



Name: _____

Date: _____

Words to know:cosmos (*all created reality*), simultaneously (*at the same time*), perennial (*timeless*)

Creatio non est mutatio: For God to _____ is not for God to _____ one thing into another.

Continuous Creation: Creation is God giving _____ and being to everything simultaneously and always. Insofar as things exist, they depend upon _____ who causes them to be and this _____ is creation.

So, creation is happening _____. Everything that exists is _____ created by God, sustained in being.

Aquinas talks about creation as a relation of _____. . . A thing is created because it has _____ to God.

Non-Reciprocal Relation: We depend entirely on God in this relation of dependence, and He gives us _____ as an entirely free _____.

This means creation is not a _____ reality first and foremost; it's something deeper and more perennial. It's the _____ of God, giving them being and sustaining them in being.

This understanding of creation does not depend upon any particular _____ of the cosmos. . . All of what is there is something that _____ and insofar as it exists, it has its existence from God, not only at the beginning but _____.

Causality:

The way that Aquinas thinks about creation is also important because it shows that things that God sustains in being are themselves true _____ of other things. St. Thomas calls these _____.

The primary cause is _____, giving being to all things. "It dignifies God more to create things that are themselves _____ of other things." —St. Thomas Aquinas

God, the supreme cause of all things in their very being, gives them to be true _____. So, the cosmos is a history of realities interacting according to various lines of _____ causality, with one thing interacting with another, causing it to _____.

This is also true of human reality, where we, as _____, _____ agents sustained in being by God, freely _____ things to happen, and events of history unfold in our own lives.

God is the...

Efficient Cause	All things _____ from God, and he creates them freely. He is the _____ of all that is, not only in the past but at every moment.
Exemplary Cause	Everything is _____ off God's idea of creation. Even when things gradually achieve their _____, they do so after the model of God's supreme wisdom.
Final Cause	All things ultimately _____.

Why God Creates: God doesn't create through any _____. He doesn't need the creation to perfect himself. . . God creates out of _____ and an abundance of _____. He creates in _____ so that we might participate in the divine _____.

DEISM	VS.	THOMISM
God created the world and then _____ it to its own devices.		"God is _____ in all things sustaining them, mysteriously more _____ to them than they are to themselves." —St. Augustine.

God's Governance:

It also follows from this that God _____ all things in light of his uncreated _____. We see this in the fact that things hold together in a certain _____ that allows the various part to flourish and _____ one another.

So, we rightly commend our _____ and our human history to God as the author of creation and as the hidden source of the divine _____ of all things.

The gift of divine grace to spiritual creatures. . . is the capstone and, in a sense, the _____ of the whole natural order.

Comprehension question: What difference does it make that creation is not just a "historical reality," but is an ongoing relationship in which we receive our being from God? If we become more aware of this, how could it impact the way we see God and experience him in our lives?