

UNIT 2 CULMINATING ACTIVITY: METAPHYSICAL NEWS REPORT

(ASSESSMENT OF LEARNING)

Your task:

In small groups, create a news report, which you write, dramatize, or record and play for the class. In the report you are **either**:

- (a) conducting an interview of famous metaphysicians (exploring two or more philosophers' theories of metaphysics); or,
- (b) performing an in-depth explanation of the metaphysical aspects of a movie, novel, or comic book (e.g., Japanese Manga), or creating the scenario for your own metaphysical work.

Evaluation scheme (see detailed rubric on the next page):

5 marks knowledge: accuracy of references to metaphysical theories

5 marks thinking: draws interconnections, comparison and contrast; deep and creative links

5 marks communication: well written or clearly presented (orally)

5 marks application: realistic portrayal of news story; in character

Learning skills: collaboration; self-regulation; responsibility

How to get started and complete your project:

1. Discuss with your group the various skills and resources you bring to the project. Narrow your topic and avoid overlap with other groups by submitting your topic proposal to the teacher for approval and recommendations. Begin to allocate responsibilities for various aspects of the overall project, ensuring an equitable distribution of the workload. (Note: Equity is not the same as equality. See Unit 6.)
2. If you are making a video, familiarize yourself with the software you will be using (Windows Movie Maker or an alternative for PC or Mac). See online tutorials for Movie Maker such as How to use Windows Live Movie-Maker 2011 to edit Movies, which can be viewed on YouTube.
3. Create an outline for your story, identifying key issues and details of the metaphysics in question as well as the pertinent philosophers or movie/novel/comic book.
4. Consult the textbook and other resources (e.g., the Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy: <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/plato/>) to research your topic. Retain your notes to demonstrate your contribution to the collaborative project.
5. As you proceed through the unit (Chapters 4-6), your ideas on your selected topic will develop with increased awareness of theories and problems, so be prepared for changes in your thinking throughout the process, from the initial topic selection to the final development and production of your report. Revise your topic or the parameters of your project if it seems too big or ambitious to complete on time.
6. Edit your project for spelling and grammar, and for pronunciation of spoken text. Ensure your visuals and language usage are suitable for presentation in the classroom or school, conforming to community standards of decency.



BLM 4.5 Continued

7. Use the evaluation criteria below as a checklist to ensure you are meeting all of the expectations on this project. Make sure you, as an individual, are meeting the criteria, as your teacher may allocate marks for each individual instead of to the group as a whole. Document your own contributions to the project.
8. Present your news report to the class, using the peer assessment forms to gather feedback from the class.

Evaluation criteria: Examine this rubric to understand how your work for this culminating activity will be assessed.

Category	Level 1 50-59%	Level 2 60-69%	Level 3 70-79%	Level 4 80-100%
knowledge: 5 marks	Demonstrates weak understanding of the content.	Demonstrates adequate understanding of the content.	Demonstrates good understanding of the content.	Demonstrates excellent understanding of the content.
thinking: 5 marks	Evidence of little research or original thinking about connections or issues.	Evidence of sufficient research or original thinking about connections or issues.	Evidence of sound research or original thinking about connections or issues.	Evidence of outstanding research or original thinking about connections or issues.
communication: 5 marks	Comprehensible but lacks clarity and/or correctness in usage of language.	Comprehensible with reasonable clarity and/or correctness in usage of language.	Comprehensible with good clarity and/or correctness in usage of language.	Comprehensible with excellent clarity and/or correctness in usage of language.
application: 5 marks	Creates an informative news story film study with some success.	Creates an informative news story film study with adequate success.	Creates an informative news story film study with critical success.	Creates an informative news story film study with acclaimed success.

