

Foundational Concepts in Philosophy

Introduction To Philosophy · Answer Key · 18 Questions

1. Who is widely considered the 'father of philosophy' for his early inquiries into the natural world?

- A) Aristotle
- B) Plato
- C) Socrates

D) Thales of Miletus

2. What branch of philosophy deals with the nature of reality and existence?

- A) Ethics
- B) Epistemology

C) Metaphysics

D) Logic

3. What philosophical method, associated with Socrates, involves asking a series of questions to stimulate critical thinking and illuminate ideas?

- A) Empiricism
- B) Rationalism

C) The Socratic Method

D) Dialectic

4. Who was Plato's most famous student and a foundational figure in Western philosophy?

A) Socrates

B) Aristotle

C) Epicurus

D) Pythagoras

5. What is the study of knowledge and how we acquire it called?

- A) Metaphysics
- B) Logic
- C) Aesthetics

D) Epistemology

6. The philosophical concept of the 'Allegory of the Cave' is famously attributed to which philosopher?

- A) Aristotle
- B) Socrates

C) Plato

D) Diogenes

7. What branch of philosophy examines moral principles and values?

- A) Epistemology
- B) Aesthetics
- C) Ethics**
- D) Metaphysics

8. Which ancient Greek philosopher developed a system of logic that remained influential for centuries?

- A) Plato
- B) Aristotle**
- C) Heraclitus
- D) Democritus

9. What is the branch of philosophy concerned with beauty and artistic taste?

- A) Ethics
- B) Logic
- C) Aesthetics**
- D) Epistemology

10. The philosophical school known for advocating a life of virtue and moderation, founded by Zeno of Citium, is called:

- A) Epicureanism
- B) Stoicism**
- C) Cynicism
- D) Skepticism

11. Who is the philosopher best known for his works on existentialism and phenomenology, including 'Being and Nothingness'?

- A) Albert Camus
- B) Jean-Paul Sartre**
- C) Simone de Beauvoir
- D) Friedrich Nietzsche

12. What is the philosophical study of the nature of arguments and reasoning?

- A) Metaphysics
- B) Ethics
- C) Logic**
- D) Aesthetics

13. Which Enlightenment philosopher is famous for his work 'Critique of Pure Reason'?

- A) John Locke
- B) David Hume
- C) Immanuel Kant**
- D) René Descartes

14. What philosophical concept refers to the belief that all events are predetermined and inevitable?

- A) Existentialism
- B) Determinism**
- C) Nihilism
- D) Utilitarianism

15. Who is credited with developing the theory of Utilitarianism, focusing on maximizing happiness?

- A) Immanuel Kant
- B) Jeremy Bentham**
- C) John Stuart Mill
- D) Thomas Hobbes

16. What does the philosophical term 'a priori' knowledge refer to?

- A) Knowledge gained through experience
- B) Knowledge gained before or independent of experience**
- C) Knowledge of the senses
- D) Knowledge of emotions

17. Which philosopher famously said, 'I think, therefore I am'?

- A) John Locke
- B) David Hume
- C) René Descartes**
- D) Baruch Spinoza

18. What is the name of the philosophical position that denies the possibility of knowing anything with certainty?

- A) Empiricism
- B) Rationalism
- C) Skepticism**
- D) Idealism