



Name: _____ Date: _____

Words to know:

despair (*to give up hope*), distinctions (*the difference between things*), Divine Revelation (*God revealing himself to humanity, especially in Scripture and Tradition*), insight (*a new piece of understanding or knowledge*), Scholasticism (*a school of theology, originating in Europe in the High Middle Ages, that drew upon the writings of Aristotle, Sacred Scripture, and the writings of the Church fathers*)

Aristotle saw, in the conflict of opinions, not a reason to despair about finding truth, but precisely an _____ to find it.

Dialectic:

All human beings are born into an ocean of _____. The problem is that we have a great deal of truth, but it is _____ in our experience and in our minds.

experience		music
	CULTURAL WEB	
common opinions		

- Aristotle thought of all progress and understanding as a matter of _____ these kinds of difficulties, wrestling with them, drawing distinctions, and gaining _____.

Christian Dialectic:

- Christians have faced similar difficulties and puzzles, confronting them both in the sources of divine _____ and in the philosophical tradition.
- What we need to do is let the sources of revelation and the wisdom of the philosophers _____ to us and confront the puzzles and difficulties they pose, wrestle with them, and draw _____ and acquire new insights.
- When the texts of _____ were rediscovered in the West in the High Middle Ages, the process of _____ that he codified was rediscovered as a tool for systematically working through puzzles and difficulties.
- But now, the process of dialectic was used by _____ to work through the puzzles and difficulties confronting us in the sources of divine revelation and the wisdom of the philosophers.
- The result was a new form of theological inquiry that we find in the _____, and especially in Thomas Aquinas.
- This is the history behind the format of the disputed question we find in his works.
 1. Pose a _____.
 2. Confront puzzles and difficulties.
 3. Draw _____ to cultivate insights.
 4. Address original difficulties.
- The calling of St. Thomas Aquinas was to pose all the most relevant _____, face all the most relevant difficulties involved in each question, and draw all the relevant _____. That was his intellectual achievement. And for the most part, his answers are perennial _____.

Comprehension Question: Think of two things you know to be true that might be difficult to reconcile with each other. What could you do to seek more understanding of how they could both be true?