In this paper you must describe and compare at least two competing views about the answers to these questions. They can both be from authors we have read, or one can be from an author and the other from yourself or another member of class. You must include an argument why the view that you prefer is right. IN order to do well on this assignment something must be novel. Either a position or an argument must go beyond the texts we have read.

Why does it matter whether or not scientific theory change is a rational practice in which new theories are better than old theories? How does scientific theory change happen? Does the nature of this process show science to be a rational practice in which new theories are better than old theories or something else? Why?

Why does it matter whether scientific theory change is a rational practice in which new theories are better than old theories?

Because if there is no understandable and objective reason to choose one scientific theory over another, then we will never know which theories are the best, and therefore will have no foundation to base medical technology, scientific education, deductive reasoning, and engineering technologies on. This would obviously negatively impact society, as a world without a science that knows which theories are best is a world where all the progress that humanity has made due to science (airplanes, hospitals, treatments, therapists, farming, food production, cars, boats, etc.) vanishes.

How does scientific theory change happen?

According to X, it’s like this.

According to Y, it’s like this.

Here’s a novel reason why X is better than Y.

Does the nature of this process show science to be a rational practice in which new theories are better than old theories or something else? Why?

Given Y, science is a rational practice where new theories are better than old theories, and here’s why: blah blah blah.