

Modern European Philosophy

Date :

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→ Philosophy → human mind has different levels of intelligence between humans & dogs

pairing theories with arguments

arguments have basic assumptions

→ (trying to prove a theory wrong and come up with a superior theory) ← ENDLESSLY

def → replace earlier phase of knowledge with superior phase of knowledge "dialectic"

Knowledge ← knowing ← curiosity.

Q → what if we give up on curiosity?

Relinquish knowing

philosophy "Deepest sense of existential puzzlement & wonder"

6th century BC. Then Presocratics

and they asked questions about world, mostly physics.

intuition: argument by defence think otherwise

Cause: After Descartes

Theme: God

Theology?

had air bags

banana

8-03

Idee : Reteoric = science of making good speeches.

not trained in loaded with arguments

Empty - Reteoric = speech without any arguments

Democracy ↔ Reteoric ↔ philosophy

→ Athens, Greek, where philosophy board was first democracy

* Bettany Hughes Documentary on BBC

Each day people in government change

Sophists were the teachers of Reteoric

- Socrates didn't like them because actually they were cheating. → moral degeneration of ethics.
- sophists were teaching how to win, not truth.
- Socrates was on side of truth to defend and compete sophists. Socrates invented LOGIC.
- he was the first to give importance to philosophy.

⇒ LOGIC: - science of reasoning.

- what is universal truth? → permanent → objective?

Immanuel Kant - Book Critique of pure reason

Reasoning: making deductions.

vs empirical reasoning - inductive → probabilistic reasoning
 deductive reasoning

Universal truth is based on this
 universally truth vs contingent truth.

Lec-3 Reasons: good vs bad
 strong vs weak

Any one who lives in India, lives in Gujarat too.

Butink lives in Gujarat.

- Argument must be "valid" and "sound".
 If first two are true
 then consequence must be true.

Opinion

Conclusion

→ Anyone who knows $2+2=4$, also knows that $1\times 4=4$.

Y knows $2+2=4$, therefore Y knows $1\times 4=4$.

introduction has been made to the point that although soundness makes an argument persuasive.

Validity → structure of argument is good and soundness → truthiness of premises.

Persuasive → different for different entities.

with the illustrate this

Circular reasoning: God exists, therefore God exists.

↳ question: should everything be boiled down to logic?

→ The law of excluded middle.

↳ logic is science which explains inference.

→ Human thought is exceptionally rigorous and capable of both ends.

→ Parmenides of Elea: philosopher

"Nothing remains constant"

Heraclites

↳ "generation and corruption are essence of reality"

→ zeno is student of Parmenides

→ zeno's paradoxes, turtle and rabbit

* way to truth and way to opinion by Parmenides poem

What is?

(two of three)

-Parmenides

One is, one is not, now is, now is not.

position of fragment 8

Is left: that it is. And on this these signs

A plenty that, Being, it is ungenerated and indestructible.
Whole, of one kind and unweaving and complete.Nor was it ever, nor will it be, since now it is, all together,
one, continues. For what generation will you seek for it?How, whence did it grow? For that it came from what is
not I shall not allow.

You to say do not think - for it is not sayable and thinkable

That it is not, and what need would have impelled,

Solely creation, to Spur spring up - if it began from
nothing?

Thus it must either altogether be or not be.

nor from what is will the strength of warranty ever
be permitted.

To come to be anything apart from itself. For that

Justice has not yet set it free to come

In to being to go to perish, but she holds its decision

in this matter, for in this it is said it is not.

but it has been decided as is necessary,

to leave one good one unthought and
unnamed (for it is not a true good),

and to take other as being and being genuine.

How might what is then perish? How might it have
come into being?For if it come into being it is not nor if it is ever going
to be

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~~Pythagorean~~ menicinism: world view of conflict between dualities.

- plamenides invented logic and physics.
- quality of insights comes with great deal of freedom.
- Arabic does not have word "is".

in latin "copule", means coupling.

- 1) → Lions exists. | Unicorn do not exist.
 - 2) Paris wise. → foam of is.
 - 3) X is true.
- In all three use of "is" is different.
- "is" connects subject and predicate in 2nd sense.
- Peirce was interested in existential category of "IS".
- why? → because he is interested in nature of reality.
- Knowing is separate from reality. Knowing has to objectify reality.
- we know reality because it exists.
- To know reality there are two types of inquiries:
- 1) The way of truth (alethey)
 - 2) The way of opinion (doxa) [from us (senses)]

paradox → two opinions going in different direction.

→ what is way of truth? that it is and that it cannot not be, this is the way of truth.

meaning: if you say something is, it is necessary for it to be. Hence saying coincides with being.

That it is not and that it is necessary for ~~that is not~~
not to be.

⇒ when you say nothing you said nothing. ← Peomedes
nothing must be equivalent with something ← Socrates

→ Peomedes says we don't know what non-being is.
hence we cannot talk about it. What is not, it
does not, we don't know how to grasp that.

P ⇒ non-being is something about which we do not know.

P → You are only capable of thinking of what is.

S → If peomedes is right, change must not happen, "since
change means something was yesterday which is not today."

→ we take change and nonbeing of flowers after 5 years
as granted.

⇒ on path of truth, nothing is unthinkable, but
we do it on path of opinion.

⇒ In what sense he was true?

→ He came up with this with strong logic.

Incredible - convincing

P may be thought that philosophy is not concerned with the
empirical things (like physics).

* ⇒ philosophy must be concerned with the character of existing
from which they cannot get out. thus philosophy
must be concerned with metaphysics.

Epistemology - theory of knowledge

why permenides? → inventor of metaphysics.

→ nature of reality (what is reality?)

Important consequences:

① change is not real; it's impossible means
there is no differentiation of any kind means
reality is only one piece

at the end of critique he says reality is sphere.

we can think of it as metaphor means it's
in all directions equally

Plato

- came from pythagoras and permenides.
- strongly influenced by permenides, reality, path of truth.
- elaborated why permenides was right.
“reality is accessible by human mind”
- set boundary for future of philosophy for about 2500 yr.
- his works is in terms of dialogues of socrates with people and letters (around 7-8).
- in none of this plato is a character.
- dialogue one writer for students of philosophy, not passive but active.
- virtue - good character for person, standard.
- most of on ethics, some on metaphysics.
- plato's theory of ideas ← at the death time of socrates.

why no change in reality?
If anything is going under change all the time,
How it can be real?

Eidos → plural → Eide

nous → intellect

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→ If reality is real we must be able to grasp it.

so if everything is changing then is it real?

(Ans: Idea = as per plato,

come from greek word "EIDOS" means form.

→ There's something inspite of change, & doesn't change.

⇒ ex: idea is an unchanging form of pot. even if pot is destroyed.

→ for all the things which change, there must be ideas.

→ There is something like world of Eide. which is not accessible by senses. we can only know it by intellect.

→ plato was mathematician, from where prototype thing come. ideas of prototype are like circle, triangle etc.

??" = "If prototypes of triangle is real then, prototype of human is also real"

→ If reality is always changing then we cannot grasp it thus it must be an idea.

→ The reality in which we live is corrupt form of pure reality which is eternal.

Plato said "there exists a REAL world, and all things exists in that world as forms."

→ we see world beautiful with many things. there are multiple instances of beautiful. the common thing is beauty. is there only way to exists beauty? No.

Akito said: beauty must have character of its own. things can

lose their beauty. beauty must have form. in his world.

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Plato is not talking about concept of beauty but
existence of beauty.
other ex: Justice, equal, healthy.

Prob 1: inequality means something missing then how can it
be part of plato's ideal world.

Aristotle - student of Plato.

- didn't agree with Plato's ideal world approach.
- Plato wanted to preserve neoplatonism argument about
existence which is ever lasting.
- was teacher of Alexander.
- gone to Plato's school "Academy" for 20 years.
- "Lieseum" : his school gave foundation
- foundation of our academic system, gave foundation to subjects.
- systematic thinker.
- wrote book called "metaphysics", title was not given by him.
- first formal logic, discrete math.
- lot of his work is lecture notes, compiled into a book.
- called reality "science of being" later called 'ontology'
 $\epsilon p i s t e m \acute{e}$

Book → metaphysics : study of being

- when we ask "what is he?" we assume somethings.
- predicates may alter, but substance are unaltered.
- Reality must be populated with substances and we
are instances of substances. qualities are attached
to substances.
- a quality must feature in a substance. substance is a
carrier of quality.

- Being may be an empty concept but it's not uniform.
- we can break the ~~res~~ how to break tuning of guitar.
- what is that ^{guitar} destruction → destroyer of being
- These are entities exists differently.
- reality is made up of substances, we know substance by its characteristics.
- being of predicate vs - being of substance

Book : categories by aristotle. substances in world are divided into 10 categories.

- object substance must have volume
- substance predicate it must have relation w/ something
- aristotle was first to give definition of metatheory.
- cosmos should have some beginning. - A
- The first mover, prime mover, self moving. Highest being
- we all are being known by predicates of substance, and predicates change but substance doesn't.
- plato said : the highest being is good.

- Platonism - not christian, from egypt
- inspired by plato, gave neo-platonism.
- christianity, officiating who conducts official christianity.
- church administers affairs of society.

Saint Augustine - African

- 2nd century AD. first biography ever.
- combined greek philosophy of being and God.
- wrote 5 million words.

Book : Confessions.

→ was not at christian. but drawn to Christianity
 → used platonides ideas to make support god. equated notion of being with god.
 Saint Anselm & Saint Thomas Aquinas.
 → used platos ideas to characterize god Christian.
 Roman empire - pagan religions.
 → these is no specific religion before Christianity
 Islam is a book bound, institute forced religion.
 → Christianity was about building community by institution/church
 4BC Christianity became useful to take control over population.
 it became state religion.

→ Books received it is revealed knowledge from god.

Institutes of higher education were sponsored by church.

In 529 AD last school was closed in Athens
 2nd - 14th century middle ages church was authority.

- all philosopher was believed in god because of church

St. Anselm Italian 11th century

- student of Lay founder of Western monasticism
- became archbishop.

Book = "Proslogion" : give the ontological argument.

"God is something than which nothing greater can be thought"

God is all knowing, all powerful, infinite

Nos :- Soren Kierkegaard, Danish philosopher 1813-1855

↳ nature of belief, fear, anxiety, habituation

↳ wrote book anonymously, wrote with an authorship

Chapter 2

P1 : God is something than which nothing greater can be thought.

P2 : God exists in the mind since even the fool can think of (having mind) something than which nothing greater can be thought.

P3 : But we can think of something which is greater than something existing only in the mind.

∴ Therefore, something than which nothing greater can be thought can not only exists in the mind.

ie "lost island"

Chapter 3

→ we can think of something existing which cannot be thought not to exist.

→ such a thing would be greater than something which can be thought not to exist.

→ something than which nothing greater can be thought, cannot be something which can be thought not to exist.

→ therefore something than which nothing greater can be thought cannot be thought not to exist.

René Descartes

1596 - 1650 France

→ Jesuit priest

Book : Principles of Philosophy

scoldism : questioning being

- contradicted Aristotle, situated with his physics

"Mathematics is the language to understand world" - Gerlelio

- deconse was not satisfied with Aristotle's theory of substances.

middle ages : 2nd to 1500

"Meditations on first philosophy."

- Book

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→ He told that the idea of god and reality must be
separated / studied separately.

→ He wanted to found singular base for knowledge,
Aristotle thought this is impossible because being
is plural.

→ Revolutionary Cartesian philosophy

→ Since 1100, Aristotle was very dominant in philosophy,
Descartes was revolutionary in terms of rejection of
Aristotle.

→ He wanted to provide foundation for knowledge.

"Knowledge is prone to proven wrong." - Descartes

* Skepticism : you cannot be certain of anything.

There is no way we can bridge belief and reality.

If we give proof of belief with reality, what if method of
proof is wrong.

If skepticism is true, we can never have secure
foundation of knowledge. Descartes did answer at
foundation of knowledge which is called
"method of Doubt"

- He wrote six meditation : method of doubt, mind, god

→ What is the first thing about any "thing"?
We can have 4 types of objections to knowledge.

1) Deception of senses

2) evil demon

3) dream

4) God

→ False opinions

1) Deception of senses : Knowledge can't seek foundation from sense

Extended idea & non-extended idea

- 1) non-extens two types of objects ; (relation to dualism)
- 2) non-cognit extended stuff } different substances.
- | thinking stuff } stuff through attention

Gustav Mahlo

6th

innate idea : epistemology

There is something with which human mind is born with.
MIT Chakraborty is knowledge anticipatory with symbols.

what is an idea ? : Image of something that you possess.

As per decartes Idea is within you. (in brain)

does it corresponds with something outside or its just

within us? → criteria of truth is consistency
two types of ideas 1) innate : they come from within us.

2) acquired : source is outside

Ex: sun

If you want to perceive sun then we must do it with basis of mind & knowledge

what is the extent of reality that ideas possess?

Ideas can contain objective reality to some extent

↳ 1) formal reality

when idea represents something outside us then it's objective

what we understand about it has more formal reality and less objective reality

Substance → modes.

Substance can be in any mode

Substance → thinking

modes and substance are extended

mode → Person 1
Person 2

substance ← objective reality

mode ← formal reality

Idea of god.

As finite beings how do we have idea of infinite?

Innate cognitive ability

Infinite is a positive concept.

↑ no limit.. defined as negation of something.

whatever the cause effect has, that must be in cause.

so there must be some cause for "idea of god" ie effect.

whatever the effect has cause must be greater than it.

so idea of god comes from god itself.

→ infinity is abstract, we may not know everything about it.

infinity is not a fiction

"idea of god" is innate

we come to idea of god from clear and distinct perception.

He assumes that god has clear and distinct perception,

god gave it to us and using it we have proved god exist.

circular argument, Cartesian circle

Descartes theory is form of deductive reasoning. These type of philosophers are called rationalist philosophers.

Descartes main aim was to understand how much human mind can know.

→ He was successful in initiating arguments about his ideas.

→ He said there is nothing like vacuum. everything is filled.

Three types of substance as per Descartes: res extensa,

res cogitans,

God.

Antoine Arnauld

→ discovered circularity in deists' argument.

Pascal

1623 - 1662

- Told that deists theories are useless & uncertain.
- his father was tax inspector, taught him at home.
- never gone to school,
- at age 17, he invented first calculator ever.
- binomial theorem, father of probability (with Fermat).
- interested in gambling. (Expectation)
- setup an experiment to show vacuum exists.
- He never attacked deists directly.

- 1) How do we know god and necessity use separate?
- 2) What is it to give a rational proof of god?

→ since Anselm, catholic church and everyone were saying that existence of god is provable aationally.

- originator of decision theory.
- knowing that god exists or not is the decision that you make? - Pascal
- gave new understanding of god.
- If we want to prove existence of god, it is non incremental. its not like other physical truth. its the truth of different level. which can be understood only by revelation.
- There is no proof we can furnish about existence of God
- Pascal's wager (bet) :-

Pascal's Book : Pensees.

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→ what is rational behaviour? who decides?

behaviour is guided by our choices, which is guided by choices.

→ Rationality is how well you can reason.

→ Practical Rationality: going to class or not | goal = success

Theoretical Rationality: process of photosynthesis | goal = Truth

→ Deists used theoretical rationality to prove god's existence. Pascal pointed out god cannot be proven with theoretical rationality.

"God is the matter of personal experience." - Pascal

"Believing in god is application of practical rationality" - P

→ new understanding of religion based on faith.

"Existentialism"

→ "Believing in god is subjective matter rather than objective." - P

Pascal's Wager :-

Does god exists or not? Yes, but you must wagers.

there is no choice, you are already committed. which

will you choose then? God exists or god does not

exists. let us see : since a choice must be made,

to let us see which one offers you a least interest.

you have two things to loose : the true and the good;

and two things to stake : your reason and your will,

your knowledge and your happiness. Since you must

necessarily choose, your reason is no more challenged

by choosing one rather than the other. But your

happiness? let us ^{weigh} up the gain and the loss involved

in calling heads that god exists let us assess the two cases:

Stephen Toulmin: Cosmopolis

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If you win, you win everything; If you loose, you loose nothing. Do not hesitate then; wagers that he does exists.

Spinoza 1632-1657

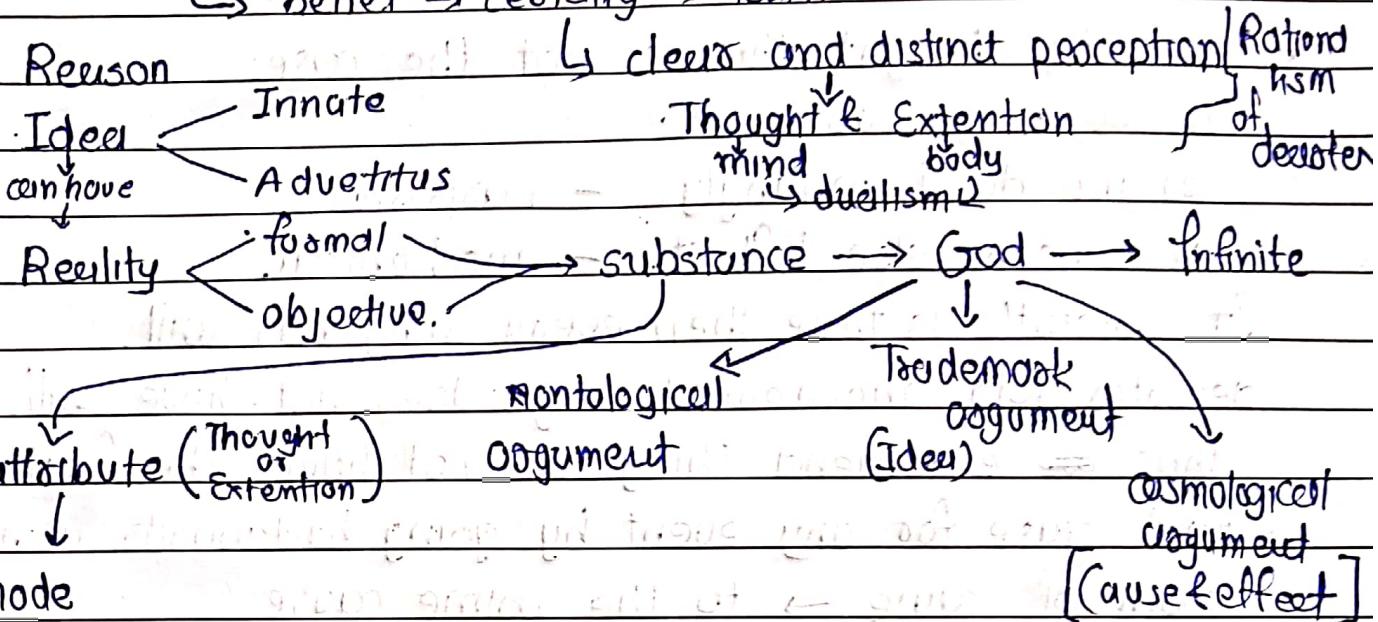
- Jewish (kicked out of community) → Amsterdam
- was excommunicated at age of 25. Was a republic under catholic
- his father was a taylor, he didn't like it.
- excommunicated because he had ideas against orthodox ideas
- why god is independent from mind and matter, may be he is same as mind and matter.
- god and reality are no two different things. His ideas were different from Christians and jews.
- "you can know everything" - Spinoza
- "you can not know everything" - Descartes
- Rationalism: you can know about reality, just by using opposite your reason.
- Empiricists: belief on empirical methods/sensory evidence
- All things which exists have rational structure, no sensory evidence required. - Spinoza
- Spinoza was ambitious rationalist. Descartes was limited rationalist
- he had very powerful imagination
- lens grinder
- essence of divinity in point of reality.

History of Philosophy : Bertrand Russel. (LSE) (1940)

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Existence → Essence
Scepticism → doubt | deception of senses, evil deuman
↳ belief → certainty ⇒ truth



→ Cultural Capital: education.

"Spinoza is the noblest philosopher of all time" - HOP-BR

"Ethics" - Book by Spinoza.

Written in form of geometry book.

He wanted that his ideas must be incontradicted

as geometrical proofs.

chapter I: "of God."

→ why decoates was interested in god ? → for science

→ newton read decoates heavily. He was an alchemist.

↑ He gave mechanical reality of nature. there is no
chanceless event.

→ Newtonian mechanics proved most of aristotolian

physics wrong.

everythis has its internal purpose. - Aristotle

↑ Newton's theories proves this wrong.

"Theory of final causes" - Aristotle's physics.

→ we have purposes for everything. for our every action.

Democritus thought this is not the case.

If we raise our hand:

1) we do it willingly. - purposive

2) someone else lifts it. - mechanical.

If Aristotle is true then every thing has will.

Democritus told mechanical things does not have will.

thus extended things do not have "the final cause"

→ find cause for any event by going backwards using chain of cause → to the prime cause

C. Democritus was stuck here, so he needed god for his philosophical reasons.

→ what set our Newtonian world in motion, that must be antecedent cause which does not follow Newtonian framework.

→ Democritus was smart, he threw god out of the world so that it will not follow mechanics.

He saved world's science, & Physics.

→ Spinoza also thought mechanics is true theory of reality. He agreed with Newton and Democritus.

But he was not agreed with Democritus theory of god. If you truly follow Democritus theory then god will not be substance which is out of world.

→ If we talk about attribute then talk of substance is redundant. modern things that we deal with

→ As per correct conclusion, reality itself is god.
and its infinite. Finite substances like mind & body also embodies infinite.

Definitions :-

D1 : By cause of itself, I understand that whose essence involves existence, so that whose nature cannot be conceived except as existing.

D2 : That thing is said to be finite in its own kind that can be limited by another of the same nature.

D3 : By substance I understand what is in itself and is conceived through itself, that is, that whose concept does not require the concept of another thing, from which it must be formed.

"You can conceive matter because god made you to conceive." - Occidentalism.

D4 : By Attribute I understand what intellect perceives of substance, as constituting its essence.

D5 : By mode I understand the affections of substance or that which is in another through which it is also conceived.

"mode is the way in which substance expresses itself".

D6 : By God, I understand a being absolutely infinite, that is a substance consisting of a infinity of attributes, of which each one expresses an eternal and infinite essence.

D7: The thing is called free, which exists from the necessity of its nature alone, and is determined to act by itself alone but a thing is called necessary, or rather compelled which is determined by another to exist and to produce an effect in a certain and determinate manner.

If something is causing something, both must be of some kind and nature.

God is outside of nature and he makes causes things in nature, then he is same as in nature.

✓ Argument of Causal Determinism.

D8: By eternity I understand existence itself, in so far as it is conceived to follow necessarily from the definition alone of the eternal thing.

"Causal conditionism": if you know the cause then you must know that its effect.

Descartes is pluralist about substances (metaphysics), different kind of reality.

Spinoza is a proponent of substance monism. There is just one substance.

A1: substance has priority over mode.

Carl Popper: philosopher of science, politics

↳ open society which liberal do not have strong state.

Penopticon - model for prison closed society relies on control.

Falsifiable theory : we accept it until its proven X.
Indicator

→ Technological training blinds scientific knowledge.
↳ having curiosity which are not related.

Roger Penrose : physics.

What is method of science ?

(we have basis : observation → experience [Empiric]
observation played a sole in depiction of theories.

Aristotle used observation in his methods.

He believed that a good portion of knowledge must
be deductive in nature. Knowledge has a closed
character. Knowledge has characteristics of
mathematics. (its infallible).

Recapitulating knowledge other than mounting.

fundamental truths are those you only have to know them

Aristotle prevented progress of knowledge.

* FRANSIS BACON : impulsive about scholasticism.

gave new method called, inductive method.

using data from senses, we can build the truths.

This is in contrast about Spinoza. ← each actionalist.

Descartes was a skeptic, thus he didn't believe sensas.

Empiricism - lineage of Bacon, Hume, Locke, Boyle

John Locke - expanded inductive method

France - Rationalism

Bacon → empiricism. - induction

Noam Chomsky - linguist - universal grammar theory

The cognitive revolution

"Syntactic structures" - Book by Chomsky ←

Thomas Kuhn - "Structure of scientific revolutions"

There are many other things with induction in sci-method.

John Locke - differed from deocrats (rationalists).

(1632) Most fam philosopher of 17th century

friend of Boyle. Political | Father of Liberalism

First empiricist

Thomas Hobbes - old contemporary of Locke. Political philosophy

Theory of political power | Leviathan.

Government can also crush people with power to protect them give rights. ← Liberalism, Utilitarianism

Geometry is highest degree truth. in absolute sense.

Spinoza and Descartes we can't establish certain

where saying and doing counts. - PERFORMATIVES

→ Geometrical and conversation of metters are statements which use metaphysical

→ Metaphysical statements can not be proven right or wrong. we need god to prove them.

→ Basis for deocrats and Spinoza theories are metaphysical

→ John thought to rely on standard of certainty is useless because it is unrealistic.

Insted, lets acquire knowledge as it is without putting a standard which we can never achive.

→ How descartes and spinozas physics and metaphysics reconcile?

A → physics is study related to change, metaphysics is study of things which does not change.
they are different investigations altogether.

John said rather than studying unrealizable standards we must study our limits.

→ descartes and spinozas work was to give theory of metaphysics. Iokes ~~not~~ work was on epistemology
Epistemology = Theory of ideas.

→ John gave philosophy new direction. basic way of knowing something is idea.

→ Does thought have boundaries like language.

Questions

Q1 Is our knowledge in fact confined to combination of ideas which are derived directly from experience? or is it possible for our knowledge somehow to extend beyond its limits?

Do some of our ideas have a significant meaning or content which cannot be completely analyzed in terms of our sense impression?
which is external and internal,

✓ The language instinct

The blank slate.

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- kind of certainty that geometric truth has, truth from experience does not have.

Ideas and impression in questions:

extent, limits of knowledge.

what kind of certainty can we achieve in knowledge?

- basic building block of knowledge is ideas. which happens in mind.

- everything in mind must come from source which is external to it and whatever is in mind must be an idea.

- John Locke denied innate ideas.

"Two things cannot be at two different places at some time." - what kind of statement is this?

empty statements - they're not applied to anything.
they're general statement.

Principle of Identity.

It's not principle of physics, but principle of logic.

We operate so as per principles of logic to make sense of world around us.

Locke calls them speculative principles.

They are related to innate ideas. necessary for us.

- Universal Grammar - Noam Chomsky

"Mind is a blank slate, ideas must onto which things come from outside" - Locke

1) Simple ideas

→ color, shape, texture

2) Complex ideas

→ Agglomeration of simple

→ Apple as a whole.

→ How mind acquire simple ideas through senses.

Knowing is a complex act of cognition. which is made of many simple ideas.

1) Ideas of sensation

→ through senses

2) Ideas of reflection

→ Remembrance ideas

→ According to Locke all of these ideas comes from outside.

→ Causal theory of perception.

→ Pain is caused by knife, but knife doesn't have idea of Pain.

Pleasure and Pain are internal impressions.

→ John Locke's main agenda was to understand limits of our knowledge. and knowledge is ideas so he developed theory of ideas.

→ Size and shape of object are mind independent
color is mind dependent.

The composition of object is such that it can effect taggers in our mind.

∴ The theory of primary and secondary qualities.

All these aligns with his agenda of Empiricism.