

Ask Aristotle ... Lighthearted!

Q: "How you doin'?"

A: Joey! What are you doing on the computer?

**Your Friend in Reason,
Aristotle**

Q: "Should I continue to smoke cigarettes?"

A: No.

**Your Friend in Reason,
Aristotle**

Q: "How bad is the media?"

A: Well, the good thing about this question is that I can gather that you do not spend all of your time watching television. The bad thing about it is that it is too general and I don't know what you want me to say. Perhaps you can be more specific and let me know what in particular concerns you about the media.

Aristotle: The media is bad.

Crowd: "How bad is it!"

Aristotle: The media is sooo bad....

...they just did an exposé on themselves and refused to comment.

**Your Friend in Reason,
Aristotle**

Q: "Where is God?"

A: Hear those voices? He's in your head.

**Your Friend in Reason,
Aristotle**

Q: "Bragging on one's self is not good. Any quotes?"

A: Yes, a wise man once said, "Bragging on one's self is not good."

**Your Friend in Reason,
Aristotle**

Q: "What is [your] view of the end of human life?"

A: As the great Yogi Berra Once said, "It ain't over 'till it's over."

**Your Friend in Reason,
Aristotle**

Q: "Am I a born loser?"

A: No. You are a loser by choice.

**Your Friend in Reason,
Aristotle**

Q: "Why are you so cute?"

A: I gotta be me!

**Your Friend in Reason,
Aristotle**

Q: "Why are only some people blessed with the companionship of a perfect bear?"

A: Because I am finite and limited.

**Your Friend in Reason,
Aristotle**

Q: "Hey, was that really your good bud Socrates in Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure?"

A: As you can see, he didn't age as gracefully as I did.

**Your Friend in Reason,
Aristotle**

Q: "Does this really work?"

A: Don't know. I've never tried it. Then again, I would just be talking to myself if I did.

**Your Friend in Reason,
Aristotle**

Q: "How old are you?"

A: That is not a polite question!

**Your Friend in Reason,
Aristotle**

Q: "What is ego fulfillment?"

A: Ego fulfillment is the feeling one gets from the well deserved thanks that comes from donating \$100 or more to the EGO Group. [drum fill]

**Your Friend in Reason,
Aristotle**

Q: "Most of reality can be constructed from the summation of its infeasible parts. How then can a self-enclosed cognitive being ever truly understand the universal structure of the reality it is contemplating at any given time. Why most cerebral processes tend to be carried out in a subjective and intuitive fashion; we are all prisoners of our somatic bodies and sensory intermediation will forever occlude our ontology. Please answer the question, and how would you respond to non-saltational evolutionary theory in the drive to understand the biogenesis of the Earth's species?"

A: Having sifted through your bombastic and pretentious predilection for pedantry, I need make manifest the fact that 'soamtic' and 'bodie' do not loom within the confines of any of my myriad dictionaries.

Having said that, reality is that which exists. It is the sum of everything that exists. All, not most, of what exists has an identity that is determined by all of the facts relevant to that entity. Consciousness is the act of grasping reality. To grasp reality, one must make contact with reality. This is done via our senses. These senses do not cut us off from reality, they bring us in contact with it. Our senses provide us data about what is out there and it is up to our conscious mind to process that data and make sense of it. The automatic "cerebral processes" of the human brain are not subjective or intuitive, they simply are. However, methods of thinking which are within a Man's ability to manipulate must be chosen, and the only proper choice is to use reason. Reason is Man's only way of dealing with reality. The fact that Man cannot know every single detail about every aspect of existence at any given time does not invalidate his ability to acquire knowledge about the universe, his own existence, or his relationship to the universe. All that Man needs to know are the facts that are relevant about an aspect of existence at any given time.

I suggest you read more of Ayn Rand's Introduction to Objectivist Epistemology and Leonard Peikoff's Objectivism: The Philosophy of Ayn Rand and less of your thesaurus. The first two are much more valuable to your understanding of philosophy than the latter.

As for your second question, I fully support evolutionary theory and favor the idea of a gradual evolution without giant leaps. Gaps in the fossil record are merely indicative of the fact that the conditions that make fossilization possible are complex and do not frequently occur. As to whether or not minor leaps are possible and/or did occur, I will leave that question to the experts in evolutionary theory of which I am not one.

**Your Friend in Reason,
Aristotle**