

Candidate 5 evidence

Philosophy National 5 Resource Sheet	
Candidate Name	Scottish Candidate Number
<p>P1 David Hume focuses on epistemology - Discovery of the foundation of knowledge</p> <p>He is a Empiricism - all knowledge comes from experience eg taste, touch, smell etc we can't have an idea without experience</p> <p>P2 aim - to show how discover a science of human understanding to overcome skepticism through empiricism</p> <p>no method - rather observed / analyzed our experiences to gain knowledge</p> <p>P3 over comes skepticism through impressions & ideas to provide a science of human nature - Divides the mind's perceptions into 2 vivid and immediate perceptions comes from senses felt for a longer period ideas - less lively formed by memory / imagination by the original impression eg fire theory - no idea without impression basis of theory knowledge comes from experience</p> <p>P4 Simple Ideas - memory complex - imagination / Simple Ideas → complex Ideas - that are changed - compounded - joined together - transposed - change position - augmented made bigger - diminished made smaller - golden invention theory - own example</p> <p>P5 copy principle - no ideas without impressions - mind is empty until experiences create ideas, makes rejection of innate ideas - rationalists support this</p> <p>P6 God argument supports theory - Simple idea - goodness - power and knowledge arguing them all long all powerful - compound so it's copies</p> <p>P7 blind man video no experience no impressions</p> <p>P8 Innate ideas do exist - rationalists hold that knowledge is innate - in the mind</p>	

How successful was Hume's theory on Impressions and Ideas?

David Hume focuses on epistemology which is ~~that~~ the discovery of knowledge. He's trying to prove that his theory on Impressions and Ideas is true. Hume is also an empiricist where he believes that all knowledge comes from our experience such as taste, touch, ~~smell~~ and smell. He believes that we can't have an idea without experiencing those senses first.

Hume's aim is to show discover a science of human ~~understanding~~ understanding to overcome skepticism through empiricism. of his theory of Impressions and Ideas. Hume didn't have a method he rather gained his own knowledge by observing and analyzing our experiences as it helped him to understand more about the human mind.

David Hume manages to overcome skepticism through Impressions and Ideas to provide a science of human nature. He begins by dividing the human mind into two perceptions, the first one being Impressions which are vivid and immediate perceptions which comes from our senses that has the feelings such as anger, guilt, pain which last for a longer period of time for example putting your hand in fire is an immediate response and the pain is felt. The other perception is Ideas which are less lively but are formed by memory and imagination by the original impression. For example remembering the pain of putting your hand in a fire is less vivid as you won't be able to remember the original pain from it. So he then states you can't have that idea without the impression as it comes from experience.

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He then discovers simple and complex ideas. Simple ideas are formed by your memory and complex ideas which are formed by your imagination. Simple ideas are just complex ideas that are changed and compounded together which means joined together, transposed which means changing the position of something, augment means when something is made bigger and diminished means something made smaller. For example ~~your~~ Hume's example of 2 simple ideas turned into a complex one is the golden mountain. For instance you imagine the colour gold then you imagine a mountain then compound these two together you get a golden mountain. My own example of a simple idea to a complex one is if you imagine a ~~lizard~~ lizzard then you augment your idea of a lizzard making it bigger then you think of a city and compound these two ideas together you have Godzilla.

Hume then discovers the copy principle where it states you can't have an idea without impressions as the mind is empty until our experience create the ideas we have in our minds this also involves the rejection of innate ideas which a lot of rationalists support.

~~The god argument~~ Then he moves forward to the god argument which supports his theory as we can take the simple idea of god being goodness, power and knowledge then augment them simple ideas so now he's all goodness, all power and knowledge then compounded the ideas you have of him to get this big and all powerful god.

An experiment was conducted in nearly 50 years time where children were sat down in a interview with a blind man who had never been able to see in his life they were told to explain colours to him but he physically couldn't understand what a colour was as he's never had an impression of it so he couldn't even have an idea either this also links to Hume where he says its physically impossible to have an impression or an idea without experience.

I think Hume's theory was successful as even when he thought he was stuck in his theory with the missing shade of blue argument which is if you had every colour of blue in the world and one shade was missing you would still be able to know what colour without having the impression and idea of it you would still know but he overcame that by realising all you needed to do was take the two shades beside it and combine them together to get the missing shade so I do think his argument was a success as he managed to overcome things in his theory and he made a huge impact on other philosophers even now today.