

Listening Questions for September 11

These questions cover an interview with Adina Roskies on neuroscience and free will? The answers do not have to be turned in. You will probably have to listen more than once to get the answers.

*Background:*

Now that we've examined the general free will debate, we're going to look at a couple of particular debates in the free will literature. One will be on free will and neuroscience, the other on free will and divine foreknowledge. For today, we're focusing in on free will and neuroscience. Adina Roskies, in this interview, argues that various neuroscientific results do not undermine free will, but they can be useful in shedding light on who has free will and who doesn't.

*Questions:*

1. What are the EEG experiments by Benjamin Libet and why did he think it undermined free will? Why doesn't Roskies think that his experiment undermines free will? Who do you think is right and why?
2. What are the functional MRI experiments by John-Dylan Haynes's lab and why are these held to undermine free will? Why doesn't Roskies think that these experiments undermines free will? Who do you think is right and why?
3. What are the experiments with primates and why are those held to undermine free will? Why doesn't Roskies think that these experiments undermines free will? Who do you think is right and why?
4. Roskies does think that neuroscience combined with philosophy can inform us about free will. How does she think it can do this? What do you think about what she says and why?