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Activity

Test yourself: how is ethics shaped by knowledge?

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Match the theories to the philosophers.

Descartes	Argued that if something was to be meaningful it had to be self-evident.
Hare	Argues that the philosophy of ethics is in a mess.
Kant	Attacked the whole idea of belief in God.
Kierkegaard	Called the world as we perceive it through the mind the phenomenal world.
MacIntyre	Can be found musing on the embarrassment the cynic philosopher Metrocles (c. 325 BCE) felt about farting while teaching.
Montaigne	Considered that the concept 'good' can be understood in several ways.
Moore	Ethics is located in the individual self rather than provided by some wider system of understanding.
Nietzsche	Instead of morality we have cosmic self-righteousness — the transcendental pretence.
Solomon	Our moral statements, although emotive, serve a wider social function in that we are prescribing to others the course of action that they should take in similar circumstances.
Vienna Circle	Proclaims his now famous statement 'I think therefore I am.'

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