

МЕТОДИЧНІ ВКАЗІВКИ
з домашнього читання
(по роману Д.Брауна “Втрачений символ”(*The Lost Symbol*))

Навчально-методичні розробки для студентів IV-V курсу

Посібник складено відповідно до програмних вимог.

Мета посібника – забезпечити цілеспрямоване засвоєння лексичного матеріалу, який представляє сучасну мову (американський варіант) та подальшого виконання вправ і завдань.

Матеріал розміщений відповідно до композиційної побудови роману.

В кінці пропонуються додаткові матеріали та ілюстрації, які полегшать розуміння подій.

Набір вправ включає: переклад слів і словосполучень з англійської мови на українську з вказівкою відповідного контексту, пояснення словосполучень англійською мовою, перефразування речень, літературний переклад та лінгвостилістичний аналіз уривків тексту, пошук додаткового матеріалу та обговорення проблематики твору.

ASSIGNMENT 1

Chapters 1-10

1. Memorize the following words and word-combinations and use them in the situations from the text:

Initiate, visage, a singsang voice, a cuttingedge discipline, a keynote address, a predicament, fidget, earplugs, adage

2. Study the active vocabulary and find it in the text of the novel:

Prologue	to bear witness to hold powerful stations a sting to sb's consciousness to impart secrets to sb to steel oneself for sth
Ch. 1	to take sb under one's wing to fill the void to exude mystical power to put the fox in the henhouse to look sharp
Ch. 3	to rib sb to fill sb in on to do a double take
Ch. 4	to draw the short straw pads of fingertips
Ch. 5	on the log to succumb to cancer
Ch. 6	a scattering of hands to feign sth (a sad sigh) to stop dead in one's tracks
Ch. 7	to make a breakthrough
Ch. 8	to mill around
Ch. 9	to cross a serious line

3. Explain the contextual meaning of the following lexical units relying on an English-English dictionary:

concealer makeup, to go to lengths (Ch.2); a cuttingedge discipline, All Greek to me, to do a double take (Ch.3); prodding (Ch.5)

4. Do the Internet / library research and provide information and / or pictures (if any) on the following:

- 1) Freemasons
- 2) Nubian priests
- 3) Cybele cult

- 4) Leviticus
- 5) transgending
- 6) Piranesi etching
- 7) Savonarola chair
- 8) Bugarini oil lamp
- 9) Noetic science
- 10) the Hermitage
- 11) the Vatican Museum
- 12) the New York Metropolitan
- 13) Baphomet
- 14) Caput Draconis
- 15) Holy Communion
- 16) Araf
- 17) Hamistagan
- 18) Hermeticism

5. Prepare the extract for expressive reading and literary translation:

Prologue “As he surveyed...” up to “... of the square chamber.”

6. Prepare the extract for stylistic analysis:

Ch. 1 “My name is Pan...” up to “... Robert Langdon’s arrival.”

7. Find in the text synonyms for “*clothes*” and “*to be dressed in*” and words referring to the semantic field of “*clothing*”.

- 8.** 1) What do you think of *the Masonic tradition of tolerance and openmindedness*?
2) Pick up one point for discussion and dwell on it.

ASSIGNMENT 2

Chapters 11-20

1. Memorize the following words and word-combinations and use them in the situations from the text:

Uncharted territory, bile, cutting-edge technologies, atonement, bristle, shatterproof glass, search spider, kosher, arcane, lineage, zealot

2. Study the active vocabulary and find it in the text of the novel:

- Ch. 11 to have sb on edge
 to look sb squarely in the eyes
- Ch. 12 to kick off (about a game)
 to cue a video on the monitor
 to show obeisance to sth
- Ch. 14 to pull over
 to take the chance
 to veer away from sth
 to obscure the light
- Ch. 15 to grope for sth
 to pique sb's interest
 to work on a par with sth /sb
 to be versed in sth
 to credit sth /sb with sth
- Ch. 16 to fathom sth
 a direct feed of security cameras
 to count one's blessings
 to interrupt sb's line of questioning
- Ch. 17 to knock sb from sb's perch
 to get one's bearings
 to wilt under sb's gaze
 to take over
 to be on another page
 to cock one's head
- Ch. 18 to check on a sleeping baby
 to set sb at ease
- Ch. 19 to do sth under duress
 to hold up to scientific scrutiny
 to imbue sb with sth
- Ch. 20 to steal a glance at sth

3. Explain the contextual meaning of the following lexical units relying on an English-English dictionary:

sidearm, cropped in a buzz cut (Ch.12); Eli, bangs, to be versed in sth, showdown, to make one's point (Ch.15); patch through (Ch.16); search spider, to pick sb's brain (Ch.18); the enlightened Adepts (Ch.19)

4. Do the Internet / library research and provide information and / or pictures (if any) on the following:

- 1) Random Event Generator (REG)
- 2) Mind over matter
- 3) Morris chair
- 4) the Kybalion
- 5) the Zohar
- 6) the Sumerian tablets
- 7) Einstein
- 8) Bohr
- 9) Hawking
- 10) Ptolemy
- 11) Pythagoras
- 12) Hermes Trismegistus
- 13) Dharmakaya
- 14) Tao
- 15) Brahman
- 16) Sephiroth
- 17) the Fountain of Youth
- 18) Shangri-la
- 19) tarot
- 20) I Ching
- 21) Philosopher's Stone
- 22) Wicca
- 23) the Roman Pantheon
- 24) the Temple of Vesta

5. Prepare the extracts for expressive reading and literary translation:

Ch. 13 "Langdon was close enough ..." up to "...*The hand of the master extended to the initiate.*"

Ch. 17 "Director Inoue Sato was a fearsome specimen..." up to "...appeared to be indestructable"

6. Comment on the stylistic devices used in chapter 16:

"Born inside the fences of a Japanese internment camp in Manzanar, California, in the aftermath of Pearl Harbor, Sato was a toughened survivor who had never forgotten the horrors of war, or the perils of insufficient military intelligence. Now, having risen to one of the most secretive and potent posts in U.S. intelligence work, Sato had proven an uncompromising patriot as well as a terrifying enemy to any who stood in opposition.

Seldom seen but universally feared, the OS director cruised the deep waters of the CIA like a leviathan who surfaced only to devour its prey.”

7. Paraphrase the following sentence:

1) Katherine wasn't buying it. (Ch.15)

8. 1) “*Every generation’s breakthroughs are proven false by the next generation’s technology.* And so it had gone through the ages. The more man learned, the more he realized he did not know.” Do you agree with this statement? Provide further arguments to support your opinion.

2) What do you think of “*human consciousness*” being “capable of changing the physical world”?

3) Pick up one more point for discussion and dwell on it.

ASSIGNMENT 3

Chapters 21-31

1. Memorize the following words and word-combinations and use them in the situations from the text:

Trompe l'oeil, touchdown, home run, vestigial, verbatim, lowbrow, computer geek, fib, sought-after, stungun, sage, sorcerer, healer

2. Study the active vocabulary and find it in the text of the novel:

- Ch. 21 to cross sb's mind
- Ch. 22 to catch up on sth
 - to place sb's name
 - to preclude sb from doing sth
 - to burn incense
 - to steep tea
 - to make sb's skin crawl
 - to be in therapy
 - within a span of some years
 - to sidestep the question
 - to choke on sth
 - to have a point
 - to lock eyes with sb
- Ch. 23 to be at an impasse
- Ch. 24 a propensity for sth
 - to chalk sth up to sth
- Ch. 25 to do freelance
 - to rebuff sb's romantic advances
 - to grant sb a reprieve from a task
- Ch. 26 to lead sb out of earshot
 - to have one's way
- Ch. 27 to play sb like a fiddle
- Ch. 29 to take chances
- Ch. 30 to have a hard time doing sth
 - to coax sb into doing sth
 - to break eye contact with sb

3. Explain the contextual meaning of the following lexical units relying on an English-English dictionary:

to be on hold, to make small talk (Ch.22); to be poised to do sth (Ch.23); domain name, to run a traceroute, ping (Ch.25); to come up with sth, eidetic memory (Ch.26); a pocket square (Ch.29); to hold on to sth (Ch.30)

4. Do the Internet / library research and provide information and / or pictures (if any) on the following:

- 1) *The Apotheosis of Washington*
- 2) *The Last Supper*
- 3) *Adoration of the Magi*
- 4) *Saint John the Baptist*
- 5) ESPN
- 6) BlackBerry
- 7) 'George Washington Zeus'
- 8) Futhark
- 9) Rosicrucianism
- 10) Kabbalah
- 11) the Alumbrados
- 12) the Eleusinian Mysteries
- 13) Pirate's Booty
- 14) the Taser
- 15) the Invisible College
- 16) the Templars
- 17) the Illuminati

5. Prepare the extract for expressive reading, literary translation and stylistic analysis:

Ch. 21 "**The Apotheosis of Washington ...**" up to "...his transformation into a god."

6. Paraphrase the following sentences:

- 1) ...his thick blond hair was immaculately coiffed. (Ch.22)
- 2) Sato's threat barely registered with Langdon. (Ch.23)

7. 1) "Knowledge is power, and the *right* knowledge lets man perform miraculous, almost godlike tasks." Do you agree with this statement? Provide further arguments to support your opinion.

2) "What happens to the human condition if the great mysteries of life are finally revealed? What happens when those beliefs that we accept on *faith* . . . are suddenly categorically proven as *fact*? Or disproved as *myth*?" Are there "certain questions that are best left unanswered."?

3) Pick up one more point for discussion and dwell on it.

ASSIGNMENT 4

Chapters 32-47

1. Memorize the following words and word-combinations and use them in the situations from the text:

Fetid, scythe, sultur, visceral, smug, viselike, beacon, circulation desk, projectile

2. Study the active vocabulary and find it in the text of the novel:

- Ch. 32 to get the message
- Ch. 35 to have a field day
phalanx of sth
- Ch. 37 to bend sb to one's will
- Ch. 40 to feel a twinge of trepidation
- Ch. 42 to fall into step behind sb
to fall into place
- Ch. 43 to keep pace with sb
to play dumb
to catch sb off guard
- Ch. 44 The line went dead
- Ch. 45 to feel the hair on the back of one's neck stand on end
to slam on the brakes
to slide to a halt
- Ch. 46 to be cordoned off
- Ch. 47 a needle in a haystack
to have one final card to play
to throw the car in reverse

3. Explain the contextual meaning of the following lexical unit relying on an English-English dictionary:

to home in on (Ch.47)

4. Do the Internet / library research and provide information and / or pictures (if any) on the following:

- 1) Architeuthis
- 2) Coelacanth
- 3) Walmart
- 4) the Phaistos Disk
- 5) the Dorabella Cipher
- 6) the Voynich Manuscript
- 7) Cracker Jack

5. Prepare the extract for expressive reading, literary translation and stylistic analysis:

Ch. 46 “Even in the dim, after-hours lighting...” up to “...the massive octagonal circulation desk.”

6. 1) Why do you think Architect Bellamy helped Langdon escape?
- 2) Pick up one more point for discussion and dwell on it.

ASSIGNMENT 5

Chapters 48-61

1. Memorize the following words and word-combinations and use them in the situations from the text:

Field-op, inmate, pectorals, coyly, doorjamb, the stacks, innocuous

2. Study the active vocabulary and find it in the text of the novel:

- Ch. 48 to play along
- Ch. 49 a modicum of sanity
- Ch. 51 a stab of pain
to feel angst-ridden
to rejoice in sth
to bludgeon sb to death
- Ch. 52 to prolong the inevitable
- Ch. 57 to escape unscathed
to clear sb's record
to be pushed on the brink
to take dead aim
- Ch. 58 to run around the clock
to bring up the rear
- Ch. 60 to trip the house alarm
- Ch. 61 to threaten sb physically
to give sb a blank stare
to spare sb sth
to be racked with guilt over sth
to be up to the job

3. Explain the contextual meaning of the following lexical units relying on an English-English dictionary:

to preach to the choir (Ch.49); to be upon sb (Ch.57); to be transfixed (Ch.60); to embark on sth, to gang up on sb (Ch.61)

4. Do the Internet / library research and provide information and / or pictures (if any) on the following:

- 1) Vigenere
- 2) grilles
- 3) trellises
- 4) the Hindenburg

5. Prepare the extract for expressive reading, literary translation and stylistic analysis:

Ch. 59 “Robert Langdon felt like a corpse.” up to “...into an MRI machine.”

6. Paraphrase the following sentences:

- 1) “That’s true, but you’re losing me here.” (Ch.49)
- 2) ‘Keep me posted.’ (Ch.50)
- 3) “...there is more to this pyramid than meets the eye.” (Ch.53)

6. Pick up one point for discussion and dwell on it.

ASSIGNMENT 6 Chapters 62-79

1. Memorize the following words and word-combinations and use them in the situations from the text:

Gazebo, high-res, orb, polyhedron, gibberish, furnace, sanguine, cocky specimen, dormancy

2. Study the active vocabulary and find it in the text of the novel:

- Ch. 64 to feel one's pulse quicken
- Ch. 67 to gnaw at sb (about some feeling)
- Ch. 68 to make it out
- Ch. 70 to add up to
to impress upon sb
- Ch. 73 to flag down
- Ch. 74 to be located adjacent to sth
to fire back at sb
to take a drag on a cigarette
to turn oneself in
to outlive one's usefulness
- Ch. 75 to pick up the pace
to screech around the corner
- Ch. 77 to be boarded up
to be famished
to be fixated on sth
to concur on sth
to take back control
to harness the power
to crave to do sth
to do pushups and sit-ups
to evolve into sth
to delve deep
to feel no remorse
- Ch. 78 to lull sb into a trance
to fan out
to make eye contact with sb
- Ch. 79 covered with grime

3. Explain the contextual meaning of the following lexical units relying on an English-English dictionary:

apropos of nothing (Ch.66); to gorge oneself on sth (Ch.77); to feel edgy (Ch.78);

4. Do the Internet / library research and provide information and / or pictures (if any) on the following:

- 1) *Melencolia I*
- 2) Sudoku
- 3) Abramelin oil
- 4) Boaz and Jachin
- 5) eunuch monks of Katharoi
- 6) Ouranos
- 7) Attis
- 8) Sporus
- 9) Osiris
- 10) Tammuz
- 11) Shiva
- 12) Buddha
- 13) Freedom Plaza
- 14) The George Washington Masonic Memorial
- 15) Doric order
- 16) Ionic order
- 17) Corinthian order
- 18) the Ark of the Covenant
- 19) King Solomon's Temple
- 20) Washington National Cathedral
- 21) the Ten Commandments

5. Prepare the extract for expressive reading, literary translation and stylistic analysis:

Ch. 71 "Mal'akh stood naked in the billowing warmth..." up to "...Then he went downstairs."

6. Paraphrase the following sentences:

- 1) ...the team leader beat him to it. (Ch.72)
- 2) "We're all set." (Ch.76)

7. 1) Who do you think was Mal'akh's "contact"?
- 2) Pick up one point for discussion and dwell on it.

ASSIGNMENT 7

Chapters 80-94

1. Memorize the following words and word-combinations and use them in the situations from the text:

Clandestine, anointing, frankincense, exponential, hands-free speakerphone, top priority

2. Study the active vocabulary and find it in the text of the novel:

- Ch. 80 to feel a ray of hope
 to place a wiretap on the phone
 to be forthcoming with sb
 to be on the same team
- Ch. 81 a hodgepodge of storage
 to go to enormous lengths
- Ch. 82 to fill sb in on sth
 to take sb off guard
 to question sb's sanity
 to yearn to believe
 to set sth in motion
- Ch. 83 away from sb's line of sight
 to dawn on sb
 to feel the blood draining from one's face
 to teeter on the brink of disaster
- Ch. 85 to churn (about thoughts)
 to rekindle the thought
 to stare sb in the face
- Ch. 86 to pay no heed
 to play the pivotal role in sth
 to choose poorly
 to attend to matters
- Ch. 87 to make for sth
 to do sb's bidding
 to fuel sb with hope
 to alleviate the suffering
- Ch. 88 a job for hire
- Ch. 89 to broadcast one's whereabouts
 to be willing to do sth
 for the record
- Ch. 91 to feel lost
- Ch. 92 to switch sides
 to blow sth
 to put sb out of sb's misery
 to play by sb's rules
 to double-cross sb
 to turn over sb

to stand one's ground
to apprehend sb
let sb out of one's sight

Ch. 94 to be airborne

3. Explain the contextual meaning of the following lexical units relying on an English-English dictionary:

reredos (Ch.82); ESP, remote viewing, sensory deprivation (Ch.84); androgyne, a fitting end (Ch.86); to reconcile (Ch.87); a heads-up (Ch.88); ramifications (Ch.91)

4. Do the Internet / library research and provide information and / or pictures (if any) on the following:

- 1) the Patriot Act
- 2) The Order of the Eastern Star
- 3) the Seven Seals of Revelation
- 4) Pandora's box
- 5) John Dee
- 6) Elias Ashmole
- 7) Robert Fludd
- 8) Paracelsus
- 9) Bacon
- 10) Descartes
- 11) Pascal
- 12) Spinoza
- 13) Newton
- 14) Leibniz

5. Prepare the extract for expressive reading, literary translation and stylistic analysis:

Ch. 81 "Next he went to a shelf ..." up to "...*struck by a reflux current and destroyed.*"

6. Paraphrase the following sentences:

- 1) Sato's piercing gaze had never left his eyes. (Ch.80)
- 2) Now you're cooking. (Ch.85)
- 3) Don't blow it. (Ch.92)

7. 1) "History, if it has taught us anything at all, has taught us that the strange ideas we deride today will one day be our celebrated truths." Do you agree with this statement? Provide further arguments to support your opinion.

- 2) Pick up one more point for discussion and dwell on it.

ASSIGNMENT 8

Chapters 95-110

1. Memorize the following words and word-combinations and use them in the situations from the text:

Hubris, budge, tenet, all-clear, update

2. Study the active vocabulary and find it in the text of the novel:

- Ch. 96 to be susceptible to sth
to swing smoke-filled censers
to ring sacred bells
to sprinkle holy water
- Ch. 98 to regain consciousness
the cobwebs began to lift
to teeter near unconsciousness
- Ch. 99 to bypass sth (the rendezvous)
- Ch. 100 to take stock
- Ch. 102 to draw a total blank
to taunt sb
like a bolt from above
- Ch. 103 to bear witness to sth
- Ch. 107 to lie in store for sb

3. Explain the contextual meaning of the following lexical units relying on an English-English dictionary:

to stake out (Ch.106); unimpeded by sth (Ch.107)

4. Do the Internet / library research and provide information and pictures (if any) on the following:

- 1) transmigration
- 2) cosmic consciousness
- 3) near-death experience
- 4) astral projection
- 5) lucid dreaming

5. Prepare the extracts for expressive reading, literary translation and stylistic analysis:

Ch. 96 “*Indeed*, Mal’akh thought...” up to “...move freely through the minds of men.”

6. Pick up one point for discussion and dwell on it.

ASSIGNMENT 9

Chapters 111-121

1. Memorize the following words and word-combinations and use them in the situations from the text:

Infamous, IV bag / tube, maul, macabre

2. Study the active vocabulary and find it in the text of the novel:

Ch. 111 to perk up

to be nuts

Ch. 113 to hold sb close

Ch. 117 to apprise sb of sth

3. Explain the contextual meaning of the following lexical unit relying on an English-English dictionary:

to gather intel (Ch.115)

4. Do the Internet / library research and provide information and / or pictures (if any) on the following:

1) the House of the Temple

2) crucifixion reenactment

3) Jewish circumcision rite

4) Mormon baptism of the dead

5) Catholic exorcism

6) Islamic *niqab*

7) shamanic trance healing

8) the Jewish Kaparot ceremony

9) ouroboros

5. Prepare the extract for expressive reading, literary translation and stylistic analysis:

Ch. 121 “The UH-60 pilot threw his rotors into overdrive ...” up to “...all alone on the great altar.”

6. 1) “Only through the *death* experience could man fully understand his *life* experience. Only through the realization that his days on earth were finite could he grasp the importance of living those days with honor, integrity, and service to his fellow man.” Do you agree with this statement? Provide further arguments to support your opinion.

2) Pick up one more point for discussion and dwell on it.

ASSIGNMENT 10
Chapters 122-133

1. Memorize the following words and word-combinations and use them in the situations from the text:

Caveat, elaborate

2. Study the active vocabulary and find it in the text of the novel:

Ch. 124 to stop sb in sb's tracks
to tear at sb's emotions

Ch. 125 to make one's way to

Ch. 126 to sell sth as sth else

Ch. 127 to sneak a peek at sth
to give sth much thought

Ch. 133 to have sb's full attention

3. Do the Internet / library research and provide information and / or pictures (if any) on the following:

- 1) Kryptos
- 2) Twitter
- 3) tweet
- 4) the Mall

4. Prepare the extract for expressive reading, literary translation and stylistic analysis:

Epilogue "Across the Mall ..." up to "...*Hope.*"

5. 1) "Our brains, if used correctly, can call forth powers that are quite literally superhuman." Do you agree with this statement? Provide further arguments to support your opinion.

2) Pick up one more point for discussion and dwell on it.

Appendices

Assignment 1

Freemasonry is a fraternal organisation that arose from obscure origins in the late 16th to early 17th century. Freemasonry now exists in various forms all over the world, with a membership estimated at around 5 million, including just under two million in the United States and around 480,000 in England, Scotland and Ireland. The various forms all share moral and metaphysical ideals, which include, in most cases, a constitutional declaration of belief in a Supreme Being.

The fraternity is administratively organised into Grand Lodges (or sometimes Orients), each of which governs its own jurisdiction, which consists of subordinate (or constituent) Lodges. Grand Lodges recognise each other through a process of landmarks and regularity. There are also appendant bodies, which are organisations related to the main branch of Freemasonry, but with their own independent administration.



The Masonic Square and Compasses. (Found with or without the letter G)

Nubia is the region in the south of Egypt, along the Nile and in northern Sudan. Most of Nubia is situated in Sudan with about a quarter of its territory in Egypt. In ancient times it was an independent kingdom.

Cybele (Phrygian: Matar Kubileya/Kubeleya "Kubeleyan Mother", perhaps "Mountain Mother"; Greek: Κυβέλη Kybele, Κυβήβη Kybebe, Κύβελις Kybelis), was the Phrygian deification of the Earth Mother. As with Greek Gaia (the "Earth"), or her Minoan equivalent Rhea, Cybele embodies the fertile Earth, a goddess of caverns and mountains, walls and fortresses, nature, wild animals (especially lions and bees).

In the mythology of Mangaia in the Cook Islands, Moko is a wily character and grandfather of the heroic Ngaru.

Leviticus (Greek: Λευιτικός, "relating to the Levites") or Vayikra (Hebrew: ויקרא, literally "and He called") is the third book of the Hebrew Bible/Christian Old Testament, and the third of five books of the Jewish Torah or Pentateuch.

Transgender is a general term applied to a variety of individuals, behaviors, and groups involving tendencies to diverge from the normative gender roles.

Transgender is the state of one's "gender identity" (self-identification as woman, man, or neither) not matching one's "assigned sex" (identification by others as male or female based on physical/genetic sex). "Transgender" does not imply any specific form of sexual orientation; transgender people may identify as heterosexual, homosexual, bisexual, pansexual, polysexual, or asexual; some may consider conventional sexual orientation labels inadequate or inapplicable to them.

Giovanni Battista (also Giambattista) Piranesi (4 October 1720 - 9 November 1778) was an Italian artist famous for his etchings of Rome and of fictitious and



atmospheric "prisons"

Self-portrait.

An X-chair (also scissors chair, Dante chair, or **Savonarola chair**) is a chair with X-shaped frame. It was known in Ancient Egypt, Rome, and Greece.



Rome 1807/1837, silversmith **Vincenzo Bugarini**. Four wicks spouts in shape of animal heads. The shade is decorated with the Chigi coat of arms.

The State Hermitage (Russian: Государственный Эрмитаж) is a museum of art and culture situated in Saint Petersburg, Russia. One of the largest and oldest museums of the world, it was founded in 1764 by Catherine the Great and open to the public since 1852. Its collections, of which only a small part is on permanent display, comprise nearly 3 million items, including the largest collection of paintings in the world. The collections occupy a large complex of six historic buildings along Palace Embankment, including the Winter Palace, a former residence of Russian emperors. Apart from them, the Menshikov Palace, Museum of Porcelain, Storage Facility at Staraya Derevnnya and the eastern wing of the General Staff Building also make part of the museum. The museum has several exhibition centers abroad. The Hermitage is a federal state property. Since 1990, the director of the museum has been Mikhail Piotrovsky.

Out of six buildings of the main museum complex, four, namely the Winter Palace, Small Hermitage, Old Hermitage and New Hermitage, are partially open to the public. The other two are Hermitage Theatre and the Reserve House. The entrance ticket for foreign tourists costs several times as much as the fee paid by Russian citizens. However, the entrance is free of charge first Thursday of every month for all visitors and daily for students and children. The museum is closed on Mondays. Entrance is in the Winter Palace from Palace Embankment or the Courtyard.



The Hermitage Museum complex. From left to right: Hermitage Theatre – Old Hermitage – Small Hermitage – Winter Palace (the "New Hermitage" is situated behind the Old Hermitage).

The Vatican Museums (Italian: Musei Vaticani), in Viale Vaticano in Rome, inside the Vatican City, are among the greatest museums in the world, since they display works from the immense collection built up by the Roman Catholic Church throughout the centuries.

Pope Julius II founded the museums in the 16th century. The Sistine Chapel and the Stanze della Segnatura decorated by Raphael are on the visitor route through the Vatican Museums.



The Metropolitan Museum of Art, known colloquially as The Met, is an art museum located on the eastern edge of Central Park, along what is known as Museum Mile in New York City, USA. It has a permanent collection containing more than two million works of art, divided into nineteen curatorial departments. The main building, often referred to simply as "the Met," is one of the world's largest art galleries, and has a much smaller second location in Upper Manhattan, at "The Cloisters," which features medieval art.

Represented in the permanent collection are works of art from classical antiquity and Ancient Egypt, paintings and sculptures from nearly all the European masters, and an extensive collection of American and modern art. The Met also maintains extensive holdings of African, Asian, Oceanic, Byzantine and Islamic art. The museum is also home to encyclopedic collections of musical instruments, costumes and accessories, and antique weapons and armor from around the world. A number of notable interiors, ranging from 1st century Rome through modern American design, are permanently installed in the Met's galleries.

The Metropolitan Museum of Art was founded in 1870 by a group of American citizens. The founders included businessmen and financiers, as well as leading artists and thinkers of the day, who wanted to open a museum to bring art and art education to

the American people. It opened on February 20, 1872, and was originally located at 681 Fifth Avenue.



Noetic theory or noëtics (from Greek νοητικός "mental" from νοεῖν "to think" from νοῦς - noûs) is a branch of metaphysical philosophy concerned with the study of mind and intuition, and its relationship with the divine intellect. Among its principal purposes one can mention the study of non-rational ways of knowing and how they relate to reason; it also refers to the study of relationships between human and divine intuition. That is why noetic theory often had very close links with metaphysics. In the Western tradition and Arab philosophy noetic theory was strongly influenced by the theories of philosophers such as Anaxagoras, Plato and Aristotle.

Baphomet is an imagined pagan deity, revived in the 19th century as a figure of Satanism. It first appeared in a late twelfth century Provençal poem as a corruption of "Muhammad", but later it appeared as a term for a pagan idol in trial transcripts of the Inquisition of the Knights Templar in the early 1300s. However, in the 19th century the name came into popular English-speaking consciousness with the publication of various works of pseudo-history that tried to link the Knights Templar with conspiracy theories elaborating on their suppression. The name Baphomet then became associated with a "Sabbatic Goat" image drawn by Eliphas Lévi.

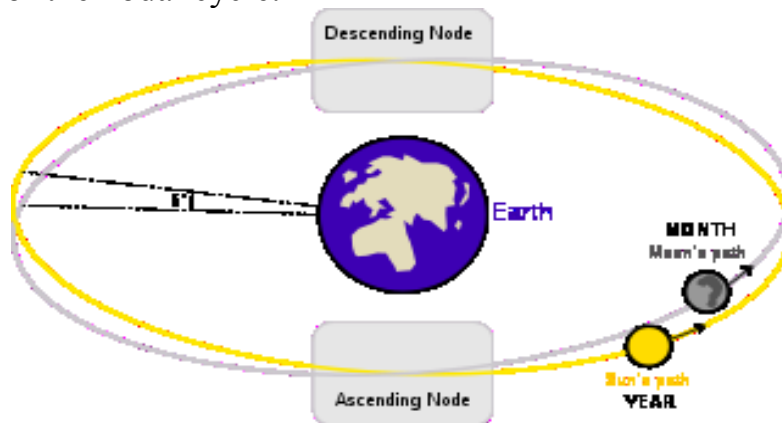


The 19th century image of a Sabbatic Goat, created by Eliphas Lévi. The arms bear the Latin words SOLVE (dissolve) and COAGULA (congeal).

The phrase **Caput Draconis** means "Dragon's head" or "Head of the dragon" in the Latin language.

Since the ascending node is the point of intersection between the ecliptic and the plane of the lunar orbit where the Moon is ascending from the South to the North, it is sometimes called the North node. In ancient European texts, it is referred to as the dragon's head (Caput Draconis, or Anabibazon). The symbol of the ascending node is Ω , the astronomical and astrological symbol for the Dragon's head. Similarly the descending node is the point where the Moon is descending from North to South, and is sometimes referred to as South node. It is also known as the dragon's tail (Cauda

Draconis, or Catabibazon), and its symbol is the inversion of that of the ascending node: ♁ . Note that the so-called North node may in fact lie South of the South node in the course of the nodal cycle.



The Eucharist, also called **Holy Communion**, Sacrament of the Table, the Blessed Sacrament, or The Lord's Supper and other names, is a Christian sacrament or ordinance, generally considered to be a commemoration of the Last Supper, the final meal that Jesus Christ shared with his disciples before his arrest and eventual crucifixion. The consecration of bread and a cup within the rite recalls the moment at the Last Supper when Jesus gave his disciples bread, saying, "This is my body", and wine, saying, "This is my blood".

There are different interpretations of the significance of the Eucharist, but "there is more of a consensus among Christians about the meaning of the Eucharist than would appear from the confessional debates over the sacramental presence, the effects of the Eucharist, and the proper auspices under which it may be celebrated."

The phrase "the Eucharist" may refer not only to the rite but also to the bread and wine (or, in some Protestant denominations, unfermented grape juice) used in the rite, and, in this sense, communicants may speak of "receiving the Eucharist", as well as "celebrating the Eucharist".

Araf is the Muslim sheol or borderland between heaven and hell for those who are, from incapacity, neither morally bad nor morally good.

Araf is also a partition. Between hell and paradise there is a high wall, an a'raf. On this partition stand men who have escaped from hell but who are not (yet) permitted to enter paradise. They yearn to enter paradise, but their sins and virtues are evenly balanced.

As described in the 9th century Zoroastrian text *Dadestan-i Denig* ("Religious Decisions"), **hamistagan** is a neutral place or state for the departed souls of those whose good deeds and bad deeds were equal in life. Here these souls await Judgment Day. Meanwhile, those who did mostly good experience bliss and those who did mostly evil suffer torment. *Religious Decisions* was written in Persia (modern-day Iran) when Islam was replacing Zoroastrianism as the majority religion.

Hamistagan can be compared to Roman Catholic purgatory because it occupies a position between heaven and hell, but hamistagan is a place of waiting, not punishment and purification. As a neutral place, hamistagan is more like the Roman Catholic limbo.

Islam does not have a similar neutral place where some await Judgment Day. The angels Nakir and Munkar interrogate a recently deceased soul, which then remains in its grave in a state of bliss or torment until Judgment Day.

Hermeticism is a magical and religious movement stemming from the teachings of Hermes Trismegistus.

Assignment 2

Eli, a nickname for a Yale University student, after Yale benefactor Elihu Yale

An adept is an individual identified as having attained a specific level of knowledge, skill, or aptitude in doctrines relevant to a particular author or organization.

A Web crawler is a computer program that browses the World Wide Web in a methodical, automated manner. Other terms for Web crawlers are ants, automatic indexers, bots, and worms or Web spider, Web robot, or—especially in the FOAF community—Web scutter.

Random Event Generator – electronic apparatus which generates random numbers, used as targets in a psi test. A basic form of REG is an electronic coin-tossing machine, generating a series of "heads and tails" outputs. Other REGs have more complex outputs. Tests with REGs are often conducted in conjunction with computers, so that the timing and running of the experiment can be mechanically controlled and analyzed, thus obviating fraud on the part of the subject, and facilitating evaluation of a long series of runs.

Mind over matter is a phrase popularized during the 1960s and 1970s that was originally used in reference to paranormal phenomena, especially psychokinesis. However, it has also been used in reference to mind-centric spiritual and philosophic doctrines such as responsibility assumption. It is the belief that the mind is more powerful than the body. Specifically, mind over matter refers to controlling pain that you may or may not be experiencing, such as holding your hand under extremely hot water and feeling no pain.

A Morris Chair is an early type of reclining chair. The design was adapted by William Morris's firm, Morris & Company from a prototype owned by Ephraim Colman in rural Sussex, England. It was first marketed around 1866.

The design features a seat with a reclining back and moderately high armrests, which give the chair an old-style appearance. The characteristic feature of a Morris chair is a hinged back, set between two un-upholstered arms, with the reclining angle adjusted through a row of pegs, holes or notches in each arm. The original Morris chair had dark stained woodwork, turned spindles and heavily decorated upholstery, in typical Victorian style.



The Zohar (lit Splendor or Radiance) is widely considered the most important work of Kabbalah. It is a mystical commentary on the Torah (the five books of Moses), written in medieval Aramaic. It contains a mystical discussion of the nature of God, the origin

and structure of the universe, the nature of souls, redemption, describes relationship of Ego to Darkness and true self to The light of God, and the relationship between the universal energy and man.

The Zohar is not one book, but a group of books; these books include scriptural interpretations as well as material on theosophic theology, mythical cosmogony, and mystical psychology. Its scriptural exegesis can be considered an esoteric form of Midrash (Rabbinic elaboration on the Tanach). This accords with the traditional claim by adherents, that Kabbalah is the concealed part of the Oral Torah.

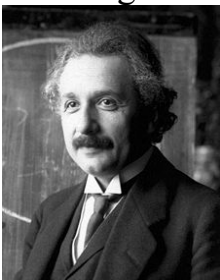
The Kybalion: Hermetic Philosophy is a 1908 book claiming to be the essence of the teachings of Hermes Trismegistus, published anonymously by a group or person under the pseudonym of "the Three Initiates".

Sumerian ("native tongue") was the language of ancient Sumer, spoken in Southern Mesopotamia since at least the 4th millennium BCE (BC). It was gradually replaced by Akkadian as a spoken language somewhere around the turn of the 3rd and the 2nd millennium BCE (the exact dating being a matter of debate), but continued to be used as a sacred, ceremonial, literary and scientific language in Mesopotamia until the first century CE (AD). Then, it was forgotten until the 19th century, when Assyriologists began deciphering the cuneiform inscriptions and excavated tablets left by these speakers. Sumerian is a language isolate.

Albert Einstein (14 March 1879–18 April 1955) was a theoretical physicist. His many contributions to physics include the special and general theories of relativity, the founding of relativistic cosmology, the first post-Newtonian expansion, explaining the perihelion advance of Mercury, prediction of the deflection of light by gravity and gravitational lensing, the first fluctuation dissipation theorem which explained the Brownian movement of molecules, the photon theory and wave-particle duality, the quantum theory of atomic motion in solids, the zero-point energy concept, the semiclassical version of the Schrödinger equation, and the quantum theory of a monatomic gas which predicted Bose-Einstein condensation.

Einstein is best known for his theories of special relativity and general relativity. He received the 1921 Nobel Prize in Physics “for his services to Theoretical Physics, and especially for his discovery of the law of the photoelectric effect.”

Einstein published more than 300 scientific and over 150 non-scientific works.[3] He is often regarded as the father of modern physics.



Niels Henrik David Bohr (7 October 1885 – 18 November 1962) was a Danish physicist who made fundamental contributions to understanding atomic structure and quantum mechanics, for which he received the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1922. Bohr mentored and collaborated with many of the top physicists of the century at his institute

in Copenhagen. He was part of a team of physicists working on the Manhattan Project. Bohr married Margrethe Nørlund in 1912, and one of their sons, Aage Niels Bohr, grew up to be an important physicist who in 1975 also received the Nobel prize. Bohr has been described as one of the most influential physicists of the 20th century.



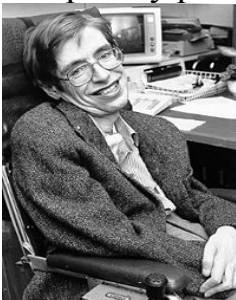
Aage Niels Bohr (19 June 1922 – 8 September 2009) was a Danish nuclear physicist and Nobel laureate, and the son of Niels and Margrethe Bohr.

Stephen William Hawking (born 8 January 1942) is a British theoretical physicist. He is known for his contributions to the fields of cosmology and quantum gravity, especially in the context of black holes. He has also achieved success with works of popular science in which he discusses his own theories and cosmology in general; these include the runaway best seller *A Brief History of Time*, which stayed on the British Sunday Times bestsellers list for a record-breaking 237 weeks.

Hawking's key scientific works to date have included providing, with Roger Penrose, theorems regarding singularities in the framework of general relativity, and the theoretical prediction that black holes should emit radiation, which is today known as Hawking radiation (or sometimes as Bekenstein-Hawking radiation). He is a world-renowned theoretical physicist whose scientific career spans over 40 years. His books and public appearances have made him an academic celebrity. He is an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts, and a lifetime member of the Pontifical Academy of Science. On August 12, 2009, he was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian award in the United States.

Hawking was the Lucasian Professor of Mathematics at the University of Cambridge for thirty years, taking up the post in 1979 and retiring on October 1, 2009. He is also a Fellow of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge and a Distinguished Research Chair at the Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics in Waterloo, Ontario.

Hawking has a neuro muscular dystrophy that is related to amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), a condition that has progressed over the years and has left him almost completely paralyzed.

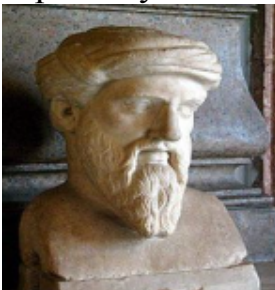


Claudius Ptolemaeus (Greek: Κλαύδιος Πτολεμαῖος Klaúdios Ptolemaîos; c. AD 90 – c. 168), known in English as Ptolemy, was a Roman citizen of Greek or Egyptian ancestry. He was a mathematician, astronomer, geographer, astrologer and a poet of a single epigram in the Greek Anthology. He lived in Egypt under the Roman Empire, and is believed to have been born in the town of Ptolemais Hermiou in the Thebaid. He died in Alexandria around AD 168.

Ptolemy was the author of several scientific treatises, three of which would be of continuing importance to later Islamic and European science. The first is the astronomical treatise now known as the *Almagest* (in Greek, Ἡ Μεγάλη Σύνταξις, "The Great Treatise", originally Μαθηματικὴ Σύνταξις, "Mathematical Treatise"). The second is the *Geography*, which is a thorough discussion of the geographic knowledge of the Greco-Roman world. The third is the astrological treatise known in Greek as the *Apotelesmatika* (Ἀποτελεσματικά), or more commonly in Greek as the *Tetrabiblos* (Τετράβιβλος "Four books"), in which he attempted to adapt horoscopic astrology to the Aristotelian natural philosophy of his day.



Pythagoras of Samos (Greek: Ὁ Πυθαγόρας ὁ Σάμιος, O Pūthagoras o Samios, "Pythagoras the Samian", or simply Ὁ Πυθαγόρας; c. 570-c. 495 BC) was an Ionian Greek philosopher and founder of the religious movement called Pythagoreanism. He is often revered as a great mathematician, mystic and scientist; however some have questioned the scope of his contributions to mathematics and natural philosophy. Herodotus referred to him as "the most able philosopher among the Greeks". His name led him to be associated with Pythian Apollo; Aristippus explained his name by saying, "He spoke (agor-) the truth no less than did the Pythian (Pyth-)," and Iamblichus tells the story that the Pythia prophesied that his pregnant mother would give birth to a man supremely beautiful, wise, and beneficial to humankind.



Hermes Trismegistus (Greek: Ἑρμῆς ὁ Τρισμέγιστος, "thrice-great Hermes"; Latin: Mercurius ter Maximus) is the representation of the combination of the Greek god Hermes and the Egyptian god Thoth. In Hellenistic Egypt, the Greeks recognised the congruence of their God Hermes with the Egyptian god Thoth. Subsequently the two

gods were worshipped as one in what had been the Temple of Thoth in Khemnu, which the Greeks called Hermopolis.

Tao is a concept found in Taoism, Confucianism, and more generally in ancient Chinese philosophy. While the character itself translates as 'way', 'path', or 'route', or sometimes more loosely as 'doctrine' or 'principle', it is used philosophically to signify the fundamental or true nature of the world. The concept of Tao differs from Western ontology, however; it is an active and holistic conception of the world, rather than one that focuses on a hierarchy of being.

In Taoism, Tao both precedes and encompasses the universe. As with other nondualistic philosophies, all the observable objects in the world - referred to in the Tao Te Ching as 'the named' or 'the ten thousand things' - are considered to be manifestations of Tao, and can only operate within the boundaries of Tao. Tao is, by contrast, often referred to as 'the nameless', because neither it nor its principles can ever be adequately expressed in words. It is conceived, for example, with neither shape nor form, as simultaneously perfectly still and constantly moving, as both larger than the largest thing and smaller than the smallest, because the words that describe shape, movement, size, or other qualities always create dichotomies, and Tao is always a unity.

While the Tao cannot be expressed, Taoism holds that it can be known, and its principles can be followed. Much of Taoist writing focuses on the value of following the Tao - called Te (virtue) - and of the ultimate uselessness of trying to understand or control Tao outright. This is often expressed through yin and yang arguments, where every action creates a counter-action as a natural, unavoidable movement within manifestations of the Tao.

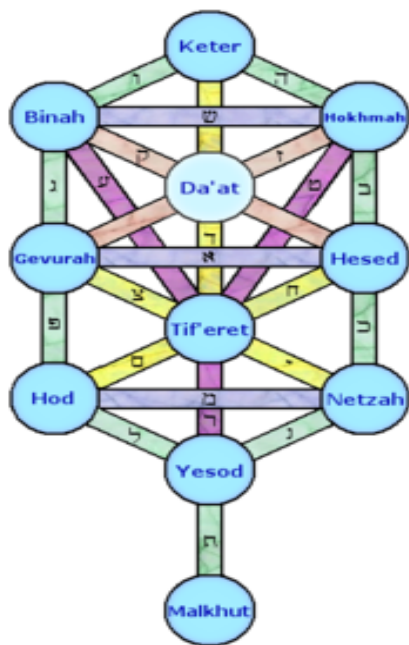
Tao is often compared to water: clear, colorless, unremarkable, yet all beings depend on it for life, and even the hardest stone cannot stand in its way forever.

In the Hindu religion, **Brahman** (bráhman) is the unchanging, infinite, immanent, and transcendent reality which is the Divine Ground of all matter, energy, time, space, being, and everything beyond in this Universe. The nature of Brahman is described as transpersonal, personal and impersonal by different philosophical schools. In the Rig Veda, Brahman gives rise to the primordial being Hiranyagarbha that is equated with the creator God Brahmā. The trimurti can thus be considered a personification of Hiranyagarbha as the active principle behind the phenomena of the universe.

The Dharmakāya (lit. Truth Body or Reality Body) is a central concept in Mahayana Buddhism forming part of the Trikaya doctrine that was possibly first expounded in the *Aṣṭasāhasrikā prajñā-pāramitā* (The Perfection of Insight In Eight Thousand Verses), composed in the first century BCE. It constitutes the unmanifested, 'inconceivable' (Sanskrit: acintya) aspect of a Buddha out of which Buddhas and indeed all 'phenomena' (Sanskrit: dharmas) arise and to which they return after their dissolution. Buddhas are manifestations of the Dharmakaya called Nirmanakayas. Unlike ordinary unenlightened persons, Buddhas (and arhats) do not die (though their physical bodies undergo the cessation of biological functions and subsequent disintegration). In the Lotus Sutra (sixth fascicle) Buddha explains that he has always and will always exist to lead beings to their salvation. This eternal aspect of Buddha is the Dharmakaya. The Dharmakaya

may be considered the most sublime or truest reality in the Universe corresponding closely to the post-Vedic conception of Brahman.

Sephirot, meaning "enumerations", are the 10 attributes/emanations in Kabbalah, through which God (who is referred to as Ein Sof-The Limitless) reveals Himself and continuously creates both our physical realm and the chain of higher metaphysical realms (Seder hishtalshelus). The term is alternatively transliterated into English as Sephiroth/Sefiroth, singular Sephirah etc.



Shangri-La is a fictional place described in the 1933 novel *Lost Horizon* by British author James Hilton. In the book, "Shangri-La" is a mystical, harmonious valley, gently guided from a lamasery, enclosed in the western end of the Kunlun Mountains. Shangri-La has become synonymous with any earthly paradise but particularly a mythical Himalayan utopia — a permanently happy land, isolated from the outside world. The word also evokes the imagery of exoticism of the Orient. In the ancient Tibetan scriptures, existence of 7 such places are mentioned as Nghe-Beyul Khimpalung. One of such places is mentioned to be situated somewhere in the Makalu-Barun region.

The Fountain of Youth is a legendary spring that reputedly restores the youth of anyone who drinks of its waters.



Elder

The Fountain of Youth by Lucas Cranach the

The tarot (first known as tarocchi, also tarock and similar names) is a pack of cards (most commonly numbering seventy-eight), used from the mid fifteenth century in various parts of Europe to play card games such as Italian Tarocchini and French Tarot. From the late 18th century until the present time the Tarot has also found use by mystics and occultists in efforts at divination or as a map of mental and spiritual pathways.



Visconti-Sforza tarot deck. The Devil card is a 20th-century remake of the card supposedly missing from the original 15th-century deck.

The I Ching (Wade-Giles), “Yì Jīng” (Pinyin), Classic of Changes or Book of Changes; also called Zhouyi, is one of the oldest of the Chinese classic texts. The book contains a divination system comparable to Western geomancy or the West African Ifá system. In Western cultures and modern East Asia, it is still widely used for this purpose.

The philosopher's stone (Latin: lapis philosophorum) is a legendary alchemical substance, supposedly capable of turning base metals, especially lead, into gold (chrysopoeia); it was also sometimes believed to be an elixir of life, useful for rejuvenation and possibly for achieving immortality.

For a long time, it was the most sought-after goal in Western alchemy, meditated upon by alchemists like Sir Isaac Newton, Nicolas Flamel, and Frater Albertus.

The Stone was the central symbol of the mystical terminology of alchemy, symbolizing perfection, enlightenment, heavenly bliss, theophany and of the Christ. The discovery of the philosopher's stone was known as the Great Work.

Wicca is a neopagan, nature-based religion. It was popularised in 1954 by Gerald Gardner, a retired British civil servant, who at the time called it a "Witch cult" and "Witchcraft", and its adherents "the Wica".

Wiccans, as followers of Wicca are now commonly known, typically worship a Goddess (traditionally the Triple Goddess) and a God (traditionally the Horned God), who are sometimes represented as being a part of a greater pantheistic Godhead, and as manifesting themselves as various polytheistic deities. Other characteristics of Wicca include the ritual use of magic, a basic code of morality, and the celebration of eight seasonally based festivals.

The Temple of Vesta (Latin: Aedes Vestae) is an ancient edifice in Rome, Italy, located in the Roman Forum between the Temple of Castor and Pollux, the Temple of Caesar, the Regia and the House of the Vestal Virgins. The temple's most recognizable feature is its circular footprint which is most likely a remnant of an ancient Latin or

Etruscan shrine. Since the worship of Vesta began in private homes, the architecture seems to be a reminder of its history. The extant temple used Greek architecture with Corinthian columns, marble, and a central cella. The remaining structure indicates that there were twenty Corinthian columns built on a podium fifteen meters in diameter. The roof probably had a vent at the apex to allow smoke release.



The remains of the temple reconstructed

The Pantheon (Latin: Pantheon, from Greek: Πάνθεον, meaning "Every god") is a building in Rome, originally built by Marcus Agrippa as a temple to all the gods of Ancient Rome, and rebuilt in the early 2nd century AD. A near-contemporary writer, Cassius Dio, speculates that the name comes from the statues of many gods placed around the building, or from the resemblance of the dome to the heavens. The intended degree of inclusiveness of the dedication to "all" the gods is debated.

The building is circular with a portico of three ranks of huge granite Corinthian columns (eight in the first rank and two groups of four behind) under a pediment opening into the rotunda, under a coffered, concrete dome, with a central opening (oculus) open to the sky. Almost two thousand years after it was built, the Pantheon's dome is still the world's largest unreinforced concrete dome. The height to the oculus and the diameter of the interior circle are the same, 43.3 metres (142 ft). A rectangular structure links the portico with the rotunda. It is one of the best preserved of all Roman buildings. It has been in continuous use throughout its history, and since the 7th century, the Pantheon has been used as a Roman Catholic church dedicated to "St. Mary and the Martyrs" but informally known as "Santa Maria Rotonda."



Model of the Pantheon

Assignment 3



The Last Supper (Convent of Sta. Maria delle Grazie, Milan, Italy (1498), by Leonardo da Vinci).

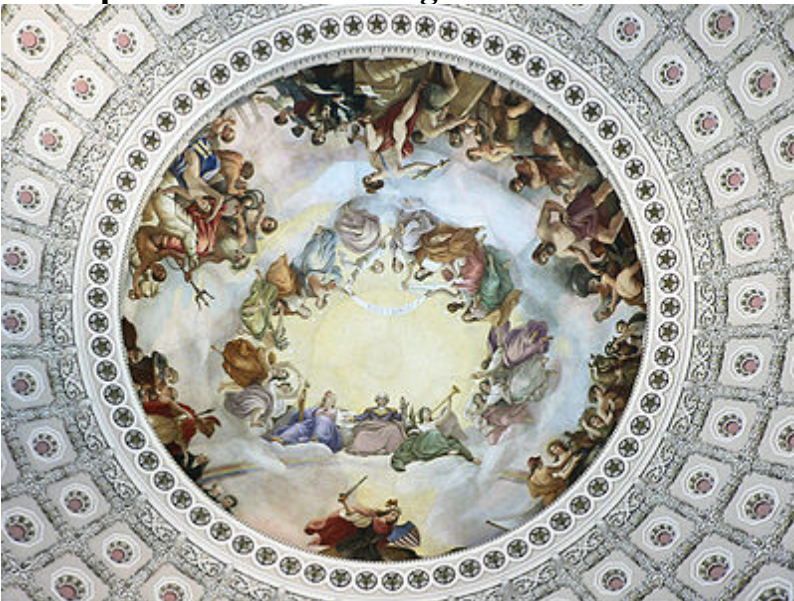


The Adoration of the Magi is an early painting by Leonardo da Vinci. Leonardo was given the commission by the Augustinian monks of San Donato a Scopeto in Florence, but departed for Milan the following year, leaving the painting unfinished. It has been in the Uffizi Gallery in Florence since 1670.



St. John the Baptist is an oil painting on walnut wood by the artist Leonardo da Vinci. Completed from 1513 to 1516, when the High Renaissance was metamorphosing into Mannerism, it is believed to be his last painting. The original size of the work was 69x57 cm. It is now exhibited at the Musée du Louvre in Paris, France.

The Apotheosis of Washington



The Apotheosis of Washington, as seen looking up from the capitol rotunda

The Apotheosis of Washington is the very large fresco painted by Italian artist Constantino Brumidi in 1865 and visible through the oculus of the dome in the rotunda of the United States Capitol Building. The fresco is suspended 180 feet (55 m) above the rotunda floor and covers an area of 4,664 square feet (433.3 m²). The figures painted are up to 15 feet (4.6 m) tall and are visible from the floor below. The dome was completed in 1863, and Brumidi painted it over the course of 11 months at the end of the Civil War. He was paid \$40,000 (\$583,093 in 2008) for the fresco.

Brumidi had worked for three years in the Vatican under Pope Gregory XVI, and served several aristocrats as an artist for palaces and villas, including the prince Torlonia. He

immigrated to the United States in 1852, and spent much of the last 25 years of his life working in the Capitol. In addition to *The Apotheosis of Washington* he designed the Brumidi Corridors.

Symbolism

The *Apotheosis of Washington* depicts George Washington becoming a god (apotheosis). Washington, the first U.S. president and commander-in-chief of the Continental Army during the American Revolutionary War, is allegorically represented, surrounded by figures from classical mythology. Washington is draped in purple, a royal color, with a rainbow arch at his feet, flanked by the goddess Victory (draped in green, using a horn) to his left and the goddess Liberty to his right. Liberty wears a red cap, symbolizing emancipation, from a Roman tradition where sons leaving the home and/or slaves being emancipated would be given a red cap. She holds a fasces in her right hand and an open book in the other.

Forming a circle between Liberty and Victory are 13 maidens, each with a star above their heads, representing the original 13 colonies. Several of the maidens have their backs turned to Washington, said to represent the colonies that had seceded from the Union at the time of painting.

Surrounding Washington, the two goddesses, and the 13 maidens are six scenes lining the perimeter, each representing a national concept allegorically: from directly below Washington in the center and moving clockwise, "War," "Science," "Marine," "Commerce," "Mechanics," and "Agriculture":



War

Freedom, also known as Columbia, is directly below Washington in the personification of War. The scene depicts a woman fighting for liberty with a raised sword, a cape, and a helmet and shield (in the colors of the American flag) trampling figures representing Tyranny and Kingly Power. To Freedom's left assisting her is a fierce bald eagle (the bald eagle is the national bird of the United States) carrying arrows and a thunderbolt (reminiscent of the arrows carried by the eagle in the Great Seal of the United States).



Science

Minerva, the Roman goddess of crafts and wisdom, is portrayed with helmet and spear pointing to an electrical generator creating power stored in batteries next to a printing press, representing great American inventions. American scientists and inventors Benjamin Franklin, Samuel F. B. Morse, and Robert Fulton watch. In the left part of the scene a teacher demonstrates the use of dividers.



Marine

This scene shows Neptune, the Roman sea-god, with trident and crown of seaweed riding in a shell chariot drawn by sea horses. Venus, goddess of love born from the sea, is depicted helping to lay the transatlantic telegraph cable which ran from America to the Telegraph Field in Ireland. In the background is an ironclad warship with smokestacks.



Commerce

Mercury, god of commerce, with his winged petasos and sandals and a caduceus, is depicted giving a bag of gold to American Revolutionary War financier Robert Morris. To the left, men move a box on a dolly; on the right, the anchor and sailors lead into "Marine."



Mechanics

Vulcan, god of fire and the forge, is depicted standing at an anvil with his foot on a cannon next to a pile of cannonballs. A steam engine is in the background. The man at the forge is thought to represent Charles Thomas, the supervisor of ironwork during the construction of the Capitol dome.



Agriculture

Ceres, the goddess of agriculture, is shown with a wreath of wheat and a cornucopia, symbol of plenty, while sitting on a McCormick mechanical reaper. The personification of Young America in a liberty cap holds the reins of the horses, while the goddess Flora gathers flowers in the foreground.

George Washington (1840) is a massive sculpture by Horatio Greenough commissioned for the centennial of U.S President George Washington's birth in 1832.

Greenough modeled his massive (30 tons) figure of “Enthroned Washington” on the great statue of Zeus Olympios which was one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World (and which was destroyed in late Antiquity). The seated and besandled Washington gazes sternly ahead. He is bare-chested and his right arm and hand gesture with upraised index finger toward heaven. His left palm and forearm cradle a sheathed sword, hilt forward, symbolizing Washington turning over power to the people at the conclusion of the American Revolutionary War.



ESPN (originally an abbreviation for the Entertainment and Sports Programming Network) is an American cable television network dedicated to broadcasting and producing sports-related programming 24 hours a day.

BlackBerry is a line of wireless mobile device that was introduced in 1999 as a two-way pager. In 2002, the more commonly known smartphone BlackBerry was released, which supports push e-mail, mobile telephone, text messaging, internet faxing, web browsing and other wireless information services. It is an example of a convergent device. Developed by the Canadian company Research In Motion (RIM), it delivers information over the wireless data networks of mobile phone service companies. BlackBerry first made headway in the marketplace by concentrating on e-mail. RIM currently offers BlackBerry e-mail service to non-BlackBerry devices, such as the Palm Treo, through the BlackBerry Connect software. The original BlackBerry device had a monochrome display, but all current models have color displays, and are market leaders in innovation, specifically surrounding multi-tasking operating systems and integration with backend messaging and collaboration and customised application systems.



The Elder Futhark (or Elder Futhork, Older Futhark, Old Futhark) is the oldest form of the runic alphabet, used by Germanic tribes for Northwest Germanic and Migration period Germanic dialects of the 2nd to 8th centuries for inscriptions on artifacts such as jewellery, amulets, tools, weapons and runestones. In Scandinavia, the script was simplified to the Younger Futhark from the late 8th century, while the Anglo-Saxons and Frisians extended the Futhark which eventually became the Anglo-Saxon futhorc after Proto-English /a/ developed to /o/ in nasal environments.

Unlike the younger futhark which remained in use until modern times, the knowledge of how to read the Elder Futhark was forgotten, and it was not until 1865 that the Norwegian scholar Sophus Bugge managed to decipher it.

Rosicrucianism (symbol: the Rose Cross) is the theology of a secret society of mystics, allegedly formed in late medieval Germany, holding a doctrine "built on esoteric truths of the ancient past", which, "concealed from the average man, provide insight into nature, the physical universe and the spiritual realm."

Between 1607 and 1616, two anonymous manifestos were published, first in Germany and later throughout Europe. These were *Fama Fraternitatis RC* (The Fame of the Brotherhood of RC) and *Confessio Fraternitatis* (The Confession of the Brotherhood of RC). The influence of these documents, presenting a "most laudable Order" of mystic-philosopher-doctors and promoting a "Universal Reformation of Mankind", gave rise to an enthusiasm called by its historian Dame Frances Yates the "Rosicrucian Enlightenment".

In later centuries many esoteric societies have claimed to derive their doctrines, in whole or in part, from the original Rosicrucians. Several modern societies, which date the beginning of the Order to earlier centuries, have been formed for the study of Rosicrucianism and allied subjects.

The Alumbrados (Illuminated) was a term used to loosely describe practitioners of a mystical form of Christianity in Spain during the 15th-16th centuries. In spite of their lack of organization and their peaceful forms of expression through the Catholic Church in the late 15th century, they were severely repressed and became some of the early victims of the Spanish Inquisition.

Kabbalah (Hebrew: קַבְּלָה, lit. "receiving") is a discipline and school of thought concerned with the mystical aspect of Judaism. It is a set of esoteric teachings that is meant to explain the relationship between an infinite, eternal and essentially unknowable Creator with the finite and mortal universe of His creation. In solving this paradox, Kabbalah seeks to define the nature of the universe and the human being, the nature and purpose of existence, and various other ontological questions. It also presents methods to aid understanding of these concepts and to thereby attain spiritual realization. Kabbalah originally developed entirely within the realm of Jewish thought and constantly uses classical Jewish sources to explain and demonstrate its esoteric teachings. These teachings are thus held by kabbalists to define the inner meaning of both the Tanakh (Hebrew Bible) and traditional rabbinic literature, as well as to explain the significance of Jewish religious observances.

The Eleusinian Mysteries (Greek: Ἐλευσίνια Μυστήρια) were initiation ceremonies held every year for the cult of Demeter and Persephone based at Eleusis in ancient Greece. Of all the mysteries celebrated in ancient times, these were held to be the ones of greatest importance. These myths and mysteries, begun in the Mycenaean period (c. 1600 BC) and lasting two thousand years, were a major festival during the Hellenic era, later spreading to Rome. The name of the town, Eleusís, is a variant of the noun ἔλευσις, éleusis, arrival.

The rites, ceremonies, and beliefs were kept secret, as initiation was believed to unite the worshipper with the gods and included promises of divine power and rewards in the afterlife. There are many paintings and pieces of pottery that depict various aspects of the Mysteries. Since the Mysteries involved visions and conjuring of an afterlife, some scholars believe that the power and longevity of the Eleusinian Mysteries came from psychedelic agents.

A **domain name** is an identification label that defines a realm of administrative autonomy, authority, or control in the Internet, based on the Domain Name System (DNS).

Individual Internet host computers use domain names as host identifiers, or hostnames. Hostnames are the leaf labels in the domain name system usually without further subordinate domain name space. Hostnames appear as a component in Uniform Resource Locators (URLs) for Internet resources such as web sites (e.g., en.wikipedia.org).

Domain names are also used as simple identification labels to indicate ownership or control of a resource. Such examples are the realm identifiers used in the Session Initiation Protocol (SIP), the DomainKeys used to verify DNS domains in e-mail systems, and in many other Uniform Resource Identifiers (URIs).

ping is a computer network tool used to test whether a particular host is reachable across an IP network; it is also used to self test the network interface card of the computer, or as a latency test. It works by sending ICMP “echo request” packets to the target host and listening for ICMP “echo response” replies. The "echo response" is sometimes called a pong. Ping measures the round-trip time and records any packet loss, and prints when finished a statistical summary of the echo response packets received, the minimum, mean, max and in some versions the standard deviation of the round trip time.

traceroute is a computer network tool used to determine the route taken by packets across an IP network. An IPv6 variant, traceroute6, is also widely available.

The traceroute tool is available on practically all Unix-like operating systems. Variants with similar functionality are also available, such as tracepath on modern Linux installations and tracert on Microsoft Windows operating systems. Windows NT-based operating systems also provide PathPing, which provides similar functionality.

Pirate's Booty is a snack food produced by Robert's American Gourmet Food. Available in the United States, it is considered Robert's top product.

The snack was developed by commodities trader Robert Ehrlich. He would often watch people purchasing Cheese Puffs in a local supermarket. The snack, Ehrlich explained,

did not have "any real cheese in them...most of the ingredients you couldn't even pronounce."

The snack is made with natural ingredients and real cheese. The leading snack of Ehrlich's product line, it is available in 90% of supermarkets across the United States. The snack is often considered a healthy alternative to other snack foods. Robert's has also marketed a number of other similar products, including a low carbohydrate version called Girlfriend's Booty, Simply Booty Vegan, the fruit-based Fruity Booty, Moon Chips, Pirate's Swag Granola and Trail Mix, Tings, Smart Puffs and the vegetable-based Veggie Booty.

It has been suggested that the name Pirate's Booty is a pun on The Dread Pirate Roberts from The Princess Bride, given founder Robert Ehrlich's name.



When used as an accessory to a suit, a handkerchief is known as a **pocket square**.

A **Taser™** is an electroshock weapon that uses electrical current to disrupt voluntary control of muscles. Its manufacturer, Taser International, calls the effects "neuromuscular incapacitation" and the devices' mechanism "Electro-Muscular Disruption (EMD) technology". Someone struck by a Taser experiences stimulation of his or her sensory nerves and motor nerves, resulting in strong involuntary muscle contractions. Tasers do not rely only on pain compliance, except when used in Drive Stun mode, and are thus preferred by some law enforcement over non-Taser stun guns and other electronic control weapons. At the present time, there are two main police models, the M26 and X26. Both come with various accessories, including a laser sight and optional mounted digital video camera that can record in low-light situations. Taser International is also marketing a civilian model called the C2. On 27 July 2009, Taser introduced the X3, capable of subduing 3 suspects without reload.



The Invisible College was a precursor to the Royal Society of United Kingdom. It consisted of a group of natural philosophers (scientists) including Robert Boyle, John Wilkins, John Wallis, John Evelyn, Robert Hooke, Christopher Wren and William Petty. In letters in 1646 and 1647, Boyle refers to "our invisible college" or "our philosophical college". The society's common theme was to acquire knowledge through experimental investigation.

In its turn the "Hartlibians", a circle of people around Samuel Hartlib, were the precursors to the Invisible College. Sir Cheney Culpeper, Benjamin Worsley were interested in alchemy, but also in agricultural topics.

The Poor Fellow-Soldiers of Christ and of the Temple of Solomon (Latin: *Pauperes commilitones Christi Templique Solomonici*), commonly known as **the Knights Templar** or the Order of the Temple (French: *Ordre du Temple* or *Templiers*), were among the most famous of the Western Christian military orders. The organization existed for approximately two centuries in the Middle Ages.

Officially endorsed by the Roman Catholic Church around 1129, the Order became a favored charity throughout Christendom, and grew rapidly in membership and power. Templar knights, in their distinctive white mantles with a red cross, were among the most skilled fighting units of the Crusades. Non-combatant members of the Order managed a large economic infrastructure throughout Christendom, innovating financial techniques that were an early form of banking, and building many fortifications across Europe and the Holy Land.

The Templars' existence was tied closely to the Crusades; when the Holy Land was lost, support for the Order faded. Rumors about the Templars' secret initiation ceremony created mistrust, and King Philip IV of France, deeply in debt to the Order, took advantage of the situation. In 1307, many of the Order's members in France were arrested, tortured into giving false confessions, and then burned at the stake. Under pressure from King Philip, Pope Clement V disbanded the Order in 1312. The abrupt disappearance of a major part of the European infrastructure gave rise to speculation and legends, which have kept the "Templar" name alive into the modern day.

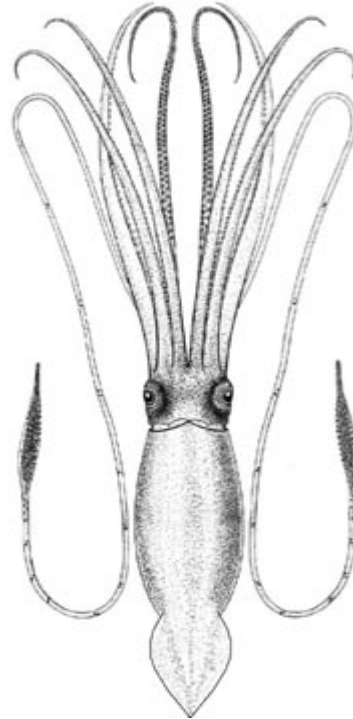


A Seal of the Knights Templar, with their famous image of two knights on a single horse, a symbol of their early poverty. The text is in Greek and Latin characters, *Sigillum Militum Xpisti*: followed by a cross, which means "the Seal of the Soldiers of Christ".

Illuminati (plural of Latin *illuminatus*, "enlightened") is a name that refers to several groups, both historical and modern, and both real and fictitious. Historically, it refers specifically to the Bavarian Illuminati, an Enlightenment-era secret society founded on May 1, 1776. In modern times it is also used to refer to a purported conspiratorial organization which acts as a shadowy "power behind the throne", allegedly controlling world affairs through present day governments and corporations, usually as a modern incarnation or continuation of the Bavarian Illuminati. In this context, Illuminati is often used in reference to a New World Order (NWO). Many conspiracy theorists believe the Illuminati are the masterminds behind events that will lead to the establishment of such a New World Order.

Assignment 4

The **Architeuthidae** are the largest (in terms of weight) known cephalopods, the largest known mollusks and probably the largest invertebrates ever known to exist in the oceans. Largest specimens attain mantle lengths up to 5 m and total lengths up to 18 m, but animals of that size are seldom reported. Most records are in the 6-12 m total length range. Architeuthids are characterized by having small, ovoid fins, very long arms, exceptionally long tentacles, and distinctive tentacular club structure.



Coelacanth (adaptation of Modern Latin *Cœlacanthus*: *cœl*-us + *acanth*-us from Greek κοῖλ-ος [hollow] + ἄκανθ-α [spine]) is the common name for an order of fish that includes the oldest living lineage of gnathostomata known to date. The coelacanths, which are related to lungfishes and tetrapods, were believed to have been extinct since the end of the Cretaceous period, until the first *Latimeria* specimen was found off the east coast of South Africa, off the Chalumna River in 1938. They are, therefore, a Lazarus taxon. Since 1938, *Latimeria chalumnae* have been found in the Comoros, Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, Madagascar, and in iSimangaliso Wetland Park, Kwazulu-Natal in South Africa. The second extant species, *L. menadoensis*, was described from Sulawesi, Indonesia in 1999 by Pouyaud et al. based on a specimen discovered by Erdmann in 1998 and deposited in Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI). The first specimen of this species was only photographed at a local market by Arnaz and Mark Erdmann before being bought by a shopper. The coelacanth has no real commercial value, apart from being coveted by museums and private collectors. As a food fish the coelacanth is almost worthless as its tissues exude oils even when dead, imparting the flesh with a foul flavor.



The Phaistos Disc (also spelled Phaistos Disk, Phaestos Disc) is a disk of fired clay from the Minoan palace of Phaistos, possibly dating to the middle or late Minoan Bronze Age (2nd millennium BC). It is about 15 cm (5.9 in) in diameter and covered on both sides with a spiral of stamped symbols. Its purpose and meaning, and even its original geographical place of manufacture, remain disputed, making it one of the most famous mysteries of archaeology. This unique object is now on display at the archaeological museum of Heraklion in Crete, Greece.

The disc was discovered in 1908 by the Italian archaeologist Luigi Pernier in the Minoan palace-site of Phaistos, on the south coast of Crete, and features 241 tokens, comprising 45 unique signs, which were apparently made by pressing pre-formed hieroglyphic "seals" into a disc of soft clay, in a clockwise sequence spiraling towards the disc's center.

The Phaistos Disc captured the imagination of amateur and professional archeologists, and many attempts have been made to decipher the code behind the disc's signs. While it is not clear that it is a script, most attempted decipherments assume that it is; most additionally assume a syllabary, others an alphabet or logography. Attempts at decipherment are generally thought to be unlikely to succeed unless more examples of the signs are found, as it is generally agreed that there is not enough context available for a meaningful analysis.

Although the Phaistos Disc is generally accepted as authentic by archaeologists, a few scholars have forwarded the opinion that the disc is a forgery or a hoax.



Side A (Original).



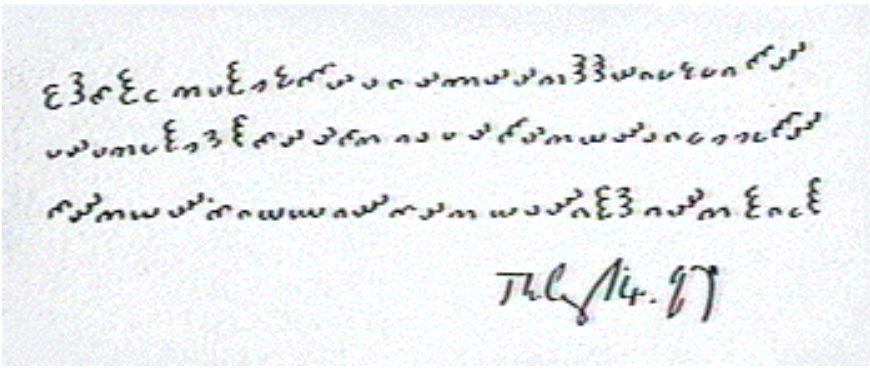
Side B

(Original).

The Dorabella Cipher is an enciphered letter written by Edward Elgar to Miss Dora Penny, which was accompanied by another dated July 14, 1897. Penny was never able to decipher it and its meaning remains unknown to this day.

The cipher, consisting of 87 characters spread over 3 lines, appears to be made up from an alphabet of 24 symbols, with each symbol consisting of either 1, 2, or 3 approximate semicircles, oriented in one of 8 directions. The orientation of several of the characters is ambiguous. A small dot, meaning and significance unknown, appears after the fifth character on the third line.

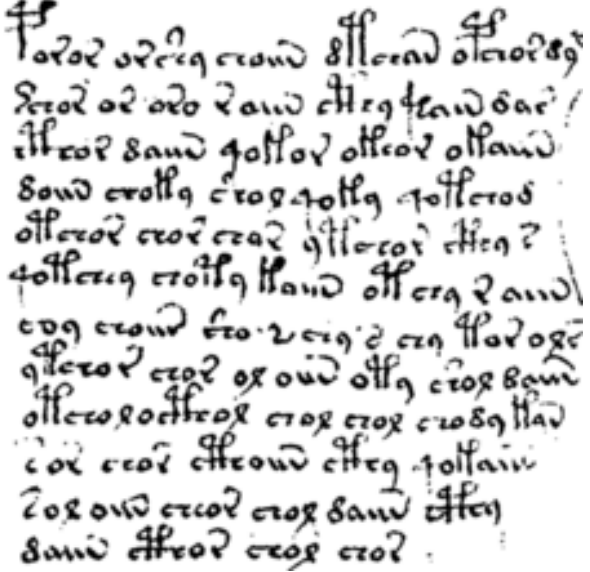
A count of the 87 characters reveals a symbol frequency very close to that that would be expected if the cipher were a simple substitution cipher, based on a plain text in English, but attempts to decipher it along these lines have so far proved fruitless, leading to speculation the cipher may be more complex.



The Voynich manuscript is a mysterious, undeciphered illustrated book. It is thought to have been written in the 15th or 16th century. The author, script, and language of the manuscript remain unknown.

Over its recorded existence, the Voynich manuscript has been the object of intense study by many professional and amateur cryptographers, including some top American and British codebreakers of World War II fame (all of whom failed to decrypt any portion of the text). This string of failures has turned the Voynich manuscript into a famous subject of historical cryptology, but it has also given weight to the theory that the book is simply an elaborate hoax—a meaningless sequence of arbitrary symbols.

The book is named after the Polish-American book dealer Wilfrid M. Voynich, who acquired it in 1912. Currently the Voynich manuscript is stored in the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library of Yale University as item "MS 408". The first facsimile edition was published in 2005.



Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. (branded as Walmart) is an American public corporation that runs a chain of large, discount department stores. It is the world's largest public corporation by revenue, according to the 2008 Fortune Global 500. The company was founded by Sam Walton in 1962, incorporated on October 31, 1969, and listed on the New York Stock Exchange in 1972. Wal-Mart is the largest private employer and the largest grocery retailer in the United States. It also owns and operates the Sam's Club retail warehouses in North America.

Cracker Jack is a U.S. brand of snack consisting of caramel-coated popcorn (caramel corn) and peanuts. It is also well known for being packaged with a "Toy Surprise Inside" of nominal value.



Assignment 5

The Vigenère cipher is a method of encrypting alphabetic text by using a series of different Caesar ciphers based on the letters of a keyword. It is a simple form of polyalphabetic substitution.

The Vigenère cipher has been reinvented many times. The method was originally described by Giovan Battista Bellaso in his 1553 book *La cifra del. Sig. Giovan Battista Bellaso*; however, the scheme was later misattributed to Blaise de Vigenère in the 19th century, and is now widely known as the "Vigenère cipher".

This cipher is well known because while it is easy to understand and implement, it often appears to beginners to be unbreakable; this earned it the description *le chiffre indéchiffrable* (French for 'the unbreakable cipher'). Consequently, many people have tried to implement encryption schemes that are essentially Vigenère ciphers, only to have them broken.

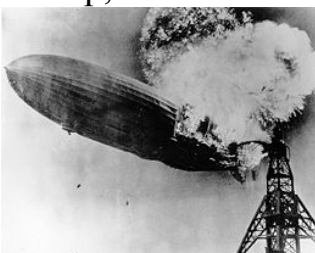
In the history of cryptography, **a grille cipher** was a technique for encrypting a plaintext by writing it onto a sheet of paper through a pierced sheet (of paper or cardboard or similar). The earliest known description is due to the polymath Girolamo Cardano in 1550. His proposal was for a rectangular stencil allowing single letters, syllables, or words to be written, then later read, through its various apertures. The written fragments of the plaintext could be further disguised by filling the gaps between the fragments with anodyne words or letters. This variant is also an example of steganography, as are many of the grille ciphers.

A **trellis** is a graph of which the nodes are ordered into vertical slices (time) and each node at each time is connected to (at least) one node at an earlier and (at least) one node at a later time. The earliest and latest times in the trellis have only one node.

Trellises are used in encoders and decoders for communication theory and encryption. They are also the central datatype used in Baum-Welch algorithm for Hidden Markov Models.

The Hindenburg disaster took place on Thursday 6 May 1937 as the LZ 129 Hindenburg caught fire and was destroyed within one minute while attempting to dock with its mooring mast at the Lakehurst Naval Air Station, which is located adjacent to the borough of Lakehurst in Manchester Township, New Jersey. Of the 97 people on board, 35 people died in addition to one fatality on the ground. The disaster was the subject of spectacular newsreel coverage, photographs, and Herbert Morrison's recorded radio eyewitness report from the landing field, which was broadcast the next day. The actual cause of the fire remains unknown, although a variety of theories have been put forward for both the cause of ignition and the initial fuel for the ensuing fire.

The accident served to shatter public confidence in the giant, passenger-carrying rigid airship, and marked the end of the airship era.



The original measurement as taken from the Bible was in cubits, which records that the pillars eighteen cubits high and twelve cubits around, and hollow, 4 fingers thick. (Jeremiah 52:21-22). Nets of checkerwork covered the bowl of each chapter, decorated with rows of two hundred pomegranates, wreathed with seven chains for each chapter, and topped with lilies. (1 Kings 7:13-22, 41-42)

The eunuch monastery of the Katharoi was built under Justin II (565-78) by the eunuch Narses in Constantinople.

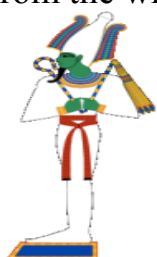
Uranus is the Latinized form of Ouranos (Οὐρανός), the Greek word for sky. In Greek mythology Ouranos or Father Sky, is personified as the son and husband of Gaia, Mother Earth (Hesiod, Theogony). Uranus and Gaia were ancestors of most of the Greek gods, but no cult addressed directly to Uranus survived into Classical times, and Uranus does not appear among the usual themes of Greek painted pottery. Elemental Earth, Sky and Styx might be joined, however, in a solemn invocation in Homeric epic. Most Greeks considered Uranus to be primordial (protogenos), and gave him no parentage. Uranus was reviled by the gods and known to dwell where "the sun never shines." Under the influence of the philosophers, Cicero, in *De Natura Deorum* ("The Nature of the Gods"), claims that he was the offspring of the ancient gods Aether and Hemera, Air and Day. According to the Orphic Hymns, Ouranos was the son of the personification of night, Nyx. His equivalent in Roman mythology was Caelus, likewise from caelum the Latin word for "sky".

Attis (sometimes written as "Atys") was in ancient mythology the lover of Cybele. He was unfaithful; in revenge she drove him mad, and he castrated himself. His priests were eunuchs.

Sporus was a beautiful youth of servile origin, who bore a striking resemblance to Poppaea Sabina, the wife of Nero. On the death of Sabina in A.D. 63, Nero became passionately fond of this youth, had him castrated, dressed as a woman and called by the name of Sabina.

Osiris (Greek language, also Usiris; the Egyptian language name is variously transliterated Asar, Aser, Ausar, Ausir, Wesir, Usir, Usire or Ausare) was an Egyptian god, usually called the god of the Afterlife, underworld or dead.

Osiris is one of the oldest gods for whom records have been found; one of the oldest known attestations of his name is on the Palermo Stone of around 2500 BC. He was widely worshiped until the suppression of the Egyptian religion during the Christian era. The information we have on the myths of Osiris is derived from allusions contained in the Pyramid Texts (ca. 2400 BC), later New Kingdom source documents such as the Shabaka Stone and the Contending of Horus and Seth, and, much later, in narrative style from the writings of Greek authors including Plutarch and Diodorus Siculus.



The Ten Commandments, or Decalogue, are a list of religious and moral imperatives that, according to Judeo-Christian tradition, were authored by God and given to Moses on the mountain referred to as "Mount Sinai" (Exodus 19:23) or "Horeb" (Deuteronomy 5:2) in the form of two stone tablets. They are recognized as a moral foundation in Judaism, Christianity and Islam.

Northwest Semitic **Tammuz** (Hebrew תַּמּוּז, Standard Hebrew Tammuz, Tiberian Hebrew Tammûz), Arabic تَمَّوْز Tammūz; Akkadian Dūzu; Sumerian Dumuzid (DUMU.ZID "the true son") was the name of a Sumerian god of food and vegetation.

Shiva, also known as Rudra (the "Feared One") is a major Hindu god and one aspect of Trimurti. In the Shaiva tradition of Hinduism, Shiva is seen as the Supreme God. In the Smarta tradition, he is one of the five primary forms of God.



Siddhārtha Gautama was a spiritual teacher in the north eastern region of the Indian subcontinent who founded Buddhism. In most Buddhist traditions, he is regarded as the Supreme **Buddha** (Sammāsambuddha) of our age, "Buddha" meaning "awakened one." The time of his birth and death are uncertain: most early 20th-century historians dated his lifetime as c. 563 BCE to 483 BCE; more recently, however, at a specialist symposium on this question, the majority of those scholars who presented definite opinions gave dates within 20 years either side of 400 BCE for the Buddha's death, with others supporting earlier or later dates.



Freedom Plaza, originally known as Western Plaza, is an open plaza in Northwest Washington, D.C., United States, located at the corner of 14th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue NW, adjacent to Pershing Park. Designed in 1980, the plaza is mostly composed of stone, inlaid with a depiction of parts of Pierre (Peter) Charles L'Enfant's plan for the City of Washington. Most of the plaza is raised above street level. The western end of the plaza contains a large fountain, while the eastern end of the plaza contains an equestrian statue of Kazimierz Pułaski.

The plaza was renamed in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr., who worked on his "I Have a Dream" speech in the nearby Willard Hotel. In 1988, a time capsule containing a Bible, a robe, and other relics of King's was planted at the site. It will be reopened in 2088.



The plaza's inlaid stone depicts parts of Pierre (Peter) Charles L'Enfant's plan for the City of Washington, showing Federal Triangle, the United States Capitol, the White House and part of the National Mall, as well as the plan's legends.

George Washington Masonic National Memorial is a Masonic building and memorial located in Alexandria, Virginia. It is dedicated to the memory of George Washington, the first president of the United States, and a Mason.

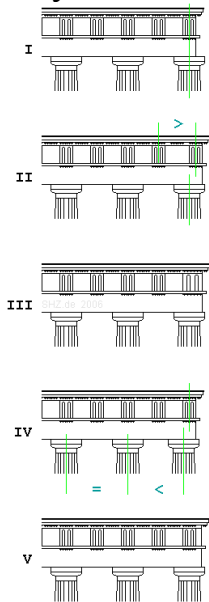
The tower is fashioned after the Lighthouse of Alexandria (Egypt), in part because of the common names of both cities (Alexandria, Virginia was named for John and Philip Alexander, the city's founders), and the Masonic interest in great buildings of the ancient world. It sits atop Shuter's Hill (named after a Union fort on the same location), near King Street and the Old Town district.

It is the only Masonic building supported and maintained by the 52 grand lodges of the United States. This is counter to common Masonic practice, where a building is only supported by the Grand Lodge of the state in which it resides. The building also houses the collection of Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22, which contains most of the fraternal artifacts of George Washington, including the Watson-Cassoul apron, sash, past master portrait, working tools and trowel used to lay the cornerstone at the United States Capitol.

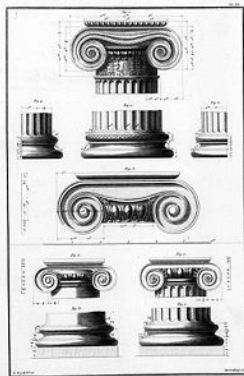


The **Doric order** was one of the three orders or organizational systems of Ancient Greek or classical architecture; the other two canonical orders were the Ionic and the Corinthian.

In their original Greek version, Doric columns stood directly on the flat pavement (the stylobate) of a temple without a base; their vertical shafts were fluted with 20 parallel concave grooves; and they were topped by a smooth capital that flared from the column to meet a square abacus at the intersection with the horizontal beam (entablature) that they carried.



Unlike the Greek Doric order, **Ionic columns** normally stand on a base which separates the shaft of the column from the stylobate or platform; exceptions such as at the Erechtheum (illustration, below left) are not uncommon. The capital of the Ionic column has characteristic paired scrolling volutes that are laid on the molded cap ("echinus") of the column, or spring from within it. The cap is usually enriched with egg-and-dart. Originally the volutes lay in a single plane (illustration at right); then it was seen that they could be angled out on the corners. This feature of the Ionic order made it more pliant and satisfactory than the Doric to critical eyes in the 4th century BC: angling the volutes on the corner columns, ensured that they "read" equally when seen from either front or side facade. The 16th-century Renaissance architect and theorist Vincenzo Scamozzi designed a version of such a perfectly four-sided Ionic capital; Scamozzi's version became so much the standard, that when a Greek Ionic order was eventually reintroduced, in the later 18th century Greek Revival, it conveyed an air of archaic freshness and primitive, perhaps even republican, vitality.



Proportion is a defining characteristic of the **Corinthian order**: the "coherent integration of dimensions and ratios in accordance with the principles of symmetria" are noted by Mark Wilson Jones, who finds that the ratio of total column height to column-

shaft height is in a 6:5 ratio, so that, secondarily, column-height is often a multiple of 6 Roman feet and the column height a multiple of 5. In its proportions, the Corinthian column is similar to the Ionic column, though it may be made more slender, but it stands apart by its distinctive carved capital. The abacus upon the capital has concave sides to conform to the outscrolling corners of the capital, and it may have a rosette at the center of each side.



Corinthian Capital with Entablature from the Pantheon at Rome.

The Ark of the Covenant (Hebrew: אָרוֹן הַבְּרִית Ārōn Hāb'rīt [modern pron. Aron Habrit]; Arabic: العهد تابوت Tābūt Al-ahd) is a container described in the Bible as containing the Tablets of Stone on which were inscribed the Ten Commandments as well as Aaron's rod and manna. According to the Pentateuch, the Ark was built at the command of God, in accord with Moses' prophetic vision on Mount Sinai (Exodus 25:10-16). God communicated with Moses "from between the two cherubim" on the Ark's cover (Exodus 25:22). The Ark and its sanctuary were "the beauty of Israel" (Lamentations 2:1). Rashi and some Midrashim suggest that there were two arks - a temporary one made by Moses, and a later one made by Bezalel.

The Biblical account relates that during the exodus of the Israelites, the Ark was carried by the priests ~2,000 cubits (Numbers 35:5; Joshua 4:5) in advance of the people and their army or host (Num. 4:5-6; 10:33-36; Psalms 68:1; 132:8). When the Ark was borne by priests into the bed of the Jordan, the river was separated, opening a pathway for the whole of the host to pass over (Josh. 3:15-16; 4:7-18). The Ark was borne in a seven-day procession around the wall of Jericho by seven priests sounding seven trumpets of rams' horns, the city taken with a shout (Josh. 6:4-20). When carried, the Ark was always wrapped in a veil, in tachash skins (the identity of this animal is uncertain), and a blue cloth, and was carefully concealed, even from the eyes of the Cohanim who carried it.

Over time, the accounts of the Ark have gathered a number of references in popular culture.

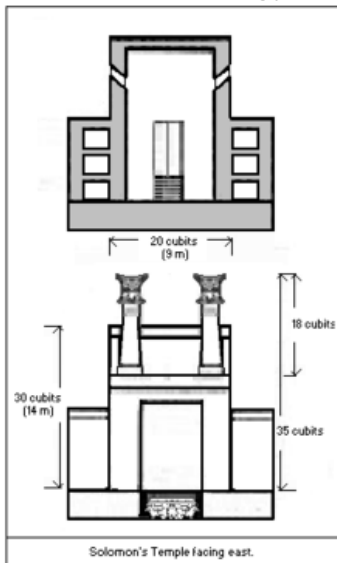


Solomon's Temple (Hebrew: **הַמִּקְדָּשׁ בְּיָת**, transliterated Beit HaMikdash, "The House of That Which is Holy"), also known as the First Temple, was, according to the Hebrew Bible, the first temple of the ancient religion of the biblical Israelites, originally constructed by King Solomon on the hill called Moriah in Jerusalem. It was designed to house the Ark of the Covenant, and to serve the Israelites as a central place where they could worship the God of Israel.

According to the Bible, it functioned as a religious focal point for worship and the sacrifices known as the *korbanot* in ancient Judaism. Completed in 960 BCE, it was destroyed by the Babylonians in 586 BCE. According to the Talmud these are false dates, as the First Temple stood for 410 years and was destroyed in the year 420 BCE.

The temple was reconstructed in 516 BCE and stood until 70 CE; this structure is commonly called the Second Temple. The construction is described in the Book of Ezra and the rebuilding was authorized by Cyrus the Great of Persia and ratified by Darius the Great of Persia. This building was destroyed by the Roman Empire in 70 CE during the First Jewish-Roman War by the general Titus, who later became emperor (see Arch of Titus for a depiction of the spoils). This dating too is contradicted by the Talmud, which in Tractate Yoma states that the Second Temple stood 420 years. Being that it was destroyed in the year 70 CE, it had to have been completely rebuilt in the year 350 BCE, though the start of the rebuilding was actually 18 years earlier when King Cyrus declared the rebuilding may commence.

Jewish eschatology commonly includes the belief that a Third Temple will be built.



Washington National Cathedral, whose official name is the Cathedral Church of Saint Peter and Saint Paul, is a cathedral of the Episcopal Church.

Located in Washington, D.C., the capital of the United States, it is of neogothic design, and it is the sixth largest cathedral in the world, the second largest in the United States,[1] and the fourth tallest structure in Washington, D.C.

The cathedral is the seat of both the presiding bishop of the Episcopal Church and its bishop of the Diocese of Washington, composed of the District of Columbia and the Charles, Montgomery, Prince George's, and St. Mary's counties in Maryland. It is an associate member of the Washington Theological Consortium.[2]

The Protestant Episcopal Cathedral Foundation, under the leadership of the nine Bishops of Washington, erected the cathedral under a charter passed by the United States Congress on January 6, 1893. Construction began on September 29, 1907, when

the foundation stone was laid in the presence of President Theodore Roosevelt and a crowd of more than 20,000. Construction lasted 83 years. The last finial was placed in the presence of President George H. W. Bush in 1990. The foundation operates and funds the cathedral, which does not receive government funding.

The cathedral is located at Massachusetts and Wisconsin Avenues in the northwest quadrant of Washington. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. In 2007, it was ranked third on the List of America's Favorite Architecture by the American Institute of Architects.[3]



Assignment 7

The USA PATRIOT Act, commonly known as the "Patriot Act", is a statute enacted by the United States Government that President George W. Bush signed into law on October 26, 2001. The contrived acronym stands for Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism Act of 2001 (Public Law Pub.L. 107-56).

The Act increases the ability of law enforcement agencies to search telephone, e-mail communications, medical, financial, and other records; eases restrictions on foreign intelligence gathering within the United States; expands the Secretary of the Treasury's authority to regulate financial transactions, particularly those involving foreign individuals and entities; and enhances the discretion of law enforcement and immigration authorities in detaining and deporting immigrants suspected of terrorism-related acts. The act also expands the definition of terrorism to include domestic terrorism, thus enlarging the number of activities to which the USA PATRIOT Act's expanded law enforcement powers can be applied.

The Order of the Eastern Star is the largest fraternal organization in the world that both men and women can join. It was established in 1850 by Rob Morris, a lawyer and educator from Boston, Massachusetts, who had been an official with the Freemasons. It is based on teachings from the Bible, but is open to people of all monotheistic faiths. It has approximately 10,000 chapters in twenty countries and approximately one million members under its General Grand Chapter. Members of the Order are aged 18 and older; men must be Master Masons and women must have specific relationships with Masons. Originally, a woman would have to be the daughter, widow, wife, sister, or mother of a master Mason, but the Order now allows other relatives as well as allowing Job's Daughters, Rainbow Girls, and Triangle Girls to become members when they become of age.

The seven seals is a concept of Christian eschatology, which comes from the Book of Revelation in the Christian Bible, where a book with seven seals is described in Revelation 5:1. The seven seals were opened by the Lion of Judah. New Testament Book of Revelation 5:5; "And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof". Judah was usually the kingdom given to the Crown Prince of Israel. Jesus in Christian traditions is the King of Kings, not the Crown Prince. The Lion of Judah is a deliberate direct reference to a worthy Prince "Of the Blood of Christ". The seven seals were opened, one by one, by the Lamb. Revelation 5:6; "And behold, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth.". Revelation 6:1; "And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see."

Signs

Each opening of a seal is followed by some event or series of events.

When each of the first four seals is opened, a horse and its rider appear and are described. These are commonly referred to as the four horsemen / four horses of the Apocalypse.

The opening of the fifth seal is followed by a vision of those that were "slain for the word of God". (Revelation 6:9)

When the sixth seal is opened, there is a "great earthquake," and signs appear in heaven. (Revelation 6:12-6:14) Also, 144,000 servants of God are "sealed ... in their foreheads" in Revelation 7.

When the seventh seal is opened, seven angels with trumpets begin to sound, one by one. The events of the seventh seal are further subdivided by the events following each angel sounding their trumpet. This seal is opened in Revelation 8, and the seventh angel does not sound until Revelation 11.

In summary:

First Seal - Conquest, White horse

Second Seal - War, Red horse

Third Seal - Famine, Black Horse

Fourth Seal - Death, green or pale horse

Fifth Seal - Vision of martyrs

Sixth Seal - Earthquake and the marking of the 144,000

Seventh Seal - Trumpets of Angels and the end of the world

Bible scholars associate the seven seals with the seven Spirits of God, and other Biblical 'sevens'. The seals contain symbols commonly interpreted as death, famine, world wars, martyrdom, earthquakes, and the Antichrist. It also states that there will be "seven trumpets" announcing aspects of the "End Times": mankind being judged, seas turning to blood, sores on people's bodies, plagues, infertility, and the introduction of "seven bowls" (in King James Version called "vials"). These bowls are a third each of the sea, humankind, water, animal life, ships, crops, and earth, all engulfed by an infinite abyss.

In Greek mythology, **Pandora's box** is the large jar (πιθος pithos) carried by Pandora (Πανδώρα) that unleashed many evils on mankind – ills, toils and sickness – and hope.[1]. Contrary to use in popular culture, Pandora's Box was not actually a box at all but rather it was a jar. Hence, the historically correct use of the phrase would be "Pandora's jar," not "Pandora's box."

Opening of the "box"

After Prometheus' theft of the secret of fire, Zeus ordered Hephaestus to create the woman Pandora as part of the punishment for mankind. Pandora was given many seductive gifts from Aphrodite, Hermes, Hera, Charites, and Horae (according to Works and Days). For fear of additional reprisals, Prometheus warned his brother Epimetheus not to accept any gifts from Zeus, but Epimetheus did not listen, and married Pandora. Pandora had been given a large jar and instruction by Zeus to keep it closed, but she had also been given the gift of curiosity, and ultimately opened it. When she opened it, all of the evils, ills, diseases, and burdensome labor that mankind had not known previously, escaped from the jar, but it is said, that at the very bottom of her box, there lay hope.

There is no reason to think Pandora acted out of malice in opening the jar, for she was exercising her curiosity, and when she saw what was let out of it, she quickly closed it.

Extrasensory perception (ESP) involves reception of information not gained through the recognized senses and not inferred from experience. The term was coined by German psychical researcher, Rudolf Tischner, and adopted by Duke University psychologist J. B. Rhine to denote psychic abilities such as telepathy and clairvoyance,

and their trans-temporal operation as precognition or retrocognition. ESP is also sometimes casually referred to as a sixth sense, gut instinct or hunch. The term implies acquisition of information by means external to the basic limiting assumptions of science, such as that organisms can only receive information from the past to the present.

Remote Viewing (RV) is the purported ability to gather information about a distant or unseen target using paranormal means or extra-sensory perception. Typically a remote viewer is expected to give information about an object that is hidden from physical view and separated at some distance. The term was introduced by parapsychologists Russell Targ and Harold Puthoff in 1974.

Remote viewing was popularized in the 1990s, following the declassification of documents related to the Stargate Project, a 20 million dollar research program sponsored by the U.S. Federal Government to determine any potential military application of psychic phenomena. The program was terminated in 1995, citing a lack of documented evidence that the program had any value to the intelligence community.

Sensory deprivation or perceptual isolation is the deliberate reduction or removal of stimuli from one or more of the senses. Simple devices such as blindfolds or hoods and earmuffs can cut off sight and hearing respectively, while more complex devices can also cut off the sense of smell, touch, taste, thermoception (heat-sense), and 'gravity'. Sensory deprivation has been used in various alternative medicines and in psychological experiments.

Short-term sessions of sensory deprivation are described as relaxing and conducive to meditation, if sometimes boring; however, extended or forced sensory deprivation can result in extreme anxiety, hallucinations, bizarre thoughts, depression and death.

Some sensory deprivation techniques are also used in coercive interrogation. A detainee or prisoner may be placed in stress positions for long periods of time, denied clothing, placed in extreme temperatures, denied light, have a sack placed over their head, be exposed to loud cacophonous music and denied sleep for long periods of time.

John Dee (13 July 1527 – 1608 or 1609) was a noted mathematician, astronomer, astrologer, occultist, navigator, imperialist, and consultant to Queen Elizabeth I. He devoted much of his life to the study of alchemy, divination, and Hermetic philosophy.



Elias Ashmole (23 May 1617 – 18 May 1692), was a celebrated English antiquary, politician, officer of arms, astrologer and student of alchemy. Ashmole supported the royalist side during the English Civil War, and at the restoration of Charles II he was rewarded with several lucrative offices.



Robert Fludd, also known as Robertus de Fluctibus (1574, Bearsted, Kent – September 8, 1637, London) was a prominent English Paracelsian physician, astrologer, and mystic. He was not a member of the Rosicrucians, as often alleged, but he defended their thoughts in the *Apologia Compendiaria* of 1616.



Paracelsus (born Phillip von Hohenheim, 11 November or 17 December 1493 in Einsiedeln, Switzerland – 24 September 1541 in Salzburg, Austria) was a Renaissance physician, botanist, alchemist, astrologer, and general occultist. Born Phillip von Hohenheim, he later took up the name Theophrastus Philippus Aureolus Bombastus von Hohenheim, and still later took the title Paracelsus, meaning "equal to or greater than Celsus", a Roman encyclopedist, Aulus Cornelius Celsus from the first century known for his tract on medicine. He is also credited for giving zinc its name, calling it *zincum* and is regarded as the first systematic botanist.



Francis Bacon, 1st Viscount St Alban KC (22 January 1561 – 9 April 1626), son of Nicholas Bacon by his second wife Anne (Cooke) Bacon, was an English philosopher, statesman, scientist, lawyer, jurist, and author. He served both as Attorney General and Lord Chancellor of England. Although his political career ended in disgrace, he remained extremely influential through his works, especially as philosophical advocate and practitioner of the scientific revolution. Indeed, his dedication may have brought him into a rare historical group of scientists who were killed by their own experiments.



René Descartes (31 March 1596 – 11 February 1650), also known as Renatus Cartesius (Latinized form), was a French philosopher, mathematician, physicist, and writer who spent most of his adult life in the Dutch Republic. He has been dubbed the "Father of Modern Philosophy", and much of subsequent Western philosophy is a response to his writings, which continue to be studied closely to this day. In particular, his *Meditations on First Philosophy* continues to be a standard text at most university philosophy departments. Descartes' influence in mathematics is also apparent, the Cartesian coordinate system allowing geometric shapes to be expressed in algebraic equations being named for him. He is credited as the father of analytical geometry. Descartes was also one of the key figures in the Scientific Revolution.



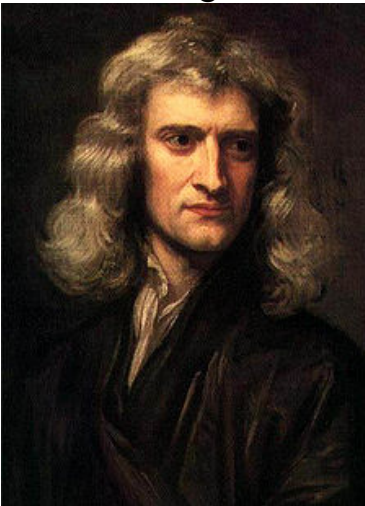
Blaise Pascal (June 19, 1623, in Clermont-Ferrand, France – August 19, 1662, in Paris) was a French mathematician, physicist, and religious philosopher. He was a child prodigy who was educated by his father, a civil servant. Pascal's earliest work was in the natural and applied sciences where he made important contributions to the construction of mechanical calculators, the study of fluids, and clarified the concepts of pressure and vacuum by generalizing the work of Evangelista Torricelli. Pascal also wrote in defense of the scientific method.



Baruch or Benedict de Spinoza (Hebrew: שפינוזה ברוך, Portuguese: Bento de Espinosa, Latin: Benedictus de Spinoza) (November 24, 1632 – February 21, 1677) was a Dutch philosopher of Portuguese Jewish origin. Revealing considerable scientific aptitude, the breadth and importance of Spinoza's work was not fully realized until years after his death. Today, he is considered one of the great rationalists of 17th-century philosophy, laying the groundwork for the 18th century Enlightenment and modern biblical criticism. By virtue of his magnum opus, the posthumous *Ethics*, in which he opposed Descartes' mind–body dualism, Spinoza is considered to be one of Western philosophy's most important philosophers. Philosopher and historian Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel said of all modern philosophers, "You are either a Spinozist or not a philosopher at all."



Sir Isaac Newton FRS (4 January 1643 – 31 March 1727 [OS: 25 December 1642 – 20 March 1727]) was an English physicist, mathematician, astronomer, natural philosopher, alchemist, and theologian who is perceived and considered by a substantial number of scholars and the general public as one of the most influential men in history. His 1687 publication of the *Philosophiæ Naturalis Principia Mathematica* (usually called the *Principia*) is considered to be among the most influential books in the history of science, laying the groundwork for most of classical mechanics. In this work, Newton described universal gravitation and the three laws of motion which dominated the scientific view of the physical universe for the next three centuries. Newton showed that the motions of objects on Earth and of celestial bodies are governed by the same set of natural laws by demonstrating the consistency between Kepler's laws of planetary motion and his theory of gravitation, thus removing the last doubts about heliocentrism and advancing the scientific revolution.



Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz also Leibniz or von Leibniz; 1 July 1646 [OS: 21 June] – 14 November 1716) was a German philosopher, polymath and mathematician who wrote primarily in Latin and French.

He occupies a grand place in both the history of philosophy and the history of mathematics. He invented infinitesimal calculus independently of Newton, and his notation has been in general use since then. He also invented the binary system, foundation of virtually all modern computer architectures. In philosophy, he is mostly remembered for optimism, i.e. his conclusion that our universe is, in a restricted sense, the best possible one God could have made. He was, along with René Descartes and Baruch Spinoza, one of the three greatest 17th-century rationalists and anticipates

modern logic and analysis, but his philosophy also looks back to the scholastic tradition, in which logic was an important part. Leibniz also made major contributions to physics and technology, and anticipated notions that surfaced much later in biology, medicine, geology, probability theory, psychology, linguistics, and information science. He also wrote on politics, law, ethics, theology, history, philosophy and philology, even occasional verse. His contributions to this vast array of subjects are scattered in journals and in tens of thousands of letters and unpublished manuscripts. As of 2009, there is no complete edition of Leibniz's writings.



Assignment 8

Transmigration of the soul (sometimes given simply as Transmigration) is similar and foreign in some ways to the philosophy of reincarnation. The idea of transmigration of the soul comes from the ancient Greeks. In transmigration after death, the soul, or shade, drinks from the river Lethe and loses all past memories of their previous life while in Hades, or underworld, and then moves (or transmigrates) into another human form and is reborn. It was thought the soul had been, and always would be, eternal, having no beginning or end.

Some psychic mediums of a variety of religious persuasions (including Hinduism and Wicca) and some Spiritualists believe in transmigration of the soul but hold that reincarnation is an anomaly if it occurs at all.



Reincarnation and transmigration of a soul, as told in Hinduism

Cosmic consciousness is the concept that the universe exists as an interconnected network of consciousness, with each conscious being linked to every other to form a collective consciousness which spans the cosmos. Throughout history, there have been many renditions of universal unity, connectivity, and the spectrum of considered possibility of mankind. The idea bears similarity to the ancient Buddhist concept of Indra's net, Teilhard de Chardin's conception of the noosphere, James Lovelock's Gaia theory, to Hegel's Absolute idealism, and to Satori in Zen. It is also reminiscent of Carl Jung's collective unconscious. Many of those who have used psychedelics such as LSD and Psilocybin mushrooms have asserted that they have had direct experience of the cosmic consciousness, although some have suggested that naturally occurring mystical experiences and those induced by psychedelics are of a different nature. In the 19th century, Canadian born psychiatrist Richard M. Bucke developed a theory which claimed that Cosmic Consciousness lies in a mystic state above and beyond Self-consciousness, the natural state of man's consciousness, just like animal consciousness lies below. In the 20th century, Canadian born psychologist Nathaniel Branden, originator of Bio-Centric Psychology, stipulated that as life advances from simplicity to complexity, consciousness evolves from the vegetative through the animal to the natural human condition of self-consciousness.

A near-death experience (NDE), refers to a broad range of personal experiences associated with impending death, encompassing multiple possible sensations including detachment from the body; feelings of levitation; extreme fear; total serenity, security, or warmth; the experience of absolute dissolution; and the presence of a light, which

some people interpret as a deity. Some see NDEs as a paranormal and spiritual glimpse into the afterlife.

These phenomena are usually reported after an individual has been pronounced clinically dead, or otherwise very close to death, hence the term near-death experience. Many NDE reports, however, originate from events that are not life-threatening. With recent developments in cardiac resuscitation techniques, the number of reported NDEs has increased. Many in the scientific community regard such experiences as hallucinatory, while paranormal specialists and some mainstream scientists claim them to be evidence of an afterlife.



Ascent of the Blessed by Hieronymus Bosch

Astral projection (or astral travel) is an esoteric interpretation of any form of out-of-body experience (OOBE) that assumes the existence of an "astral body" separate from the physical body and capable of travelling outside it. Astral projection or travel denotes the astral body leaving the physical body to travel in the astral plane.

The idea of astral travel is rooted in common worldwide religious accounts of the afterlife in which the consciousness' or soul's journey or "ascent" is described in such terms as "an...out-of body experience, wherein the spiritual traveller leaves the physical body and travels in his/her subtle body (or dreambody or astral body) into 'higher' realms." It is therefore associated with near death experiences and is also frequently reported as spontaneously experienced in association with sleep and dreams, illness, surgical operations, drug experiences, sleep paralysis and forms of meditation.



"The Separation of the Spirit Body" from *The Secret of the Golden Flower*, a Chinese handbook on alchemy and meditation

A lucid dream is a dream in which the sleeper is aware that he or she is dreaming. When the dreamer is lucid, he or she can actively participate in and often manipulate the imaginary experiences in the dream environment. Lucid dreams can seem extremely real and vivid depending on a person's level of self-awareness during the lucid dream. The term was coined by the Dutch Psychiatrist and writer Frederik van Eeden (1860-1932).

A lucid dream can begin in one of three ways. A *dream-initiated lucid dream* (DILD) starts as a normal dream, and the dreamer eventually concludes that he or she is dreaming, while a *wake-initiated lucid dream* (WILD) occurs when the dreamer goes from a normal waking state directly into a dream state with no apparent lapse in consciousness. A *mnemonic-initiated lucid dream* (MILD) can happen when the dreamer intentionally affirms to himself or herself that he or she will become lucid during the upcoming sleep. Reaching lucidity can sometimes occur due to dream-signs or spontaneously upon remembrance.

Assignment 9

The House of the Temple is a Masonic temple in Washington, D.C., United States that serves as the headquarters of the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Southern Jurisdiction, U.S.A. (officially, "Home of The Supreme Council, 33°, Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Southern Jurisdiction, Washington D.C., U.S.A.")

It is located at the corner of 16th Street and S Street, Northwest in the Dupont Circle neighborhood. The full name of the Supreme Council is "The Supreme Council (Mother Council of the World) of the Inspectors General Knights Commander of the House of the Temple of Solomon of the Thirty-third degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry of the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America."



Crucifixion is an ancient method of painful execution in which the condemned person is tied or nailed to a large wooden cross (of various shapes) and left to hang until dead. The term comes from the Latin *crucifixio* ("fixed to a cross", from the prefix *cruci-*, "cross", + verb *ficere*, "fix or do".)

The crucifixion of Jesus is an event that occurred during the first century A.D. in which Jesus was arrested, tried, and sentenced by Pontius Pilate to be scourged and finally executed on a cross. Collectively referred to as the Passion, Jesus' redemptive suffering and death by crucifixion represents a critical aspect of the doctrine of salvation in Christian theology. Christians regard Jesus as the Messiah, and understand his death as necessary for the forgiveness of sins, a doctrine generally known as atonement (and in some cases as substitutionary atonement).

Male **circumcision** is the removal of some or all of the foreskin (prepuce) from the penis. The word "circumcision" comes from Latin *circum* (meaning "around") and *cædere* (meaning "to cut"). Early depictions of circumcision are found in cave drawings and Ancient Egyptian tombs, though some pictures are open to interpretation. Religious male circumcision is considered a commandment from God in Judaism.

Baptism for the dead, vicarious baptism or proxy baptism is the religious practice of baptizing a living person on behalf of an individual who is dead; the living person is acting as the deceased person's proxy. Those who practice this religious rite place great importance upon baptism and view it as a requirement to enter the Kingdom of God. So it is with this practice, an individual is baptized to give those who have already died without the opportunity to receive baptism the opportunity to receive it by proxy if they wish. It has been practiced since 1840 in the Latter Day Saint movement. The practice

continues in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, where it is also called temple baptism because it is performed only in dedicated temples. Baptism for the dead is also practiced by several other current groups in the Latter Day Saint movement.

Exorcism (from Late Latin *exorcismus*, from Greek *exorkizein* - to abjure) is the practice of evicting demons or other spiritual entities from a person or place which they are believed to have possessed. The practice is quite ancient and part of the belief system of many cultures.

In Christian practice the person performing the exorcism, known as an exorcist, is often a member of the church, or an individual thought to be graced with special powers or skills. The exorcist may use prayers, and religious material, such as set formulas, gestures, symbols, icons, amulets, etc. The exorcist often invokes God, Jesus and/or several different angels and archangels to intervene with the exorcism. Exorcism is primarily associated with the Catholic Church, although non-Catholic Christians also claim to perform exorcisms.

A niqāb (Arabic: نقاب) is a veil which covers the face, worn by some Muslim women as a part of sartorial hijāb. Originally part of aristocratic dress in Byzantine Empire and pre-Islamic Persia, it was adopted into Muslim culture during the Arab conquest of the Middle East.

Niqab is most common in the Arab countries of the Persian Gulf such as Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman, and the UAE. It is also common in Pakistan and among Muslim women in the United Kingdom.

Trance denotes a variety of processes, ecstasy, techniques, modalities and states of mind, awareness and consciousness. Trance states may occur involuntarily and unbidden.

Trance conditions include all the different states of mind, emotions, moods and daydreams that human beings experience. All activities which engage a human involve the filtering of information coming into sense modalities and hence, brain functioning and consciousness. Therefore, trance may be understood as a matter of functionality and efficiency ~ to economize consciousness resource usage.

Trance states may also be accessed or induced by various modalities and is a way of accessing the unconscious mind for the purposes of relaxation, healing, intuition and inspiration.

Kaparot is an ancient and mystical custom connected to the Jewish Day of Atonement, Yom Kippur. It can be performed anytime between Rosh HaShana and Yom Kippur, but most often it is performed just after dawn on the day before Yom Kippur.

The original form of the kaparot ceremony involves taking a chicken (a white rooster for a male, hen for a female) and waving it over one's head while reciting this prayer: "This is my exchange, this is my substitute, this is my atonement. This chicken will go to its death while I will enter and proceed to a good long life, and peace." Then the chicken is slaughtered and it (or its cash value) is given to the poor.

While kaparot is still practiced by more orthodox Jews, most Jews today perform kaparot by waving money wrapped in a white cloth napkin over their head, reciting the prayer and then giving the money to charity following the ceremony.

Kaparot is supposed to imbue people with a feeling that their very lives are at stake as Yom Kippur approaches. The kaparot ceremony is meant to symbolically express our recognition that we have sinned and are no longer deserving of life (like the chicken), but we can be saved from the penalty we deserve if we repent, perform good deeds, and give charity.

The **Ouroboros** or Uroborus is an ancient symbol depicting a serpent or dragon swallowing its own tail and forming a circle.



Perfluorocarbon – any of various hydrocarbon derivatives in which all hydrogen atoms have been replaced with fluorine and that include blood substitutes used in emulsified form

Assignment 10

Kryptos is a sculpture by American artist Jim Sanborn located on the grounds of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) in Langley, Virginia, USA. Since its dedication on November 3, 1990, there has been much speculation about the meaning of the encrypted messages it bears. It continues to provide a diversion for some employees of the CIA and other cryptanalysts attempting to decrypt the messages.



A micro-blog post on the **Twitter** social network site, or the act of posting on it. Each post is referred to as a **tweet**, and the act of sending a tweet is referred to as tweeting.

The National Mall is an open-area national park in downtown Washington, D.C., the capital of the United States. The National Mall is a unit of the National Park Service, and is administered by the National Mall and Memorial Parks unit. The term "National Mall" commonly includes areas that are officially part of West Potomac Park and Constitution Gardens to the west, and often is taken to refer to the entire area between the Lincoln Memorial and the Capitol, with the Washington Monument providing a division slightly west of the center. The National Mall receives approximately 24 million visitors each year.



Facing east across the Mall towards the Capitol