

End of Unit 5 Writing Assignment

The writing assignment for the end of Unit 5 is a 500–700 word answer to one of the following six questions. Your responses should be mainly expository, focusing on careful readings of the relevant texts. This is an exercise in interpretation, though some critical assessment is, as always, welcome. Be specific. Original illustration is welcome. A hard copy of the writing assignment is due at the beginning of the final exam period, Friday, May 13, 2pm; you are welcome to submit it at any time before that, too!

1. What is a synthetic *a priori* judgment? Contrast them with both analytic and empirical judgments. Provide examples.
2. How is Kant's method in the *Critique of Pure Reason* transcendental? How does the method differ from that of Locke, Hume or other philosophers we have studied?
3. What are Kantian intuitions? How do they differ from concepts? How are pure intuitions necessary conditions of the possibility of cognition?
4. What is the synthetic unity of apperception? How does it underlie all of our thoughts?
5. Distinguish absolute and relative theories of space and time. How does Kant argue that neither view is true?
6. How does Kant criticize the ontological argument for God's existence? Consider the distinction between logical and real predicates and the thalers example.