

### Inquiry Question

*What if there was a creator of the universe, but that creator was an evil genius? Rene Descartes imagined this as a possibility.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## General Instructions

The idea here is to review Rene Descartes's famous thought experiment where he cast off all his previous knowledge and started at square one. In this process he imagined that we may have had a creator, but that creator was evil rather than good and that we are being deceived about everything we hold to be true. Review this further here:

<https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/descartes-epistemology/#FirsMediDoubArgu>

There are many counter arguments to the idea of an 'evil genius'. Research these counter arguments and come up with a few that you find the most compelling.

Introduce Descartes's evil genius theory and run through the counter arguments. Conduct an interview where you can either have a panel of Rene Descartes and the Evil genius, or one or the other. Be clear with your terms and concise with your language and have a discussion with them. Discuss Descartes concerns and some of the counter arguments you researched.

Create a 5-minute, carefully crafted and well supported (audio or video) interview using the proper APA format for references.

Here is a great place to start researching how to effectively conduct an interview:

<https://www.studygs.net/interview.htm>

Hand in a script and your references along with an audio/video file.

Suggested tools:

Record your interview using Audacity <http://audacity.sourceforge.net/>, GarageBand, iMovie or other recording software with capacity to edit sound.

Add either sound effects or music or both to augment your voice reading.  
Be sure to export as an mp3 format file

### **Free sound effect and music sites:**

1. <https://www.pacdvd.com/sounds/>
2. <https://freemusicarchive.org/>
3. <https://free-loops.com/>
4. <http://danosongs.com>
5. <https://incompetech.com>

6. <https://www.seabreezecomputers.com/tips/freemusic.htm#links> ... an example from this site:

**Materials you'll need:**

- brain
- internet connection
- audio/video recording device
- video/audio editing software
- computer

**Project submission:**

Hand in a script and your references along with an audio/video file.

upload to the Moodle hand in bin.

**Review**

Review the following video from the unit:



**And the following articles:**

"DESCARTES' MEDITATIONS IN THE HISTORY OF SCEPTICISM"

<https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/descartes-epistemology/#FirsMediDoubArgu>

It is very important to use direct quotes from your sources of information and it is vital that you are following the APA guidelines for your intext citations as well as your references list at the end of the essay. Review the following course page for details on this:

<https://wcln.ca/mod/page/view.php?id=30739>

Here is another great resource to review for APA formatting:

[https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research\\_and\\_citation/apa\\_style/apa\\_formatting\\_and\\_style\\_guide/general\\_for\\_mat.html](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_formatting_and_style_guide/general_for_mat.html)