest philosophical problems that defy scientific understanding. Identify and explain about three problems that are associated with the study of the mind.
3. The philosophy of mind enquires into the nature of the activities of the mind as it performs intricate specific operations.
 - a. Briefly explain,
 - i. The three main dimensions of mental activities.
 - ii. The four chief functions of the mind.
 - b. Give about four ontological status of the mind.
 - c. What specific duty has philosophy of mind?
4. How can you explain the mind as an essential constitutive element of man and what relationship has it with human consciousness?
5. Man is said to exist on two-fold level; somatic and attitudinal levels. Explain!
6. In recent times, the rapid technological advancement has made machines especially in the areas of computer to be comparable to human mind. With about three each of vitalists' and mechanists' positions demonstrate how machines can be equated to human mind and at the same time be differentiated from it.
7. The mind-body dichotomy gave rise to various theories. Distinguish between:
 - a. Interactionism and Parallelism.
 - b. Substance and Dual- Aspect Monism
8. Aristotle maintains that the union of mind and body is an intrinsic and a substantial one. Referring to his concept of 'capacity' explain his understanding of the psycho-somatic unity.
9. Parapsychology reveals that the mind exhibits certain psychic phenomena that have no sensory bases. In a few lines, give your understanding of the following Extra Sensory Perceptions (ESP).
 - i. Psychokinesis
 - ii. Astral travel
 - iii. Clairvoyance
 - iv. Hunch
 - v. Pre-cognition

10. The human mind possesses about three characteristics as the criteria for mental events. Elucidate!
11. To understand the nature of interaction existing in man with respect to his psychosomatic unity is an enormous philosophical endeavour that gave rise to the obvious Cartesian dualism and other theories. What argument(s) do the theory of epiphenomenalism hold with regard to mind-body relationship?
12. What conception has Aristotle regarding man's soul and its relationship to the body?
13. Parapsychology within the sphere of psychology studies paranormal phenomena also known as Extra Sensory Perceptions (ESP), which are psychic events of latent forces in man occurring beyond the reach of five objective senses that cannot be explained in terms of known physical or biological mechanisms. Would you advise that the belief in hunch, psychokinesis, clairvoyance and even astral travels be sustained. Give reasons for whatever response you present.
14. Philosophy of Mind is the philosophical discipline that enquires into the nature of the mind and mental events as well as the relationship that exists between the mind and the body.
 - a. How is cognition one of the crucial dimensions of mental phenomena?
 - b. Identify and clarify the factors that characterize mental activities.
15. In Plato's understanding, the human soul can be classified into three faculties. Elucidate!
16. Concisely explain the key functions of the mind.
17. What relationships and distinctions exist between the mind, consciousness, heart, soul, the psyche and the spirit?
18. Explain the three main dimensions of the activities of human mind.
19. Describe the Platonian tripartite distinctions of human soul in relation to human mind.
20. With Edeh's *muo-hypothesis*, elucidate the Igbo theory of duality and soul-body unity in man in the light Igbo Metaphysics.
21. In recent times, the rapid technological advancement has made machines especially in the area of computer to be comparable to human mind. With five points, clarify the essential differences between human mind and machines.
22. Aristotle postulated that the soul is a CAPACITY. Elucidate!
23. In just a few lines, give your understanding of the following concepts within the scope of philosophy of mind:
 - a. Attributive monism
 - b. Logical behaviourism
 - c. Artificial Narrow Intelligence (ANI)
 - d. Psychokinesis
 - e. Hunch