



Lesson 1.1 Assessment (Answer Key)

Section 1: True or False

Indicate whether each of the following statements is TRUE or FALSE.

1. Another term for a proposition is judgment. **TRUE** FALSE
2. A proposition, or judgment, is a sentence that can either be true or false. **TRUE** FALSE
3. Rational judgments are statements we know which do not require our senses nor revelation. **TRUE** FALSE
4. The existence of God is a rational judgment. **TRUE** FALSE
5. In Islamic thought, science and religion are seen as completely separate with no overlap. TRUE **FALSE**
6. Propositional knowledge in Islamic theology is about statements that can be true or false. **TRUE** FALSE

Section 2: Multiple Choice

Choose the correct answer for each of the following questions.

7. Epistemology is the study of:
 - a. Philosophy
 - b. Alleles
 - c. **Knowledge**
 - d. History
8. What is the correct definition of a proposition?
 - a. A statement which must be true.
 - b. A statement that must be negated.
 - c. **A statement which can either be true or false.**
 - d. A formal written suggestion or plan to discuss with others.
9. What body of knowledge is dependent on true reports?
 - a. Ḥadīth
 - b. Research
 - c. Seerah
 - d. **All of the above**

10. Which of the following is NOT a source of knowledge in Islamic epistemology?
- a. The five senses (*al-ḥawāṣṣ al-khams*)
 - b. The intellect (*al-ʿaql*)
 - c. Inspiration (*ilhām*)
 - d. Astrology
11. What does the Qurʾānic verse “So where are you going?” (Sūrah al-Takwīr, Verse 26) encourage?
- a. Historical study
 - b. Questioning and deep thinking
 - c. Blind faith
 - d. Memorization of facts

Section 3: Short Answers

Write a well-formulated response for each of the following.

12. State whether each statement is an example of the principle of non-contradiction (PNC) or the principle of the excluded middle (PEM).
- a. It is raining here right now.
PEM: It is either raining or not raining at a given time, no third option, and both cannot happen simultaneously.
 - b. A car is red.
PNC: A car cannot be both red and not red at the same time, it is either red or not red. BUT cars can be other colors, so there is a possibility for another options.
 - c. A coin toss.
PEM: a coin toss will either land heads or tails, there is no third possibility.
 - d. Three is an odd number.
PEM: a number is either even or odd, no other category.
 - e. A statement cannot be both true and false at the same time.
PNC: definition of PNC, if a statement is true, its negation must be false, and vice versa.

13. If testimonial knowledge, or true reports, relies on a person to convey the information, what is the truth of such reports dependent on? Explain. What would make their testimony more valid?

A: Testimonial knowledge rests on the reliability of the person conveying the report. If they are an honest person, have other witnesses, possess other proofs that they witnessed the information or event, and/or have others testify to their honest character (reputation of honesty) would all make their testimony stronger. [This is helpful for further thought/prep for the lesson on Ḥadīth and reporting Ḥadīth in Unit 6.]

14. Explain the Correspondence Theory of Truth using an example.

A: Correspondence Theory of Truth states that for a statement to be true, things must be described according to its reality. For example, let us examine the proposition “some cats meow.” Is it true that some cats meow? Yes, this corresponds to the reality and fact that some cats meow.

15. What are the four principal sources of knowledge that Islamic epistemology recognizes? Are they the same sources of recognized by naturalistic epistemology?

A: There are four sources of knowledge: five senses, intellect, true reports, and inspiration. They are not the same as recognized by naturalists. Naturalists would accept only the five senses because they only accept that which is empirical.