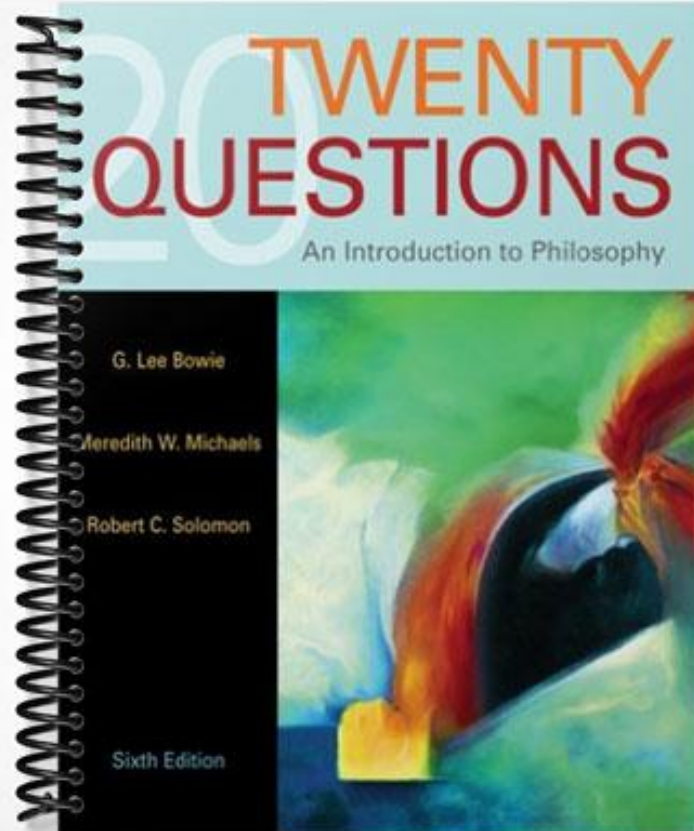


TEST BANK



Chapter 2--How Do I Know Whether God Exists?

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61. Kant does not believe that God is necessary to insure moral order.
True False
62. Kierkegaard accepted the Teleological Proof of the existence of God.
True False

63. Kierkegaard said that if God did not exist, it would be impossible to prove it.
True False
64. Kierkegaard's main thesis is that there are no limits to Reason.
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65. James says that we have strong evidence for the existence of a God.
True False
66. James believes that the fundamental emotion behind religious skepticism is hope.
True False
67. James does not think that rationality requires us to seek strong evidence for all our beliefs.
True False
68. James is arguing that all rational people should adopt religious beliefs.
True False
69. James argues that most of scientific research prefers to avoid falsehood rather than risk error.
True False
70. According to the Hymn access to the knowledge of creation is available to everyone.
True False
71. According to the hymn, the universe is the result of the desire of the One.
True False
72. Bishop is attempting to argue for an alternative to the omniGod concept.
True False
73. Bishop is opposed to all forms of theism.
True False
74. Bishop is an ardent fideist.
True False
75. For Bishop, religious belief is fundamentally irrational and pointless.
True False
76. Bishop believes that more than one God-concept may functionally fulfill the "God-role."
True False

77. What hierarchy does Augustine present regarding existence, life, and understanding?

78. Where do animals fall in this scale? Humans? Plants?

79. What, according to Augustine, is the nature of God?

80. What, according to Anselm, is God? How does this compare with Augustine's conception of the divine?

81. Why does Anselm find the non-believer to be irrational?

82. Can God be conceived not to exist? Why/why not?

83. Does Anselm present a deductive or an inductive argument for the existence of God?

84. Why does Aquinas say that it is impossible for a thing to be the efficient cause of itself?

85. Aquinas says that, if in efficient causes it is possible to go on to infinity, there will be no first efficient cause, neither will there be an ultimate effect, nor any intermediate efficient causes; all of which is plainly false. What conclusion does he draw from this?
86. Aquinas says that "we see that things which lack intelligence, such as natural bodies, act for some purpose, which fact is evident from their acting always, or nearly always, in the same way, so as to obtain the best result." Give an example of a natural body acting for some purpose.
87. Explain how Paley replies to the objection that there are parts of the watch whose purpose we could not understand or which even seem to have no function in making the watch work.
88. Set out a direct teleological argument for the existence of God (making no mention of watches).

89. Give the best objection you can to the argument you gave in the previous question
90. Explain why Paley thinks that a watch is significantly different from a stone, and that there is good reason to think that the watch was designed and made while the stone is just a natural object.
91. Hume writes, "All that belongs to human understanding, in this deep ignorance and obscurity, is to be skeptical, or at least cautious; and not to admit of any hypothesis, whatever; much less, of any which is supported by no appearance of probability." Explain what this means.
92. List the four circumstances from which arise the misery and ill of the universe, according to Hume.

93. Explain Hume's general attitude towards beliefs in supernatural beings.
94. What is the "practical problem" Kant refers to at the beginning of his essay?
95. Do you think that Kant's argument for the moral necessity of God's existence is any good? Why or why not?
96. What is it about Kant's ethics that makes his argument for the existence of God so complicated?

97. Kierkegaard writes, "Whoever therefore attempts to demonstrate the existence of God (except in the sense of clarifying the concept), proves in lieu thereof something else, something which at times perhaps does not need proof, and in any case need none better; for the fool says in his heart that there is no God, but whoever says in his heart or to men: Wait just a little and I will prove it--what a rare man of wisdom is he!" Explain this quotation.
98. Why does James think that the truth of religion is a question that the intellect cannot by itself resolve?
99. What attitude does *scepticism* take towards belief in religion?
100. Explain what James means when he writes, "a rule of thinking which would absolutely prevent me from acknowledging certain kinds of truth if those kinds of truth were really there, would be an irrational rule."

101. What is the difference between a living and dead hypothesis? Why is deadness or liveness a relation to individual thinker rather than an intrinsic property of the hypothesis?

102. What is the difference between a forced and an avoidable choice?

103. What does James consider to be the two essential parts of any religion?

104. How does James think that religion transforms our experience of the universe?

105. What costs does James suggest come with taking a skeptical attitude toward religion?

106. Natalie Angier suggests a new term for her perspective on spirituality: "transcendent atheism." Discuss what is meant by this term.

107. Why would Joseph Lieberman claim that morality must be maintained by religion? What does this mean? Can an atheist be moral?

108. What about President Bush's acceptance speech caused Angier to bristle?

109. What does it mean to be an atheist? Discuss.

110. Discuss the claim that freedom of religion also involves freedom *from* religion. What is freedom *from* religion?

111. Does Angier, despite her atheism, still "thirst after meaning and desire and expansion of purpose"? Explain.

112. What do you think the main point of the hymn is? How is it similar to the Judeo-Christian account of creation? How is it different?

113. Who is the "One" to which the hymn refers? What role does the "One" play in creation?

114. What does Bishop mean by the "psychological economy of theism?" What role does this concept play in his argument?

115. Do you agree with Bishop that the concept of God need not be cashed out in an "omni-" sense? Why or why not?

116. What does Bishop mean by the God-concept playing a functionalist role? How does this play into his idea of religious adequacy?

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64. Kierkegaard's main thesis is that there are no limits to Reason.
FALSE
65. James says that we have strong evidence for the existence of a God.
FALSE
66. James believes that the fundamental emotion behind religious skepticism is hope.
FALSE
67. James does not think that rationality requires us to seek strong evidence for all our beliefs.
TRUE
68. James is arguing that all rational people should adopt religious beliefs.
FALSE
69. James argues that most of scientific research prefers to avoid falsehood rather than risk error.
TRUE
70. According to the Hymn access to the knowledge of creation is available to everyone.
FALSE
71. According to the hymn, the universe is the result of the desire of the One.
TRUE
72. Bishop is attempting to argue for an alternative to the omniGod concept.
TRUE
73. Bishop is opposed to all forms of theism.
FALSE
74. Bishop is an ardent fideist.
FALSE

75. For Bishop, religious belief is fundamentally irrational and pointless.

FALSE

76. Bishop believes that more than one God-concept may functionally fulfill the "God-role."

TRUE

77. What hierarchy does Augustine present regarding existence, life, and understanding?

Answer not provided.

78. Where do animals fall in this scale? Humans? Plants?

Answer not provided.

79. What, according to Augustine, is the nature of God?

Answer not provided.

80. What, according to Anselm, is God? How does this compare with Augustine's conception of the divine?

Answer not provided.

81. Why does Anselm find the non-believer to be irrational?

Answer not provided.

82. Can God be conceived not to exist? Why/why not?

Answer not provided.

83. Does Anselm present a deductive or an inductive argument for the existence of God?

Answer not provided.

84. Why does Aquinas say that it is impossible for a thing to be the efficient cause of itself?

Answer not provided.

85. Aquinas says that, if in efficient causes it is possible to go on to infinity, there will be no first efficient cause, neither will there be an ultimate effect, nor any intermediate efficient causes; all of which is plainly false. What conclusion does he draw from this?

Answer not provided.

86. Aquinas says that "we see that things which lack intelligence, such as natural bodies, act for some purpose, which fact is evident from their acting always, or nearly always, in the same way, so as to obtain the best result." Give an example of a natural body acting for some purpose.

Answer not provided.

87. Explain how Paley replies to the objection that there are parts of the watch whose purpose we could not understand or which even seem to have no function in making the watch work.

Answer not provided.

88. Set out a direct teleological argument for the existence of God (making no mention of watches).

Answer not provided.

89. Give the best objection you can to the argument you gave in the previous question

Answer not provided.

90. Explain why Paley thinks that a watch is significantly different from a stone, and that there is good reason to think that the watch was designed and made while the stone is just a natural object.

Answer not provided.

91. Hume writes, "All that belongs to human understanding, in this deep ignorance and obscurity, is to be skeptical, or at least cautious; and not to admit of any hypothesis, whatever; much less, of any which is supported by no appearance of probability." Explain what this means.

Answer not provided.

92. List the four circumstances from which arise the misery and ill of the universe, according to Hume.

Answer not provided.

93. Explain Hume's general attitude towards beliefs in supernatural beings.

Answer not provided.

94. What is the "practical problem" Kant refers to at the beginning of his essay?

Answer not provided.

95. Do you think that Kant's argument for the moral necessity of God's existence is any good? Why or why not?

Answer not provided.

96. What is it about Kant's ethics that makes his argument for the existence of God so complicated?

Answer not provided.

97. Kierkegaard writes, "Whoever therefore attempts to demonstrate the existence of God (except in the sense of clarifying the concept), proves in lieu thereof something else, something which at times perhaps does not need proof, and in any case need none better; for the fool says in his heart that there is no God, but whoever says in his heart or to men: Wait just a little and I will prove it--what a rare man of wisdom is he!" Explain this quotation.

Answer not provided.

98. Why does James think that the truth of religion is a question that the intellect cannot by itself resolve?

Answer not provided.

99. What attitude does *scepticism* take towards belief in religion?

Answer not provided.

100. Explain what James means when he writes, "a rule of thinking which would absolutely prevent me from acknowledging certain kinds of truth if those kinds of truth were really there, would be an irrational rule."

Answer not provided.

101. What is the difference between a living and dead hypothesis? Why is deadness or liveness a relation to individual thinker rather than an intrinsic property of the hypothesis?

Answer not provided.

102. What is the difference between a forced and an avoidable choice?

Answer not provided.

103. What does James consider to be the two essential parts of any religion?

Answer not provided.

104. How does James think that religion transforms our experience of the universe?

Answer not provided.

105. What costs does James suggest come with taking a skeptical attitude toward religion?

Answer not provided.

106. Natalie Angier suggests a new term for her perspective on spirituality: "transcendent atheism." Discuss what is meant by this term.

Answer not provided.

107. Why would Joseph Lieberman claim that morality must be maintained by religion? What does this mean? Can an atheist be moral?

Answer not provided.

108. What about President Bush's acceptance speech caused Angier to bristle?

Answer not provided.

109. What does it mean to be an atheist? Discuss.

Answer not provided.

110. Discuss the claim that freedom of religion also involves freedom *from* religion. What is freedom *from* religion?

Answer not provided.

111. Does Angier, despite her atheism, still "thirst after meaning and desire and expansion of purpose"? Explain.

Answer not provided.

112. What do you think the main point of the hymn is? How is it similar to the Judeo-Christian account of creation? How is it different?

Answer not provided.

113. Who is the "One" to which the hymn refers? What role does the "One" play in creation?

Answer not provided.

114. What does Bishop mean by the "psychological economy of theism?" What role does this concept play in his argument?

Answer not provided.

115. Do you agree with Bishop that the concept of God need not be cashed out in an "omni-" sense? Why or why not?

Answer not provided.

116. What does Bishop mean by the God-concept playing a functionalist role? How does this play into his idea of religious adequacy?

Answer not provided.