

PHILOSOPHY 11

1. WHY MAN SEEKS FOR THE TRUTH?

- The truth makes man fulfill his rational nature.

2. HOW PHILOSOPHY BEGINS?

- By wonder

3. WHAT ARE THE DEFINITIONS OF PHILOSOPHY?

- It is the search for the truth.
- Pythagoras called himself the Lover of Wisdom
- The knowledge of all things through their ultimate causes acquired through the use of reason
- The sciences that study all things in its ultimate causes and 1st principles in the light of reason.
- Philosophia – “Love of Wisdom”

4. WHAT ARE THE MATERIAL AND FORMAL OBJECTS OF PHILOSOPHY?

- These are the certain knowledge about reality. The ultimate truths are the objects of philosophy.
- **Material Objects** – objects such as the study of all things. These refers to the sensible & material beings or bodies that are perceived by the senses and are all aspect of reality.
- **Formal Objects** – these studies the material objects and their ultimate causes and the 1st principle by seeking the deepest explanations.
- Here, we go deeper and deeper until arriving at the first cause.

5. WHY DO WE STUDY PHILOSOPHY?

- “To seek only for its own sake”
- Philosophy refers to the search for a profound knowledge going beyond spontaneous knowledge.
- It is knowing for the sake of knowing and to satisfy the demands of his/her intellect.

6. WHAT IS THE NUCLEUS OF PHILOSOPHY?

- **METAPHYSICS** – the nucleus of philosophy, which is the study of things that exist, the reality, and nature of all things.
- Meta means “beyond” or “after”, thus *metaphysics* simply means beyond physics.
- It answers the question “What is?” and encompasses everything that exists.

7. WHAT ARE THE OBJECTS OF PHILOSOPHY?

- Certain knowledge about realities, including the ultimate truths are the objects of Philosophy.
- Ex. Existence of God, Immortality of the Soul, and the Natural Law

8. WHAT IS WISDOM?

- Wisdom is a science that enables man to discover the meaning of his life to act in an upright way.
- “Wisdom as a certain knowledge of the deepest causes of everything” – St. Thomas Aquinas
- The wisdom has a guiding and judging role with regard to other forms of knowledge.
- Wisdom is important in directing human existence towards its purpose or end.
- The desire for knowledge is natural to man and his happiness is closely linked with wisdom.

9. WHAT IS IGNORANCE?

- It refers to the contrary to wisdom, it is the source of discover and errors in behavior, which prevents him from attaining happiness.
- It is the cause of various obstacles that hinder the task, and is a serious harm to individuals.

10. PHILOSOPHY & ORDINARY KNOWLEDGE

- Ordinary Knowledge is the certain knowledge about the realities including the ultimate truths which are objects of philosophy.
- It can be attained by the human intellect in a natural way without scientific study.
- Philosophy does in agreement and in continuity with spontaneous knowledge.
- According to Descartes, “philosophers must doubt all knowledge and begin from zero”

11. WHAT IS PHILOSOPHY AS A SCIENCE?

- Philosophy is the root of all sciences and has many branches.
- Philosophy is a science in an eminent way, since science is “certain knowledge” through causes, and philosophy is a science that studies the deepest causes of reality, it is more eminent among all sciences.
- Science is a knowledge attained by a way of demonstration starting from some principles.

12. DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PHILOSOPHY & PARTICULAR SCIENCES

- **Philosophy**
 - it studies the deepest and most basic aspects of reality.
 - It seeks the ultimate causes, and goes beyond the limits of particular sciences.
 - It studies all realities tries to discover the ultimate explanation in its very being
- **Particular Sciences**
 - It studies only a specific aspects of reality
 - It seeks more immediate or proximate causes
 - It is limited to some aspects of reality and limited by the object of its studies.

13. SPECULATIVE SCIENCE VS. PRACTICAL SCIENCE VS.

THE ARTS

- **Speculative** – geared towards knowledge of the truth
- **Practical** – requires knowledge, but are more interested in its application in order to carry out specific deeds or work.
- **Arts** – attempts to copy reality, right reason of things to be done, technique. Arts as the rationality of actions through which objects are produced.

14. WHAT ARE THE SENSES?

- The senses refer to something that we can feel and understand.
- **External Senses** – these are external abilities such as: **Sight** (see color & figure), **Hearing** (hear sound), **Smell** (smell odors), **Taste** (taste and speak), and **Touch** (have impressions and feelings of surfaces)
- **Internal Senses** – one’s senses that are internally felt.
 - **Imagination** – ability to imagine thoughts & visions
 - **Estimative** – a special power of humans similar to animals’ natural instinct
 - **Cognitive** – conscious activity and thinking of man
 - **Sensible** – ability of man to sense

15. WHAT ARE THE SYSTEMATIC WAYS OF PHILOSOPHY?

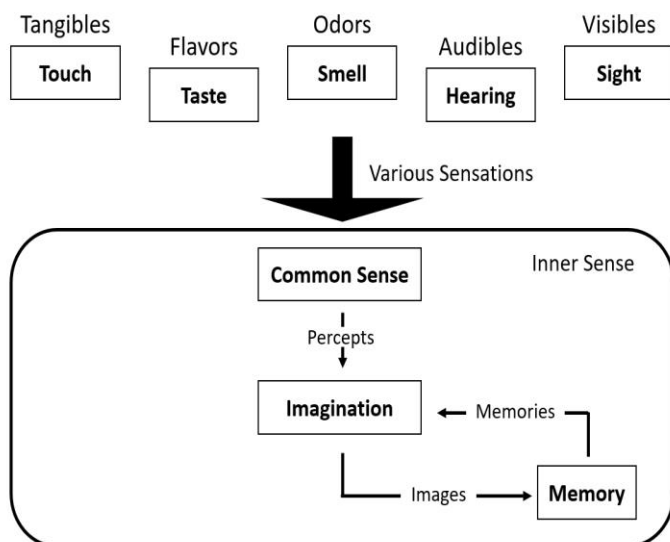
- Every human knowledge begins and is attained through the external, internal senses, and the intellect. Philosophy uses a systematic way of all the means available to human knowledge.

- **SENSES** – refers to the five (5) external senses, and four (4) internal senses
- **EXPERIENCE** – refers to one's previous experiences
- **INDUCTION** – logic
- **REASONING** – refers to the ability to choose good and reject evil.

16. WHAT IS PHILOSOPHY AND INTELLECTUAL EVIDENCE?

- Intellectual Evidence starts from the senses and is formed into "DATA".
- It is able to reach the essence of things, and is known as "EVIDENCE"
- The external accidents are grasped by the senses, and the universal judgement is known through induction, by means of the universal and necessary.

There are three operations of the mind: simple apprehension, judgement, and reasoning.



ACCIDENTS are defined as the changes that we can grasp on ourselves.

WISDOM – the integration, understanding, applied, reflected upon, actionable, accumulated

KNOWLEDGE – idea, learning, notion, concept, synthesized, compared, thought-out, discussed

INFORMATION – organized, structured, categorized, useful, condensed, calculated

DATA – individual facts, figures, signals, and measurements

PROCESS OF ABSTRACTION

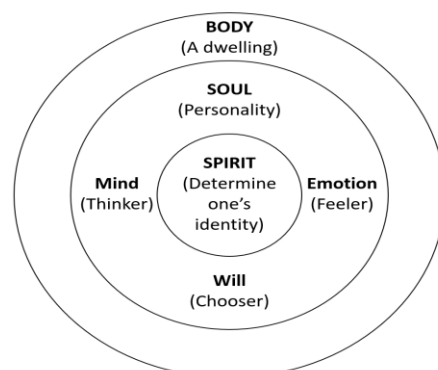
- It is intellect that grasps the essence of things
- IDEA / CONCEPT is Universal
- It starts from what is sensible & individual that leads to finally actions and the intellect and universal.
- Ex. Man → images are individual, sensible → produced by imagination. Philosophy analyzes the different types of "Changes" found in nature; it comes to know that every being subject to change must be composed of act and potency.

17. WHAT IS MATERIAL AND IMMATERIAL BEINGS?

- **Material** means you can see and can touch
- **Immaterial** means it is spiritual and you cannot see or touch.

18. WHAT IS A BEING?

- A being is all things that exist through reality.
- The term being is "*ens*" in Latin meaning "that which is"
- Science of being as being ultimate causes and first principles and causes.
- It is everything that is real.
- Physics studies God as the 'First Cause' of the act of being of all things



19. WHAT ARE THE FOUR CAUSES PROPOSED BY ARISTOTLE?

- **MATERIAL CAUSE**
 - WHAT is it made from? It is the matter in which it is made.
 - It is the matter of the substance out of which the effect is produced.
- **FORMAL CAUSE**
 - It is the shape of form given to the substance for the production of an object/effect
 - It is HOW it is arranged.
- **EFFICIENT CAUSE**
 - It refers to the skill or energy necessary for the production of the effect
 - It is what caused it to be produced or made, and also WHO made the object
- **FINAL CAUSE**
 - The final cause of the thing is a very purpose for which the change is brought in.
 - The ends or purpose, the aim of why it is created.
 - It answers WHY it was made?

20. WHAT ARE THE PARTS OF METAPHYSICS?

A. *General Metaphysics:*

- It deals with the structure of the being of things.
- It studies the fundamental nature of reality, existence, and beings.

B. *Natural Theology:*

- Studies God as the subsistent being as the 1st cause of all things.
- It studies the spiritual beings like angels etc.

C. *Gnoseology:*

- A philosophical study of the scope of metaphysics which is knowledge itself, including its nature, limits, and validity.
- Studies the human knowledge.

21. WHAT IS THE PHILOSOPHY OF LIVING BEING?

- "Life" of the "good life" is eudaimonia (flourishing or happiness), achieved through the rational activity of the soul in accordance with the virtues.
- A living being possesses a "life" that allows him to live.

22. WHAT IS LOGIC?

- **Logic** is the study of theory.
- The logic focuses on the logical structure of language.
- It looks into whether there are rules or principles that govern reasoning.
- It incorporates the analysis of the methods of deduction and induction.
- Logic is simply the science of correct thinking
- It is the science of correct thinking.
- Ex. "All women love a man", firstly, it cannot be. It can mean "Every woman loves a man" which also cannot be, or "All women love Jovanotti"
- However, it can be better explained through proper disposition such as "All woman loves their man"

23. WHAT IS ETHICS?

- It is derived from the Greek "*ethos*" meaning "moral philosophy" or the "custom habit".
- It refers to the concern about human conduct and morality of the human actions.

- It deals with how human persons are ought to act and search for definition of conduct and habit.
- **Ethics** is the theory of right action and greater good, while **Morality** is the practice of the rightness or wrongness of Human Action.

24. WHAT IS PHILOSOPHY OF NATURE?

A. **Cosmology**

- Comes from the word “Kosmos” and “Logos” meaning “World” and “Knowledge of Study”.
- It studies the world including its origin, dynamics, and characteristics, as well as the laws governing its order.
- It is the wonder at things close to hand perceived by the senses.
- **Nature in Itself** - sum or totality of corporeal beings, in this sense, philosophy of nature is philosophical study of corporeal or material beings.
- **Natural Beings** - refers to beings that are distinct from artificial ones which possesses internal principle.

- A being that is perceived by the senses.
- Any corporeal being that is sensible is subject to change.

26. WHAT IS A NON-SENSE BEING?

- A being that cannot be perceived by the senses.

27. WHAT IS AN ACT?

- An act is divided into two:
 - **1st Act**: actuality in reference to the substance (ex. To be tree)
 - **2nd Act**: actuality in reference to the operation (ex. To grow, to live)

28. WHAT IS POTENCY?

- It refers to the capacity to give something:
 - **Active** - capacity to give
 - **Passive** - capacity to receive

Entrust your works to the LORD, and your plans will succeed.

PROVERBS 16:3

Following Aristotle, St. Thomas Aquinas affirmed that the object of philosophy of nature is the changeable being.

Thus, **PHILOSOPHY OF NATURE** will refer to the study of material beings.

- **Material Object** : Sum total of the material natural beings
- **Formal object** : the being of corporeal things

25. WHAT IS SENSIBLE BEINGS?