

Reading Questions for October 15

These questions covers pages 12 - 15 of a book by René Descartes called *Meditations on First Philosophy*. The answers do not have to be turned in. You will probably have to do the reading more than once to get the answers.

1. The first skeptical hypothesis Descartes considers is that the senses sometimes deceive us. Why does he think this hypothesis is not ultimately going to be helpful in achieving his project? Do you agree?
2. The second skeptical hypothesis Descartes considers is that he is crazy. Why does he think this hypothesis is not ultimately going to be helpful in achieving his project? Do you agree?
3. The third skeptical hypothesis Descartes considers is that he is dreaming. Why does he think this hypothesis is not ultimately going to be helpful in achieving his project? Do you agree? Do you think you could be dreaming right now?
4. The fourth skeptical hypothesis Descartes considers is that he is being deceived by an evil demon. Why does he think this hypothesis is ultimately going to be helpful in achieving his project? Do you agree?