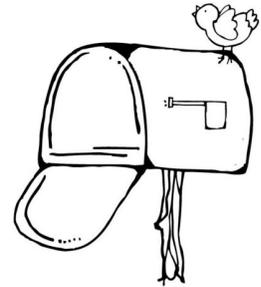


Sophie's World

The Garden of Eden

Pages 3 - 11

1. Describe the biblical Garden of Eden? (You'll need to do some research to find the answer.)
2. List 5 things that you learned in this chapter about:
 - a. Sophie
 - b. Sophie's Dad
 - c. Sophie's Mom
3. Who is Hilde Møller Knag?
4. Who are you?
5. Where did the world come from?
6. Describe Sophie's secret hiding place.
7. What are the three problems that Sophie lists at the end of this chapter?
8. Who do you think put the messages in Sophie's mailbox?



The Top Hat

Pages 12 - 22

1. Why was Sophie so abrupt with her friend, Joanna?
2. How did the third message differ from the earlier two?
3. What is the origin of philosophy?
4. What is required to be a good philosopher and what questions do they ask?
5. Why do humans, as they grow older, lose the sense of wonder they had as children?
6. Why do the baby and mother react so differently to the father's flying in the story?
7. Do you still wonder? Why or why not?
8. Explain the magician's rabbit out of the hat metaphor.
9. How did Sophie's mom react to Sophie's discussion about philosophy?



The Myths

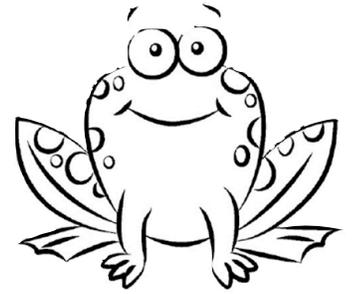
Pages 23 - 29

1. What was the importance of Thor to early Norse people?
2. How did humans help the gods stave off chaos in ancient worldviews?
3. How does Thor get his hammer back in story found in "The Lay of Thrym?"
4. Why were early Greek philosopher's critical of Homer's mythology?
5. Name one of the early Greek philosopher's who was critical of Homer's mythology.
6. What's the difference between a *natural* and a *supernatural* explanation for events?
7. Create a myth to explain the phenomena of always have several socks in your sock drawer that have no match.



Sophie's World

The Natural Philosophers

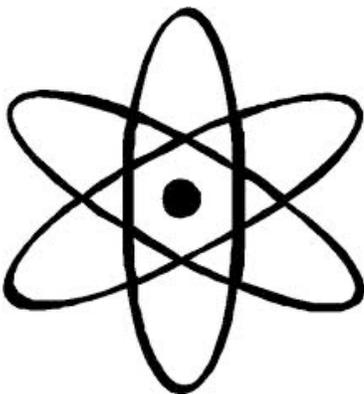


Pages 30 - 42

1. Why does Sophie let her mother believe that the letter is a love letter?
2. What is a *philosopher's project*?
3. Why does the writer of the letter assert that "no one philosopher concerns himself with the whole of philosophy" (page 32)?
4. What has the role of women been in philosophy until recent times? Why?
5. What is natural philosophy?
6. List the three philosophers from Miletus. Tell what each believed was the essential substance and discuss what led the philosopher to arrive at his conclusion.
7. How did the Eleatics differ from the philosophers from Miletus?
8. Describe the ideas and beliefs of Parmenides.
9. What is a rationalist?
10. What did Heraclitus believe was the nature of the universe?
11. Describe Heraclitus' concept of *logos*?
12. How does idea of the "interplay of opposites" relate to computer technology? Eastern thought?
13. How did Parmenides' and Heraclitus' ideas differ?
14. What does it mean when one says *we cannot step into the same river twice*?
15. How did Empedocles reconcile Parmenides' and Heraclitus' differences?
16. What did Empedocles say were the four elements or roots?
17. Describe Anaxagoras' concept of seeds.
18. What was Anaxagoras' concept of *nous*?
19. What are some of Anaxagoras' ideas related to astronomy?
20. Are you beginning to think philosophically?
21. List two ideas or concepts discussed in the book thus far that confuse you or that you have questions about. List your questions if you have them.

Democritus

Pages 43 - 48



1. How does Sophie intend to discover who is leaving the messages?
2. Why is *Lego* the most ingenious toy in the world?
3. What does *atom* mean in Greek?
4. Do you believe there is a "minimal part" of which nature consists"?
5. What is a materialist?
6. How did Democritus describe sight?
7. What did Democritus believe about the soul?
8. What do you think about the natural philosophers?
9. What are some ideas that the natural philosophers got right?
10. What are some ways in which the natural philosophers were off base?
11. Do humans have souls? Why or why not?

Sophie's World

Fate

Pages 49 - 57

1. Do **you** believe in fate?
2. What forces govern the course of history?
3. Who were the best known Greek historians?
4. Describe how the Oracle at Delphi worked.
5. What was written on the entrance to the temple at Delphi?
6. Why was this phrase important to the Greeks?
7. Is sickness a punishment for some bad deed or deeds?
8. How did Hippocrates believe one could ward off sickness?
9. How is Hippocrates still relevant to the practice of medicine today?
10. What's the deal with the red scarf?



Socrates

Pages 58 - 72

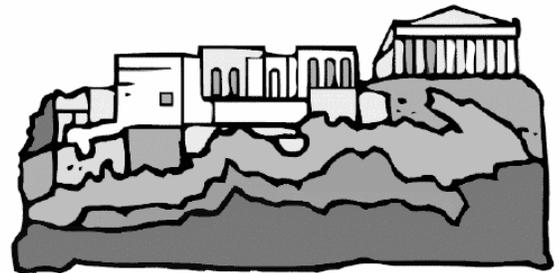


1. How did Socrates represent a new era in philosophy?
2. Describe the *Socratic Method* of teaching. Do any of your teachers use this method? Is this method effective?
3. What must be in place in order for democracy to work?
4. Compare Jesus and Socrates. (How were they similar?)
5. What one thing did Socrates know?
6. Do you agree with Socrates that if people know what is right, they will do what is right? Why or why not?

Athens

Pages 73 - 78

1. List five terms in this chapter that are of Greek origin.
2. How can a baker bake fifty absolutely identical cookies?
3. Why do all horses look the same?
4. Do humans have an immortal soul?
5. Are men and women equally sensible?



Sophie's World

Plato

Pages 79- 93



1. Why do you think Alberto's dog is named Hermes?
2. How did Plato differ from Socrates?
3. Is right and wrong something absolute or does it change with location, culture, and time period? Explain your answer.
4. With what problems was Plato concerned?
5. What are all natural phenomena according to Plato?
6. Explain Plato's *Theory of Ideas*.
7. According to Plato what can we have *true knowledge* of?
8. Plato said that reality is divided into what two regions? Explain each.
9. Explain Plato's *Allegory (Myth) of the Cave*.
10. Describe the ideal state according to Plato.
11. Describe Plato's view of women.

The Major's Cabin

Pages 94 - 103

1. What happened when Sophie looked in the mirror?
2. Which came first - the chicken or the *idea* chicken?
3. Are we born with innate *ideas*?
4. What is the difference between plant, animal, and human?
5. Why does it rain?
6. What does it take to live a good life?



Aristotle

Pages 104 - 119



1. How did Aristotle differ from Plato (particularly on forms/ideas)?
2. Describe Aristotle's concept of *final cause*.
3. Describe Aristotle's concept of *first mover*.
4. What did Aristotle say were the three forms of happiness?
5. What is on **your** list of three forms of happiness?
6. What is the *Golden Mean*?
7. What are three acceptable forms of government according to Aristotle?
8. What did he say are some unacceptable forms of government?
9. Describe Aristotle's view of women.

Sophie's World

Hellenism

Pages 120 - 137

1. What do Sophie and Hilde have in common?
2. Make your own list of things that we can know.
3. Make your own list of things that we can only believe.
4. Do you think conscience is the same for everyone? Why or why not?
5. Define Hellenism.
6. Interpret the statement: *Rome conquered Greece but Greece captured Rome.*
7. Compare and contrast the views of the Cynics, the Stoics, and the Epicureans.
8. Which of these views do you favor most? Why?
9. Describe Plotonius' Neoplatonism.
10. How did Neoplatonism influence Christianity?
11. Contrast Eastern and Western mysticism.



The Postcards

Pages 138 - 146

1. Why is Hilde's dad in Lebanon?
2. Why was the U.N. in Lebanon in 1990s?
3. Why were the postcards from Hilde's dad in the old cabin?

Two Cultures

Pages 147 - 161

1. Who were the Indo-Europeans?
2. List 5 European languages that are not Indo-European.
3. What common trait did all Indo-European religions have?
4. What are some linguistic connections between the names of Sanskrit, Greek, and Norse gods?
5. What was the Indo-European view of history?
6. What was the Semitic view of history?
7. List 4 differences between Indo-European and Semitic religions/cultures.
8. What does *messiah* mean?
9. What does *christ* mean?
10. What does it mean to "love your enemies"?
11. How did Paul show the Greek and Roman world a new approach to religion?
12. What did the first creed of the Christian faith state about Jesus?
13. What is meant by the quote from Goethe (Gir-tah), "he who cannot draw on three thousand years is living hand to mouth"?



Sophie's World

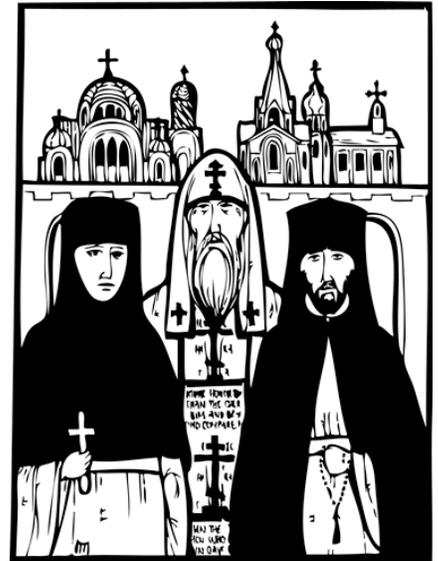
The Middle Ages

Pages 162 - 184

Gloria Patri, et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto. Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

(Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.)

- A hymn from early Christianity.



1. What significant events occurred in 529 AD? Why were these events important?
2. How did the Greco-Roman culture divide yet survive? Into what three streams did it divide?
3. Is there a contradiction between scripture and human reason? Are belief and knowledge compatible?
4. What is Manichaeism?
5. What do you believe is the source of evil?
6. How did St. Augustine define evil?
7. What did St. Augustine mean by the statement, "Our heart is not quiet until it rests in Thee"?
8. What is the basic premise of St. Augustine's *City of God*?
9. What did Thomas Aquinas mean by *natural theological truths*?
10. Explain Alberto's John Steinbeck illustration.
11. What two systems of thought did St. Thomas Aquinas synthesize? How?
12. What was the common view of women's role in reproduction before the discovery of mammalian eggs in 1827? How did this effect the position of women in society?
13. What was the Greek term for the feminine nature of the Divine in ancient Judaism and Christianity?
14. Who was Hildegard of Bingen (Hildegard von Bingen) and how was she a maverick?



Sophie's World

The Renaissance

Pages 185 - 212

1. Define *bagatelle*.
2. Discuss two ways Sophie and Hilde are like the Renaissance.
3. What important religious movement occurred simultaneous to the Renaissance?
4. What is meant by "Horses are born but human beings are not born -- they are formed"?
5. What does it mean to be human? Must one be educated to be fully human?
6. According to Alberto, what 3 discoveries/inventions were necessary for the Renaissance to occur?
7. Describe the *new view of mankind* that the Renaissance introduced.
8. What is *pantheism*?
9. Why was Giordano Bruno burned at the stake in 1600? Why is the location somewhat ironic?
10. What is meant by *empirical*? What is the *empirical method*?
11. Galileo stated that the *book of nature* was written in what language?
12. Who said, "knowledge is power" and what is that statement's significance to history?
13. Do you believe humankind can/will overcome the negative consequences of technology?
14. Contrast the geocentric and heliocentric world view.
15. What does Galileo's *Law of Inertia* state?
16. According to Alberto, what is positively the most important scientific discovery and why?
17. Newton explained and combined the theories and discoveries of what three earlier scientists?
18. How did the new astronomical discoveries of the Renaissance spur on the Protestant Reformation?
19. How was Martin Luther's teachings similar in spirit with those of the Renaissance philosophers?
20. How was Luther's view of humankind different from that of Humanist scholars of the time?
21. Why did Alberto refer to Sophie as Hilde?

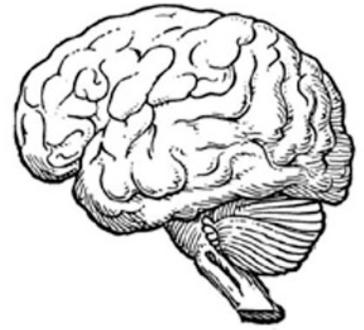


Sophie's World

The Baroque

Pages 213 - 229

1. What is Midsummer's Eve and how is it generally celebrated in Norway?
2. What is the basic premise in Ludvig Holbert's play, *Jeppe on the Mount*?
3. Contrast idealism and materialism.
4. Describe the *mechanistic world view*.
5. What is determinism?
6. According to Leibniz what the difference between the soul and material things?



Descartes

Pages 230 - 243

1. What do rationalists believe?
2. What is a philosophical system?
3. With what two issues was Descartes preoccupied?
4. What is philosophic skepticism?
5. What is a soul?
6. What was the title of Descartes' major work?
7. In order to get at certainty, why did Descartes begin by doubting everything?
8. How do you know that your life is not just a dream?
9. Translate *Cogito, ergo sum*. What does this statement mean?
10. What was Descartes argument for the existence of God?
11. Contrast quantitative properties with qualitative properties. Give examples of each.
12. What does it mean when Alberto states that Descartes was a *dualist*?
13. What's the connection between Alberto Knox and Albert Knag?



Spinoza

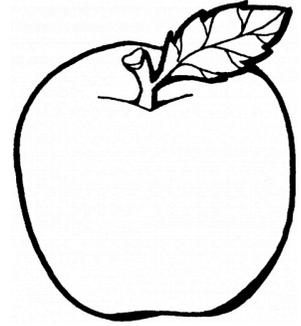
Pages 244 - 252

1. Give a brief biography of Baruch Spinoza.
2. How might Spinoza's occupation as a lens "crafter" be symbolic?
3. Can you perceive all of nature at one time?
4. Describe Spinoza's concept of God.
5. Contrast the philosophical and popular definitions of *ethics*.
6. How are Spinoza's ideas similar to Buddhist beliefs?
7. What is *monism*?
8. According to Spinoza, what is the *inner cause* of all that happens?
9. Is Spinoza a determinist?
10. What does Spinoza mean when he says we should see everything *sub specie aeternitatis*?



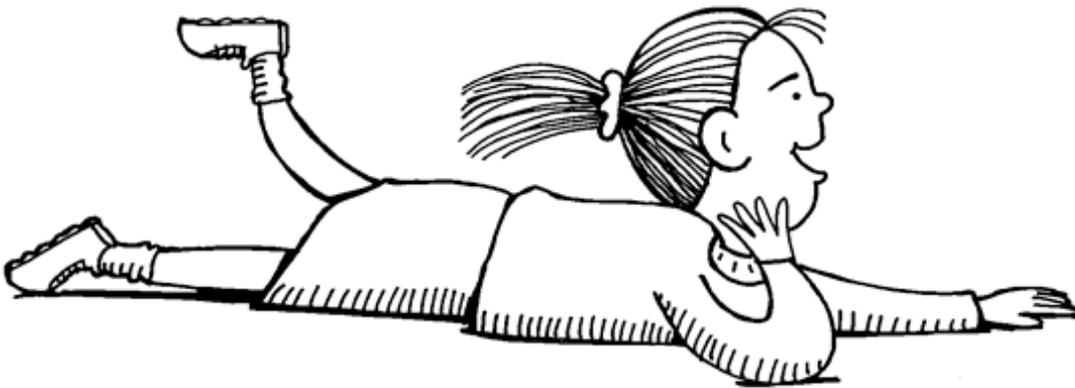
Sophie's World

Locke



Pages 253 - 262

1. Define *rationalism*.
2. Define *empiricism*.
3. List three rationalist philosophers and three empiricist philosophers.
4. What geographic distinction do these two groups have?
5. What two questions does Locke consider in the *Essay Concerning Human Understanding*?
6. Define *tabula rasa*.
7. Are we born *tabula rasa*?
8. Is the world the way we perceive it?
9. What did Locke mean by *secondary qualities*?
10. What are *natural rights*?
11. How does Locke's idea of *natural right* seem to contradict his empiricist views?
12. What was Locke's view on that status of women?



Hume

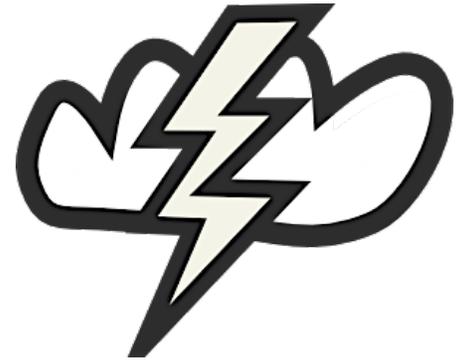
Pages 263 - 277

1. Explain Hume's view of simple and complex ideas.
2. Explain Hume's two types of perceptions.
3. What did Hume believe about God?
4. Which Asian philosopher predated many of Hume's beliefs?
5. Explain Hume's beliefs about the soul.
6. Define *agnostic*.
7. What did Hume believe about miracles and the supernatural?
8. Do miracles happen?
9. Give some examples of how our assumptions about *cause* can be very wrong?
10. Give an example of a normative sentence.
11. What did Hume believe about the relationship between ethics and reason?



Sophie's World

Berkeley



Pages 278 - 282

1. Explain how Berkeley was an empiricist.
2. Explain Berkeley's ideas of how and where we exist.
3. How does Hilde's father relate to Berkeley's view of reality?

Happy Birthday!
Hilde



Bjerkely

Pages 283 - 298

1. Why is Hilde's house named Bjerkely?
2. Should philosophy be part of the regular high school curriculum?
3. Why do you think it is not a part of the standard American high school curriculum?
4. In what way is this chapter a turning point in the book?
5. Cite two ways in which Hilde's life is reflected in Sophie's. (or is it the other way around?)
6. Why is Hilde disturbed when she can't find any information on Hildgard of Bingen?
7. What is significant about the changes in font in this chapter?



Sophie's World

The Enlightenment



Pages 299 - 317

1. Describe Sophie's feeling of existential angst.
2. Describe Alberto's attitude regarding Major Knag.
3. Describe the shift in the geographic center of The Enlightenment in the Eighteenth Century.
4. How was *opposition to authority* a major theme of The Enlightenment?
5. This opposition was predominately directed at what three institutions?
6. How was *rationalism* a major theme of The Enlightenment?
7. In what did most Enlightenment thinkers have faith?
8. How did Enlightenment thinkers intend to bring The Enlightenment to the masses?
9. Define *pedagogy*.
10. How was *cultural optimism* a major theme of The Enlightenment?
11. How was a *return to nature* a major theme of The Enlightenment?
12. How did Enlightenment thinkers define *natural religion*?
13. Define *deism*.
14. How was *human rights* a major theme of The Enlightenment?
15. Describe The Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen? What did it say about women?
16. To what historical event does the phrase, *Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity* refer?
17. Who was Olympe de Gouges? How did she die?
18. What's up with the sea serpent?



Kant

Pages 318 - 337

1. According to Alberto, what are the two types of philosophers?
2. What were Kant's ideas concerning time and space?
3. Explain Alberto's ball rolling on the floor illustration.
4. According to Kant to what do we turn when reason and experience fall short?
5. What did Kant mean by *das Ding an sich*?
6. What was Kant's *catagorical imperitive*?
7. What did Kant mean by *duty ethics*?



Sophie's World

Romanticism

Pages 339 - 355

1. What are the general dates of the Romantic Movement and what are some general characteristics of the movement?
2. The Romantic Movement was similar to what 20th Century Movement?
3. What do Novalis' fiance and Sophie have in common?
4. How did the Romantic view of the ego differ from that of Descartes and Hume?
5. Who was the leading Romantic philosopher?
6. What was meant by *world spirit*?
7. Does where you live tell me who you are?
8. How did the Romantic Movement's concept of national character lead to atrocities in World War II?
9. How was the concept of *organism* important to the Romantics?
10. Contrast folk music and art music. folk tales and art tales.
11. How is Ibsen's *Peer Gynt* similar to *Sophie's World*?
12. Give a brief synopsis of the plot to Ibsen's *Peer Gynt*.
13. Which of the following is the most real? Sophie, Alberto, Hilde, or Albert Knag?



Hegel

Pages 356 - 367



1. Contrast Hegel and Schelling's definition of *world spirit*.
2. List two ideas that were true in the past but are not true today?
3. Describe and explain Hegel's dialectic process.
4. What is meant by *dynamic logic*?
5. List and explain the Hegel's three stages of *world spirit* consciousness.
6. Who is God to Sophie and Alberto?
7. Who is God to Albert Knag?

Kierkegaard

Pages 368 - 380

1. What was Kierkegaard's critique of Hegel and the Romantics?
2. Contrast the results of drinking from the red and blue bottles.
3. Explain Kierkegaard's concept of *Either/Or*.
4. What ideas did Kierkegaard and the Buddha share?
5. Does $8 + 4 = 12$ matter?
6. What is faith?
7. Explain *credo quia absurdum*.
8. List and explain each of Kierkegaard's stages of life.
9. Define *angst*.
10. What is an existential situation? Have you experienced one?



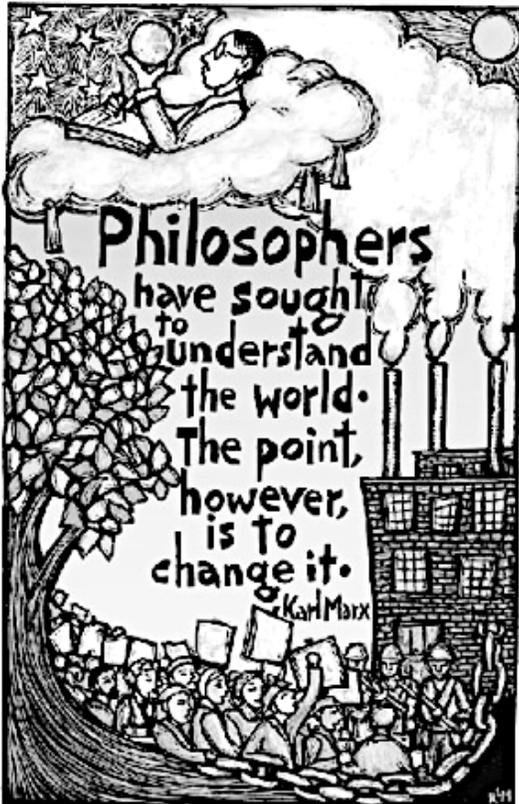
Sophie's World

Marx



Pages 381 - 399

1. What did both Marx and Kierkegaard emphasize?
2. How did Marx's words about the purpose of philosophy change history?
3. What did Marx believe affected history?
4. Explain Marx's *bases of society*.
5. Explain Marx's concept of *society's superstructure*.
6. What is *dialectical materialism*?
7. What were the three bases for society according to Marx? Explain each.
8. According to Marx, how does *mode of production* influence society?
9. Why did Marx believe that revolution was necessary?
10. What did Marx mean when he stated that workers have become *alienated*?
11. What did Marx mean by *exploitation*?
12. Define *proletariat*.
13. What was/is the difference between Social Democrats and Leninists?
14. In what areas do you believe that Marx was correct? In what areas do you believe he was wrong?
15. What are 5 characteristics of a *just society*? (in your opinion)



"When I give food to the poor, they call me a saint.

When I ask why the poor have no food, they call me a communist."

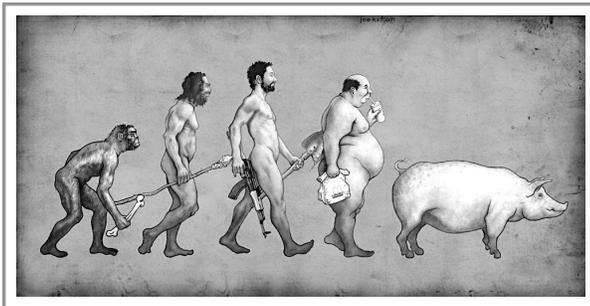
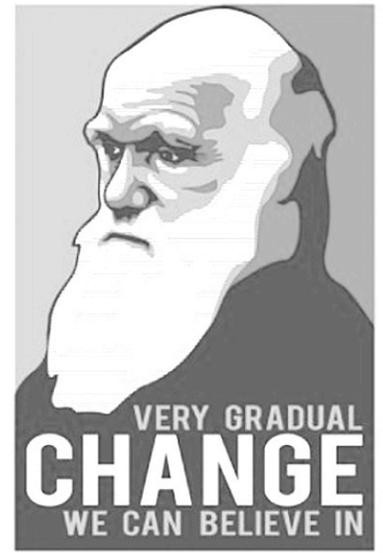
Dom Helder Camara

Sophie's World

Darwin

Pages 399 - 422

1. What did Marx, Darwin, and Freud have in common?
2. In what ways did Thomas Malthus' beliefs influence Darwin?
3. What were Darwin's two theses in *The Origin of Species*?
4. What were some of Darwin's observations on the Galapagos Islands?
5. Explain *natural selection*.
6. What was Darwin's thesis in *The Descent of Man*?
7. What idea did Neo-Darwinism incorporate?
8. Give an example of how human interference in nature has had unintended consequences.
9. *What matters our creative endless toil; When, at a snatch, oblivion ends the coil?*
10. What are the religious/moral implications of the belief that humans are merely the result of random chance and natural selection over time?



Freud

Pages 423 - 440

1. What are *human drives*?
2. What is *psychoanalysis* or *archeology of the soul*?
3. What is Freud's concept of the *id*?
4. What is Freud's concept of the *ego*?
5. What is Freud's concept of the *superego*?
6. Explain *parapraxes*.
7. What does it mean to *rationalize*? to *project*?
8. What was the purpose of Freud's *free association*?
9. How did Freud's theory of the unconscious affect art and literature?



Sophie's World

Our Own Time

Pages 441 - 464

1. What are the central tenets of existentialism?
2. What was Nietzsche's view of Christianity?
3. List three French existentialist writers.
4. Explain Sartre's statement, "Man must therefore create himself. He must create his own nature or 'essence' because it is not fixed in advance."
5. Explain Sartre's statement, "Man is condemned to be free."
6. What does it mean to live *authentically*?
7. Why does Sartre say one can't blame shortcomings on the *Old Adam*?
8. Define nihilism.
9. What influence did Simone de Beauvoir have on modern feminism?
10. What was Simone de Beauvoir's thesis in *The Second Sex*?
11. What is *absurdism*?
12. Give some examples of *Theater of the Absurd*? What was its purpose?
13. Other than existentialism, list four other philosophical streams in the Twentieth Century.
14. What is a *paradigm shift*?
15. What is the view of Albert Knag and Alberto on New Age Mysticism?
16. Cite one example from anywhere in the book of society influencing philosophy.
17. Cite one example from anywhere in the book of philosophy influencing society.



The Garden Party

Pages 465 - 478

1. What book does Alberto get for Sophie in the bookstore?
2. What's the point of this chapter?
3. What happens when society has no structure?
4. How did World Wars I & II affect western society?
5. How do Alberto and Sophie make sense of the chaos around them?

Counterpoint

Pages 479 - 497

1. Define *counterpoint*.
2. How does *counterpoint* relate to the events in this chapter?
3. What is the meaning of the story about a man who didn't believe in angels?
4. How does Hilde turn the tables on her father, doing to him what he did to Sophie and Alberto?



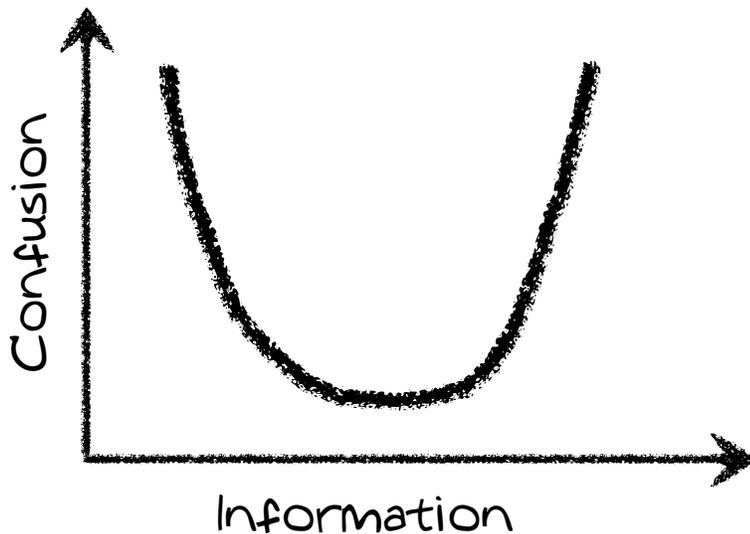
Sophie's World

The Big Bang



Pages 498 - 507

1. How have the roles of Sophie and Alberto been switched with Hilde and Albert?
2. Do the concluding lines solve or deepen the mysteries that this novel illuminates?
3. Does it matter if our lives are predetermined?
4. Explain with whom Christians and Hindus might side in the expanding vs. shrinking universe debate.



Final Assignments

A. Who are you?

Create a poster illustrating who you are philosophically based on your reading of Sophie's World. I'm looking for depth of thought. Skittles are my favorite candy does not show depth of thought.

B. Ad Campaign.

You will draw the names of two philosophers. You will create an ad supporting the ideas of one and you will create another ad attacking the ideas of the other. Your ad may be in print for a newspaper or magazine or in video form. Your print ad must be at least 8.5 x 11 inches. You will be graded on content and creativity.