

Eastern European Philosophical Adventures

Introduction To Philosophy · Answer Key · 8 Questions

1. Which famous Eastern European philosopher, often called the 'father of modern philosophy,' famously said 'Cogito, ergo sum,' meaning 'I think, therefore I am'?

- A) Immanuel Kant
- B) René Descartes**
- C) Friedrich Nietzsche
- D) Nicolaus Copernicus

2. The concept of 'Nihilism,' which questions the meaning of life and morality, is strongly associated with which Russian novelist and philosopher?

- A) Leo Tolstoy
- B) Fyodor Dostoevsky**
- C) Anton Chekhov
- D) Ivan Turgenev

3. What school of thought, originating in Eastern Europe, believes that individuals have a significant role in creating their own meaning and choices, even in a seemingly meaningless world?

- A) Stoicism
- B) Existentialism**
- C) Utilitarianism
- D) Absurdism

4. Which Polish astronomer and mathematician, living in Eastern Europe, proposed the heliocentric model of the universe, placing the Sun at the center instead of the Earth?

- A) Galileo Galilei
- B) Isaac Newton
- C) Nicolaus Copernicus**
- D) Johannes Kepler

5. What ethical system, significantly developed by thinkers like Jeremy Bentham and John Stuart Mill (though its roots can be traced to earlier thinkers, and it influenced Eastern European thought), focuses on maximizing happiness for the greatest number of people?

- A) Deontology
- B) Virtue Ethics
- C) Utilitarianism**
- D) Nihilism

6. The idea that knowledge comes primarily from sensory experience, a key concept in empiricism, was a significant focus for many Eastern European philosophers, including some who debated with rationalists.

A) True, and John Locke is a key figure

B) False, it's the opposite

C) True, and David Hume is a key figure

D) False, Eastern European philosophers only focused on reason

7. Which influential Eastern European philosopher, known for his work on the 'will to power' and critiques of traditional morality, wrote 'Thus Spoke Zarathustra'?

A) Karl Marx

B) Arthur Schopenhauer

C) Friedrich Nietzsche

D) Georg Hegel

8. The philosophical and political concept of 'Dialectical Materialism,' which views history as a struggle between opposing forces and emphasizes the role of material conditions, is most famously associated with which two thinkers, with significant influence in Eastern Europe?

A) Plato and Aristotle

B) Socrates and Plato

C) Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels

D) Voltaire and Rousseau