

**EXERCISE 1.2.1** How Do I See MySelf?Name: Alan C. Espinosa Section: A17

**Instructions:** Read the different statements below and answer the succeeding questions. In answering, take note of the three discerning points between empiricism and rationalism.

Rationalism	Empiricism
The primary and most superior source of knowledge about reality is reason.	The only source of genuine knowledge about the world is sense experience.
Sense experience is an unreliable and inadequate route to knowledge.	Reason is an unreliable and inadequate route to knowledge unless it is grounded in the solid bedrock of sense experience.
The fundamental truths about the world can be known a priori: either innate or self-evident to our minds.	There is no such thing as innate knowledge because knowledge is derived from experience. The mind before experience is a <i>tabula rasa</i> , a blank slate.

1. When you are studying or reviewing lessons, are you more likely to take the rationalist viewpoint or empiricist viewpoint? Why?

I am more likely to take the rationalist viewpoint since when learning lessons it is still abstract and we can understand it only by thinking and memorizing the concepts. I sometimes also use Empiricism in a sense that I try to apply the things that I have learned in order to understand them better

2. How do you apply empiricism and/or rationalism in studying your lessons? Be specific and concrete. Try to remember your habits and how you make sense of the lessons.

Rationalism can be applied for the topics that you have yet to apply in real life. For example using differential equations to try and solve for the area of a triangle, I would instead just get a ruler and calculator to do that. Empiricism on the other hand can be applied on subjects such as the 6<sup>th</sup> subjects since the lessons I learn on them should be related to real life in order to fully understand them.

3. Is it possible to make use of both philosophical approaches? Why or why not?

Yes it is possible to make use of both and we are all technically using both of them whenever we learn. Upon encountering a topic for the first time we still view it in a rationalistic point of view since we are yet to apply it. Once we relate it to our personal experiences it becomes empiricist since we no longer consider it as truth. But instead we relate this truth to our experience to find a more context appropriate truth.