



Name: _____

Date: _____

Words to know:

epistemology (*the philosophy of knowledge*), relative (*considered in relation to something else; comparative*), finite (*limited*), omniscient (*all-knowing*), intelligible (*possible to understand*)

| | |
|----------|---|
| | The view that it is doubtful whether human beings have knowledge. |
| | The view that what is true is relative to what people think or believe is true. |
| Sophists | Worked diligently to promote _____ and _____ in ancient Athens. |

PHILOSOPHY

One of the best ways to understand the figures of _____, _____, and _____ is to realize that the form of life and thought they took up and called _____ was precisely a form of opposition to the Sophists, and at bottom, a form of opposition to skepticism and relativism.

In the philosophical tradition that comes down to us from Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle, one of the fundamental convictions is that _____.

Human beings do not invent the truth, but _____ it.

Human beings are capable of just that: discovering and knowing _____.

| SKEPTICISM and RELATIVISM | CAPAX VERITATIS |
|--|------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Really forms of _____ Neither realistic nor _____ | We are _____ of truth. |

| FORMATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF KNOWLEDGE | |
|---|--|
| 1. Knowledge begins in the _____. | If we did not have _____ of the world, our minds would be empty. |
| 2. Knowledge is more than just _____. | All our experience is potentially _____. |

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| 3. Humans have _____ _____. | <p>Intelligence is the ability to _____ our _____ and bring to light what is intelligible in it.</p> <p>Intelligence is precisely this ability to ask about what things are, to _____ what they are to some extent, and to form _____ and reason about what things are.</p> <p>Furthermore, through the act of intelligence _____ experience, we are able to arrive at _____ higher than ordinary knowledge.</p> |
|--------------------------------|--|

Using our intelligence, we can know that there is _____.

For Thomas Aquinas, our _____ is a gift of God.

| Our intelligence has two sides to it: | |
|--|--|
| The _____ to understand our experience | The _____ to understand our experience |

Agent Intellect

The _____ power to understand our experience in a _____ way

1. Finite Intellect:

The power of agent intellect is _____.

We are not _____ nor are we able to comprehend all things.

2. Participated Power:

The light of our _____ is a created _____ in the divine _____.

All light and all knowledge and all understanding, even in the natural order, come ultimately from _____.

Comprehension question: How are skepticism and relativism “voices of despair”? How does Thomistic epistemology provide a path of hope in our search for the truth?