

Reading Questions for October 29

These questions cover excerpts from two books. The first is by Michael Huemer and is called *Skepticism and the Veil of Perception*. The second is by Julia Annas and called *Ancient 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.

*Background:*

These two readings are about ancient Greek skeptics. The excerpt from Huemer outlines an argument that these skeptics gave. The excerpt from Annas offers some biographical details about these ancient skeptics and talks about the connection between their skepticism and the way they lived their lives.

*Questions:*

1. Huemer first describes the argument informally on pages 8 to 9. Then he states it formally on the bottom of 9 and the top of 10. What do you think of this argument? Is it sound? Is it valid?
2. On page 69, Annas describes the idea of living by appearances. What is this idea supposed to be? Annas says on page 70 that the skeptics think that living by appearance will lead to happiness. Why do the skeptics think this? Do you agree?