

Discovering Existence

Existentialism · Answer Key · 12 Questions

1. What is one of the main ideas in existentialism?

- A) Everything is already decided for you.
- B) You are free to make your own choices.**
- C) There is no such thing as freedom.
- D) Someone else always knows what is best.

2. Existentialism believes that people create their own what?

- A) Rules for everyone else.
- B) Destiny without effort.
- C) Purpose and meaning in life.**
- D) Problems to solve.

3. According to existentialist ideas, where do people get their values from?

- A) From a book of rules.
- B) From their parents only.
- C) From their own decisions and actions.**
- D) From what is popular at the moment.

4. Existentialism suggests that people are responsible for their own what?

- A) Mistakes of others.
- B) Happiness all the time.
- C) Actions and the consequences of those actions.**
- D) Weather patterns.

5. Which of these is a key idea in existentialism related to being alive?

- A) You are born with a set plan.
- B) Existence comes before your essence.**
- C) Your essence is more important than your existence.
- D) You cannot change who you are.

6. Existentialism emphasizes that people are truly what?

- A) Machines programmed to do things.
- B) Completely controlled by fate.
- C) Free individuals who must choose.**
- D) Simply following instructions.

7. In existentialism, the feeling of being alone in making choices is sometimes called what?

A) Celebration.

B) Joy.

C) Anguish or dread.

D) Excitement.

8. Existentialist thinkers often talk about the importance of living in the ____.

A) Future only.

B) Past only.

C) Present moment.

D) Dreams.

9. According to existentialist ideas, what is not a given when you are born?

A) Your body.

B) Your ability to think.

C) A predetermined purpose for your life.

D) Your name.

10. What does existentialism say about human nature?

A) It is fixed and unchanging.

B) It is defined by society.

C) It is created by individuals through their choices.

D) It is determined by genetics.

11. Existentialism suggests that facing difficult choices can lead to feelings of what?

A) Complete certainty.

B) Boredom.

C) Responsibility and freedom.

D) Indifference.

12. What is a core belief in existentialism about finding happiness?

A) It is found by avoiding all difficult choices.

B) It is a gift that is given to some.

C) It is something you actively create through your life.

D) It depends on luck.