

Name: _____

Date: _____

Stoic Logic and Epicurean Atoms: 7th Grade Philosophy Adventure

Synthesize the competing theories of Zeno, Epicurus, and Diogenes through 10 analytical questions on logic, physics, and ethics.

1. Zeno of Citium, the founder of Stoicism, argued that the universe is governed by a rational principle called 'Logos.' If a citizen's house burns down, how would a Stoic most likely respond based on this principle?

- A. By mourning the loss of material wealth as a sign of bad luck.
- B. By accepting it as part of a natural, rational order beyond their control.
- C. By blaming the gods for being purposefully cruel to humans.
- D. By seeking revenge against whoever might have started the fire.

2. Epicurus proposed that everything, including the human soul, is made of tiny, indivisible particles called ___, suggesting that we should not fear death because we simply cease to feel.

- A. monads
- B. elements
- C. atoms
- D. cells

3. The Cynic philosopher Diogenes of Sinope believed that true happiness comes from following societal conventions, such as wearing expensive clothes and living in a large house.

- A. True
- B. False

4. Pythagoras is often remembered for math, but he also led a philosophical community. Which of these unusual beliefs did his followers practice because they believed in the transmigration of souls?

- A. Refusing to eat beans or meat
- B. Building houses only in the shape of triangles
- C. Refusing to use numbers higher than ten
- D. Wearing only metal clothing for protection

5. Heraclitus famously stated that 'No man ever steps in the same ___ twice,' illustrating his philosophy that the universe is in a constant state of flux or change.

- A. ocean
- B. river
- C. forest
- D. mountain

6. In the philosophy of Epicureanism, the ultimate goal of life is 'ataraxia,' which refers to a state of being free from mental fear and bodily pain.

Name: _____

Date: _____

- A. True
- B. False

7. Parmenides argued that 'change' is actually an illusion and that reality is one, unchanging, and eternal. How does this conflict with the views of Heraclitus?

- A. They both agreed that fire is the source of all things.
- B. Parmenides believed in many gods, while Heraclitus believed in none.
- C. Heraclitus believed change was the only constant, while Parmenides denied it exists.
- D. Heraclitus focused on math, while Parmenides focused on biology.

8. The philosopher ___ of Miletus is often called the first Western philosopher because he looked for natural explanations for the world, such as claiming that 'water' was the primary substance of all matter.

- A. Anaximander
- B. Thales
- C. Empedocles
- D. Democritus

9. If you were a student of the Sophists, who were known for teaching rhetoric, what would be your primary goal during a debate?

- A. To find the absolute moral truth through quiet meditation.
- B. To prove that all physical matter is made of air.
- C. To use persuasive speech to win an argument, regardless of the truth.
- D. To live in the woods and ignore the city's laws.

10. Empedocles proposed a theory that the universe is made of four 'roots' (elements)—earth, air, fire, and water—which are moved by the two forces of Love and Strife.

- A. True
- B. False