

Chapter 1 : Metaphysics Essays

Other articles where An Essay on Metaphysics is discussed: R.G. Collingwood: on Philosophical Method () and An Essay on Metaphysics (), he proposed the historical nature of civilization's presuppositions and urged that metaphysical study evaluate these presuppositions as historically defined conceptions rather than as eternal verities.

It is in fact so basic that it is all inclusive, whether something is observable or not. It answers questions of what things must be like in order to exist and how to differentiate from things that seem real but are not. A common thought is that reality is defined as what we can detect from our five senses. This type of philosophy is called empiricism, which is the idea that all knowledge comes from our senses. An empiricist must therefore believe that what we can see, touch, taste, smell, and hear must be real and that if we can not in fact see, touch, taste, smell, or hear something, it is definitely not real. However, this is a problem because there are things that are real that cannot be detected by our senses. Feelings and thoughts can not be detected, so according to a true empiricist, they must not be real. Another example that is listed in the textbook is the laws of gravity Stewart This is something that is in fact proven and we can see the effects of it, but we can not see gravity itself. Once again, this would not be considered to be "real. This typically comes into play when discussing religion. Some people consider God to be real although they can not "sense" Him and others say that He is not real, possibly because of the fact that they can not "sense" Him. Love is another example. Other people do not believe in it. Another important aspect of metaphysics is that reality is separate from our minds. We can not affect or change things just by thinking about them. However, some metaphysicians believe that our feelings are more real than what we can sense because our feelings are first-hand and come from our body. They must in fact be real because we are more aware of them. Metaphysics basically describes what people do everyday in their lives. In our everyday life, we are faced with appearances and materialistic things. Metaphysics can even relate to beauty. Beauty is something that we can see, but,

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Free metaphysics papers, essays, and research papers. The Impossibility of Metaphysics - In his work An Inquiry Concerning Human Understanding, Hume outlines the problems inherent to the large body of philosophy he describes as the "accurate and abstract" philosophy, and in particular to metaphysical speculations.

And ultimately what is the nature of reality? It helps us to try and see past the physical things and determine for ourselves whether something actually exists and the ultimate reason for why it exists. Religion is also a part of metaphysics, and asks questions as to whether a god or gods exist and their roles on earth and in the universe. In addition, not whether or not a god exists but if a god could exist. Plato better describes this in his Theory of Forms, which says everyone who is alive knows what a perfectly straight is, yet no one has ever seen one. In this statement he is making the assertion that what we believe to be a perfectly straight line is actually just an expression of the tool we are using. He describes men who have lived chained to a cave wall with a fire behind them that depicts the shadows from objects and projects them on a blank wall in front of the people. His story illustrates the differences between ideas and what we believe to be reality, the shadows being ideas that the men perceive to be reality, without ever being able to see the actual reality right behind them. Plato also argues human perception to be an example of his Theory of Forms. We perceive a certain object no matter what variations it may have, for instance an object may be broken and smashed into pieces, and yet looking at the pieces we can still see the idea of the object that lay broken. Contrary to the beliefs of Plato, Aristotle believes in only one reality, that which is physical where everything is consisted of matter. Such as plants, animals, and men, he calls these things substances. Aristotle defines substances as consisting of forms and matter, form being what the thing is and matter being what it is made of. He then goes on to describe matter not as being a particular kind of thing, but of the underlying qualities of Earth, Air, Fire, and Water. Aristotle would go on to give an explanation for something's form, or to answer the question, Why? His first was the Material Cause, the change or movement of an object which is determined by what material the moving object consisted of. An example of his first cause could be an ice sculpture; the Material Cause of the sculpture would be ice. The Formal Cause is the change or movement of an object caused by the shape or configuration of the thing that is changing. It states that a change or movement's efficient cause separate from the thing being changed, acts as an agent of the change or movement. The Efficient Cause of an ice sculpture is the person who sculpted the ice. The Final Cause of a thing is the reason or purpose behind it. So the Final Cause of an ice sculpture could be the entertainment of people. Plato and Aristotle have differentiating beliefs in the area of Metaphysics; Plato believes that there are two realities to everything in the universe the idea, and the physical thing. While Aristotle believes only in the physical reality, and that the idea or the form of a thing is a part of the item itself. The metaphysical view that I consider to be fact, alongside Plato, is dualism. I believe after researching the topic that there are indeed two realities. To me it makes sense that if you were to have never seen the reality of something how could you know that it was true until an event happened that opened your eyes.

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Metaphysics is a branch of philosophy that appeals to the beginning principles. If you have received a task to complete an essay on this theme you should be confident that you fully understand its specifics and matter.