

Last Initial

First Name

Hour

Church History; Quiz 1
August 2016

Human Knowledge and Faith: A Historical Foundation

Choose or supply the best answer according to the ideas presented in this course.

- 1) Philosopher René Descartes determined at the most basic level (a priori), the one thing that he could know was that "Cogito ergo sum." What does this mean?
 - a. I am a thinking man.
 - b. I am, therefore I think.
 - c. I think, therefore I am.
 - d. I am not, yet I do think.

- 2) Knowing that we exist, other questions will naturally arise within us. What are some of those questions? (List at least 2)

- 3) We know that chairs are created. What did the meditation on a chair in a forest attempt to illustrate?

- a. That finding chairs in the forest would actually be consistent with the laws of nature because the form of chairs is natural.
- b. That while we know chairs to be created, the rest of the forest just happened by chance as demonstrated by the chaotic nature of natural life.
- c. That chairs must come from the forest because chairs are generally made of wood.
- d. That if we know chairs are created because of their complex, purposeful design; we likewise should conclude that the vegetation in the forest is also created, as it shows an even more complex, purposeful design.

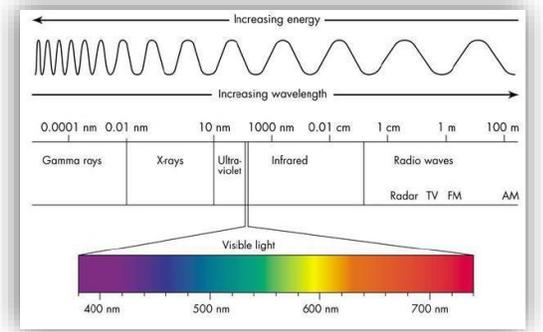


- 4) Identify the Four Causes of Aristotle that can be attributed to a drinking glass. (Key: Material, Formal, Efficient, Final)

- _____ The glass is created by liquefying silica in a furnace and then shaping it by means of molds and compressed air.
- _____ The glass is composed of a fused quartz (silica) generally found in sand.
- _____ The glass is created for the purpose of containing liquids, especially those liquids about to be consumed.
- _____ The glass is in the shape of a tapered cylinder, recognizable by smooth and curved edges making it easy to hold and to drink from.



- 5) What is the relationship of belief and evidence according to scientists (such as Richard Dawkins) and theologians (such as C. S. Lewis)?
- Scientists and theologians both practice the five-step scientific method.
 - Scientists believe because of evidence, theologians believe in spite of evidence.
 - Scientists believe because of evidence, theologians also believe because of evidence.
 - Scientists and theologians neither believe nor disbelieve, they are neutral.
- 6) According to the First Vatican Council, there is a two-fold order of knowledge: that which we know by our natural ability to reason and that which we know by revelation / divine faith. How does the experiment of different wave lengths of light demonstrate this two-fold order?



- 7) Fides et Ratio, Faith and Reason is the corner-stone of the Catholic intellectual tradition. Why did Pope John Paul II say that we needed the “wings” of both Faith and Reason?

- 8) We can know about God by pure human reason (without faith – using only logic). St. Thomas demonstrates God's existence in five arguments. Match the argument to the picture that best illustrates it.

Arguments from 1) Motion; 2) Creative Causes; 3) Possibility and Necessity;
4) Gradations of Goodness; 5) Design

