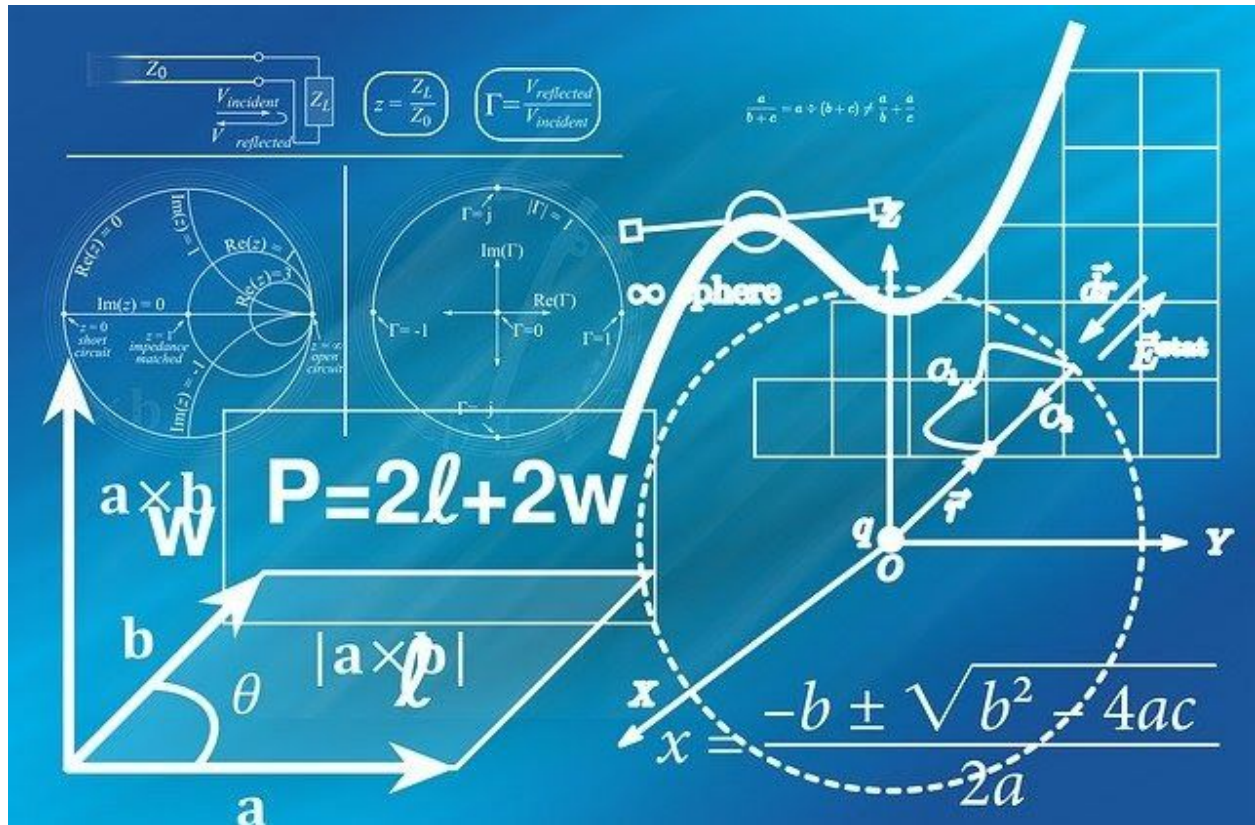


Name: _____

Karl Popper, Science, & Pseudoscience: Crash Course Philosophy #8



There are 10 multiple choice questions and two reflection questions.

All questions have been created using the following YouTube video:

<https://youtu.be/-X8Xf10JdTQ>

Name: _____

MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. Karl Popper believed that discovering something to be false is great because...
 - a. it moves us closer to believing only what is religious.
 - b. it moves us closer to believing only what is false.
 - c. it moves us closer to believing only what is true.
 - d. All of the above

2. According to Popper, a theory that is irrefutable is not scientific. Why?
 - a. If a theory can be shown to be false, then it is not true; therefore, it is not a theory.
 - b. If a theory cannot be shown to be false, then it cannot be shown to be true. It is untestable, and therefore is not scientific.
 - c. The question is misleading; any and all propositions as well as theories are falsifiable.
 - d. None of the above

3. What is the main difference between Rene Descartes view of certainty and Karl Popper's view of certainty?
 - a. Descartes held certainty in the utmost regard, while Popper believed that certainty is negative because it can actually cause you to close your mind which will keep one from being open to new findings.
 - b. Both Descartes and Popper believed that certainty was the goal of research, and anything short of this was most disappointing.
 - c. Popper held certainty in the utmost regard, while Descartes believed that certainty is negative because it can actually cause you to close your mind which will keep one from being open to new findings
 - d. Both Descartes and Popper despised the idea of certainty, because it closed the mind to the possibility of new discoveries that might show previously held beliefs to be false.

4. Karl Popper believed that unlike Einstein's work, psychology was "pseudoscience."
 - a. True
 - b. False

5. Which of the following is not part of the modern approach to science today?
 - a. Testable
 - b. Hope
 - c. Refutable
 - d. Falsifiable

Name: _____

6. Which philosophy emphasized the difference between *science* and *pseudoscience*?
 - a. Sigmund Freud
 - b. Karl Popper
 - c. Karl Marx
 - d. Rene Descartes

7. Popper would agree with the following statement: *If you want to be able to trust in your belief in a genuinely scientifically way, then you must put your belief to the test.*
 - a. True
 - b. False

8. Part of doing honest science according to Popper is that once a theory has been proven false, you must...
 - a. quit being a scientist.
 - b. find other people that will believe it is true.
 - c. continue to cling to the idea that it is true no matter what.
 - d. be willing to give it up.

9. According to Popper, what gives one the right to call a theory “scientific?”
 - a. It has been put to the test.
 - b. It has not been tested because one is already certain of its truth.
 - c. The theory has nothing to do with ideas.
 - d. The theory is never what one hopes is true.

10. According to Popper, why was Einstein’s theory so risky?
 - a. It was future-oriented, meaning that if things didn’t turn out the way that he predicted, his theory would be false.
 - b. It was present-oriented, meaning that people could disagree with it to his face.
 - c. It was past-oriented, meaning that it might be viewed as an archaic way of thinking.
 - d. All of the above.

Name: _____

ANSWER KEY FOR MULTIPLE CHOICE

MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. C
2. B
3. A
4. A
5. B
6. B
7. A
8. D
9. A
10. A

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. Using Santa as an example, one should attempt to demonstrate that Santa does not exist rather than trying to show that he does. So if the study does not conclusively show that Santa does not exist, then we are one step closer to the belief that he may exist. (Anything close to this will work. The video is a bit ambiguous.)
2. The main point is that like scientists, people as well as philosophers should hold their belief in such a manner that if new evidence surfaces that shows the current beliefs false, then we should be willing to let them go. In other words, the ideas that we believe are "contingent," in that they are not set in stone because we may learn something in the future that shows them to be false. Therefore, both scientists and philosophers should approach knowledge humbly, always knowing that what they believe today could be proven false tomorrow. Our beliefs are contingent on the current evidence.