

Phil 2120
Topics in Analytic Philosophy
First Writing Exercise

Write 2 or 3 pages (500-750 words) on **one** of the following topics.

The main goal of this exercise is to sharpen your analytical skills by critically examining a primary text. There is no need to read secondary sources.

There is little or no need for quotation.

You should answer the questions simply and straightforwardly, in your own words.

You should write with as much clarity, precision and care as you can.

Your writing must very focused: you only have a few pages to say what you have to say.

Due 3 October by 4:30 pm.

Submit one copy of your assignment on paper to Ms Loletta Li, Main Building room 302.

Submit a second copy of your assignment electronically to turnitin.com.

The turnitin.com class id is 1615522. The password is "causetruth".

1. At several places in chapter 1 of **The Significance of Philosophical Skepticism**, Stroud discusses an example involving a man in Cleveland. What does Stroud believe this example shows? Does the example show what Stroud believes it to show?

2. What is Wittgenstein trying to say in **On Certainty** 461? Do you agree with Wittgenstein? Why or why not?

3. On p 169-170 of "Proof of an External World", Moore discusses "another reason" why some people may find his argument unsatisfactory. What is this second reason? What is Moore's response to this second reason? Is Moore's response correct? Why or why not?