

Philosophy Trivia: Questions, Answers, and Facts Printable Trivia Pack

Philosophy trivia invites readers into the history of big ideas, from ancient Greek inquiry to modern debates about knowledge, ethics, and reality. This topic spans famous philosophers, influential schools of thought, and enduring questions that continue to shape culture, politics, and everyday reasoning.

HARD PHILOSOPHY TRIVIA

1. During World War I, which philosopher was imprisoned in Britain for antiwar activism?

Answer: Bertrand Russell

2. In Buddhist philosophy, what concept is often used as a central idea: emptiness, cynicism, deconstruction, or utopia?

Answer: Emptiness

3. Athens had many schools, but which philosopher founded the one known as the Garden?

Answer: Epicurus

4. Who wrote The Consolation of Philosophy?

Answer: Boethius

5. Which philosopher in this set was born in Córdoba in al-Andalus?

Answer: Averroes

6. Name the philosopher whose nationality here is simply given as French.?

Answer: Blaise Pascal

7. Which philosopher was born in Amsterdam?

Answer: Baruch Spinoza

8. Which philosopher is identified here as Irish?

Answer: George Berkeley

9. At which institution did G. W. F. Hegel teach?

Answer: The University of Berlin

10. Who wrote The World as Will and Representation?

Answer: Arthur Schopenhauer

11. Which philosopher in this list is from Copenhagen?

Answer: Søren Kierkegaard

12. Which philosopher taught at Harvard University?

Answer: William James

13. Which of these philosophers is identified as American?

Answer: Charles Sanders Peirce

14. Who wrote Anarchy, State, and Utopia?

Answer: Robert Nozick

FUNNY PHILOSOPHY TRIVIA

1. Which philosopher is most closely associated with the ontological argument for God's existence—the proof that tried to win by pure thinking power alone?

Answer: Anselm

2. Before philosophy became a full-time headache, Baruch Spinoza earned money by doing what practical job?

Answer: Grinding lenses

3. In 1889, Friedrich Nietzsche suffered a mental collapse in which city?

Answer: Turin

4. If you were mailing Gottlob Frege a very serious logic question for much of his career, which city would likely be on the envelope?

Answer: Jena

5. Ludwig Wittgenstein once took a break from ultra-dense philosophy to work as what in Austria?

Answer: A village schoolteacher

6. Which Stoic teacher began life enslaved before becoming a philosopher—talk about a difficult origin story?

Answer: Epictetus

7. Which philosopher is the English one in this lineup: William of Ockham, Baruch Spinoza, Laozi, or Nagarjuna?

Answer: William of Ockham

8. Who taught at the University of Jena, helping make logic sound extra official?

Answer: Gottlob Frege

9. Tradition links which figure to the Tao Te Ching, a book famous for saying a lot while sounding like it's saying very little on purpose?

Answer: Laozi

10. Boethius wrote which famous work while awaiting execution—an impressively stressful writing retreat?

Answer: The Consolation of Philosophy

11. George Berkeley held office in which church, proving idealism still came with administrative duties?

Answer: The Church of Ireland

12. Arthur Schopenhauer gave his major work which grand title, because apparently short

titles were beneath the will?

Answer: The World as Will and Representation

13. Which philosopher is a major figure in Madhyamaka Buddhism?

Answer: Nāgārjuna

FUN PHILOSOPHY TRIVIA

1. Before becoming a philosopher with a giant reputation, whose student was Martin Heidegger?

Answer: Edmund Husserl

2. Which award did Jean-Paul Sartre famously say "no thanks" to in 1964?

Answer: The Nobel Prize in Literature

3. Simone de Beauvoir's lifelong intellectual partnership was with which philosopher?

Answer: Jean-Paul Sartre

4. Hannah Arendt had both a personal and intellectual relationship with which philosopher?

Answer: Martin Heidegger

5. For many years, Karl Jaspers taught at which university?

Answer: Heidelberg University

6. Bertrand Russell didn't build Principia Mathematica alone. Who coauthored it with him?

Answer: Alfred North Whitehead

7. Who wrote On Liberty?

Answer: John Stuart Mill

8. Which philosopher co-wrote The Communist Manifesto with Friedrich Engels?

Answer: Karl Marx

9. Who is the author of Beyond Good and Evil?

Answer: Friedrich Nietzsche

10. Whose title sounds like a spellbook but is actually a philosophy classic: Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus?

Answer: Ludwig Wittgenstein

11. True or false: Bertrand Russell was one of the co-authors of Principia Mathematica.?

Answer: True

12. Which philosopher wrote The Second Sex?

Answer: Simone de Beauvoir

13. Who founded the Academy in Athens, basically launching one of history's most famous schools?

Answer: Plato

PHILOSOPHY FAMILY TRIVIA

1. Which famous conqueror was taught by Aristotle?

Answer: Alexander the Great

2. In what city was Aristotle born?

Answer: Stagira

3. What is the title of Aristotle's famous work on ethics?

Answer: Nicomachean Ethics

4. Plato started a school in Athens with what name?

Answer: Academy

5. According to history, Socrates was sentenced to death by drinking what?

Answer: hemlock

6. Diogenes of Sinope is most closely linked with which philosophical movement?

Answer: Cynicism

7. Epicurus gave his school in Athens a very outdoorsy name. What was it called?

Answer: the Garden

8. Augustine served as bishop of which North African city?

Answer: Hippo Regius

9. Avicenna was a philosopher, but he also worked in what profession?

Answer: physician

10. Thomas Aquinas belonged to which religious order?

Answer: Dominican Order

11. Which major work was written by Thomas Aquinas?

Answer: Summa Theologiae

12. What nickname is given to the principle associated with William of Ockham?

Answer: Ockham's razor

EASY PHILOSOPHY TRIVIA

1. Who wrote Meditations?

Answer: Marcus Aurelius wrote Meditations.

2. Beyond Good and Evil was written by which philosopher?

Answer: Friedrich Nietzsche wrote Beyond Good and Evil.

3. Edmund Husserl is closely linked with what philosophical movement?

Answer: Edmund Husserl is closely associated with phenomenology.

4. At which university did Martin Heidegger teach?

Answer: Martin Heidegger taught at the University of Freiburg.

5. Which major work was written by Jean-Paul Sartre?

Answer: Jean-Paul Sartre wrote Being and Nothingness.

6. Ludwig Wittgenstein wrote which famously long-titled book?

Answer: Ludwig Wittgenstein wrote Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus.

7. Who wrote A Theory of Justice?

Answer: John Rawls wrote A Theory of Justice.

8. Deontological ethics puts the spotlight on what: duties or outcomes?

Answer: Deontological ethics emphasizes duties rather than outcomes.

9. Utilitarianism is closely associated with Jeremy Bentham and which other thinker?

Answer: Utilitarianism is closely associated with Jeremy Bentham and John Stuart Mill.

10. Aristotle was born in which place?

Answer: Aristotle was born in Stagira.

11. The emperor-philosopher behind Meditations was who?

Answer: The emperor-philosopher who wrote Meditations was Marcus Aurelius.

12. Which Christian thinker served as bishop of Hippo Regius in North Africa?

Answer: Augustine served as bishop of Hippo Regius in North Africa.

13. Confessions was written by whom?

Answer: Confessions was written by Augustine of Hippo.

Source: <https://triviagong.com/themes/philosophy>