

Pioneers of Philosophical Thought

Philosophy · Practice Test · 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