

Pioneers of Philosophical Thought

Philosophy · Answer Key · 12 Questions

1. Who is credited with being the first person in Western philosophy to attempt a naturalistic explanation of the universe, suggesting that all things are made of water?

A) Thales of Miletus

- B) Anaximander
- C) Heraclitus
- D) Pythagoras

2. Which philosopher is recognized for formalizing the first systematic study of logic, known as the syllogism?

- A) Socrates
- B) Plato

C) Aristotle

- D) Epicurus

3. What is the name of the first philosophical school founded by Plato in Athens around 387 BC?

- A) The Lyceum

B) The Academy

- C) The Stoa
- D) The Garden

4. In which work did Immanuel Kant first introduce the 'transcendental deduction' to explain how human cognition structures experience?

- A) Prolegomena to Any Future Metaphysics
- B) Groundwork of the Metaphysic of Morals

C) Critique of Pure Reason

- D) Metaphysics of Morals

5. Who was the first philosopher to explicitly articulate the 'Cogito, ergo sum' argument in his 'Discourse on the Method'?

- A) Baruch Spinoza
- B) Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz

C) René Descartes

- D) John Locke

6. Which text is widely considered the first to formalize the principles of Utilitarianism, written by Jeremy Bentham in 1789?

A) An Introduction to the Principles of Morals and Legislation

B) On Liberty

C) Utilitarianism

D) The Methods of Ethics

7. Which philosopher is credited with the first modern articulation of the 'Social Contract' theory in his 1651 work 'Leviathan'?

A) John Locke

B) Thomas Hobbes

C) Jean-Jacques Rousseau

D) Hugo Grotius

8. In 1921, Ludwig Wittgenstein published which influential work that attempted to define the limits of language and logic?

A) Philosophical Investigations

B) The Blue and Brown Books

C) Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus

D) On Certainty

9. Who was the first thinker to propose the 'ontological argument' for the existence of God in his work 'Proslogion'?

A) Thomas Aquinas

B) Saint Augustine

C) Anselm of Canterbury

D) William of Ockham

10. Which philosopher first introduced the 'categorical imperative' in his moral philosophy?

A) David Hume

B) Immanuel Kant

C) Arthur Schopenhauer

D) Friedrich Nietzsche

11. Who is the first recorded philosopher to have developed a system of atomism, proposing that the universe consists of indivisible particles called 'atomos'?

A) Democritus

B) Empedocles

C) Anaxagoras

D) Parmenides

12. Which mathematician and philosopher was the first to co-invent the calculus and propose the theory of 'monads'?

A) Isaac Newton

B) Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz

C) Blaise Pascal

D) Christiaan Huygens