

Reading Questions for December 1 and 3

In class on December 1 and 3 you'll be discussing your rough drafts in groups of five people. On December 1st you'll discuss the first two and start the third. On December 3rd you'll finish the third and then discuss the fourth and fifth. I've already assigned your groups and posted some of the rough drafts; you can find the link on the December 1 calendar entry (I'll continue to post them as they're sent to me). To prepare for discussion, read over the rough drafts in your group and think about some constructive feedback you can give your peers. Here are some questions to help you:

1. Is it clear what the person will be trying to accomplish in their paper?
2. Does the person give arguments? If so, are their arguments sound? Are there objections they should be aware of?
3. Does the person offer objections to other people's arguments? If so, are there responses to their objections you can think of?
4. Does the person introduce concepts? If so are each of the concepts they introduce clear?
5. Does the person seem to be trying to discuss a huge number of issues very quickly? If so, what would be a good way to help focus the paper so that the person can go in depth?
6. Has the person found a philosophical text to talk about that we did not read in class? If not, what sort of text might be helpful for their paper?
7. Is it clear that the paper is a philosophy paper, as opposed to a history paper, a theology paper, a paper in statistics, etc.?