

Chapter 1 : The Golfer's Guide to the Meaning of Life : Gary Player :

In The Golfer's Guide to the Meaning of Life, Player reflects on the most important life lessons golf has taught him. Written for non-golfers, new golfers, and experienced golfers alike, this is not a book about hitting a ball into a cup, but about what a funny old game can teach you about living life with strength, purpose, and joy.

Jeremy Bentham The origins of utilitarianism can be traced back as far as Epicurus , but, as a school of thought, it is credited to Jeremy Bentham , [67] who found that "nature has placed mankind under the governance of two sovereign masters, pain and pleasure", then, from that moral insight, deriving the Rule of Utility: He defined the meaning of life as the " greatest happiness principle ". Friedrich Nietzsche characterized nihilism as emptying the world, and especially human existence, of meaning, purpose, comprehensible truth, and essential value; succinctly, nihilism is the process of "the devaluing of the highest values". To Martin Heidegger , nihilism is the movement whereby " being " is forgotten, and is transformed into value, in other words, the reduction of being to exchange value. If God, as the supra-sensory ground and goal, of all reality, is dead; if the supra-sensory world of the Ideas has suffered the loss of its obligatory, and above it, its vitalizing and up-building power, then nothing more remains to which Man can cling, and by which he can orient himself. The knowledge disclosed by modern science has effectively rewritten the relationship of humankind to the natural world. Advances in medicine and technology have freed humans from significant limitations and ailments of previous eras; [74] and philosophyâ€”particularly following the linguistic turn â€”has altered how the relationships people have with themselves and each other are conceived. Questions about the meaning of life have also seen radical changes, from attempts to reevaluate human existence in biological and scientific terms as in pragmatism and logical positivism to efforts to meta-theorize about meaning-making as a personal, individual-driven activity existentialism , secular humanism. Pragmatism Pragmatism originated in the late 19th-century US, concerning itself mostly with truth , and positing that "only in struggling with the environment" do data, and derived theories, have meaning, and that consequences, like utility and practicality, are also components of truth. Moreover, pragmatism posits that anything useful and practical is not always true, arguing that what most contributes to the most human good in the long course is true. In practice, theoretical claims must be practically verifiable, i. Pragmatic philosophers suggest that the practical, useful understanding of life is more important than searching for an impractical abstract truth about life. William James argued that truth could be made, but not sought. Philosophical theism Theists believe God created the universe and that God had a purpose in doing so. Theists further hold that if there were no God to give life ultimate meaning, value and purpose, then life would be absurd. According to existentialism, each man and each woman creates the essence meaning of their life; life is not determined by a supernatural god or an earthly authority, one is free. One can live meaningfully free of despair and anxiety in an unconditional commitment to something finite, and devotes that meaningful life to the commitment, despite the vulnerability inherent to doing so. Salvation, deliverance, and escape from suffering are in aesthetic contemplation, sympathy for others, and asceticism. Accordingly, he saw nihilism "all that happens is meaningless" as without goals. For to hope in the possibility of help, not to speak of help by virtue of the absurd, that for God all things are possibleâ€”no, that he will not do. And as for seeking help from any otherâ€”no, that he will not do for all the world; rather than seek help he would prefer to be himselfâ€”with all the tortures of hell, if so it must be. As beings looking for meaning in a meaningless world, humans have three ways of resolving the dilemma. Suicide or, "escaping existence": Both Kierkegaard and Camus dismiss the viability of this option. Religious belief in a transcendent realm or being: Kierkegaard stated that a belief in anything beyond the Absurd requires a non-rational but perhaps necessary religious acceptance in such an intangible and empirically unprovable thing now commonly referred to as a " leap of faith ". However, Camus regarded this solution as "philosophical suicide". Acceptance of the Absurd: Camus endorsed this solution notably in his allegorical novel The Plague or La Peste , while Kierkegaard regarded this solution as "demoniac madness": Per secular humanism , the human species came to be by reproducing successive generations in a progression of unguided evolution as an integral expression of nature , which is self-existing.

Humanism seeks to develop and fulfill: It is based on the premises that the happiness of the individual person is inextricably linked to the well-being of all humanity, in part because humans are social animals who find meaning in personal relations and because cultural progress benefits everybody living in the culture. In this light, every living creature has the right to determine its personal and social "meaning of life". There are many therapeutic responses to this question. For example, Viktor Frankl argues for "Dereflection", which translates largely as: On the whole, the therapeutic response is that the question itself—"what is the meaning of life? The question then morphs into more specific worries such as "What delusions am I under? The things people, events in the life of a person can have meaning importance as parts of a whole, but a discrete meaning of the life, itself, aside from those things, cannot be discerned. Bertrand Russell wrote that although he found that his distaste for torture was not like his distaste for broccoli, he found no satisfactory, empirical method of proving this: Neither he nor his opponents could advance any argument. In a scientific question, evidence can be adduced on both sides, and, in the end, one side is seen to have the better case—or, if this does not happen, the question is left undecided. But in a question, as to whether this, or that, is the ultimate Good, there is no evidence, either way; each disputant can only appeal to his own emotions, and employ such rhetorical devices as shall rouse similar emotions in others Questions as to "values"—that is to say, as to what is good or bad on its own account, independently of its effects—lie outside the domain of science, as the defenders of religion emphatically assert. I think that, in this, they are right, but, I draw the further conclusion, which they do not draw, that questions as to "values" lie wholly outside the domain of knowledge. That is to say, when we assert that this, or that, has "value", we are giving expression to our own emotions, not to a fact, which would still be true if our personal feelings were different. Postmodernism Postmodernist thought—"broadly speaking"—sees human nature as constructed by language, or by structures and institutions of human society. Unlike other forms of philosophy, postmodernism rarely seeks out a priori or innate meanings in human existence, but instead focuses on analyzing or critiquing given meanings in order to rationalize or reconstruct them. Anything resembling a "meaning of life", in postmodernist terms, can only be understood within a social and linguistic framework, and must be pursued as an escape from the power structures that are already embedded in all forms of speech and interaction. As a rule, postmodernists see awareness of the constraints of language as necessary to escaping those constraints, but different theorists take different views on the nature of this process: Naturalistic pantheism According to naturalistic pantheism , the meaning of life is to care for and look after nature and the environment. Embodied cognition Embodied cognition uses the neurological basis of emotion, speech, and cognition to understand the nature of thought. Cognitive neuropsychology has identified brain areas necessary for these abilities, and genetic studies show that the gene FOXP2 affects neuroplasticity which underlies language fluency. George Lakoff , a professor of cognitive linguistics and philosophy, advances the view that metaphors are the usual basis of meaning, not the logic of verbal symbol manipulation. Computers use logic programming to effectively query databases but humans rely on a trained biological neural network.

Chapter 2 : Meaning of life - Wikipedia

Gary Player's most recent book - a first hand reflection on the life lessons learned from the game of golf. In The Golfer's Guide to the Meaning of Life, Player reflects on the most important life lessons golf has taught him.

In the radio series and the first novel, a group of hyper-intelligent pan-dimensional beings demand to learn the Answer to the Ultimate Question of Life, The Universe, and Everything from the supercomputer, Deep Thought , specially built for this purpose. Deep Thought points out that the answer seems meaningless because the beings who instructed it never actually knew what the Question was. This new computer will incorporate living beings into the " computational matrix " and will run for ten million years. It is revealed as being the planet Earth , with its pan-dimensional creators assuming the form of white lab mice to observe its running. The process is hindered after eight million years by the unexpected arrival on Earth of the Golgafrinchans and is then ruined completely, five minutes prior to completion, when the Earth is destroyed by the Vogons to make way for a new Hyperspace Bypass. In The Restaurant at the End of the Universe, this is revealed to have been a ruse: He attempts to discover The Ultimate Question by extracting it from his brainwave patterns, as abusively [3] suggested by Ford Prefect , when a Scrabble -playing caveman spells out forty two. Arthur pulls random letters from a bag, but only gets the sentence "What do you get if you multiply six by nine? The answer is deliberately wrong. There is a theory which states that if ever anyone discovers exactly what the Universe is for and why it is here, it will instantly disappear and be replaced by something even more bizarre and inexplicable. There is another theory mentioned, which states that this has already happened. Likewise, Mostly Harmless ends when Arthur stops at a street address identified by his cry of, "There, number 42! Shortly after, the Earth is destroyed in all existing incarnations. The number 42[edit] Douglas Adams was asked many times why he chose the number On 3 November , he gave this answer [8] on alt. The answer to this is very simple. It was a joke. It had to be a number, an ordinary, smallish number, and I chose that one. Binary representations, base thirteen , Tibetan monks are all complete nonsense. Having decided it should be a number, he tried to think what an "ordinary number" should be. He ruled out non-integers, then he remembered having worked as a "prop-borrower" for John Cleese on his Video Arts training videos. Cleese needed a funny number for the punchline to a sketch involving a bank teller himself and a customer Tim Brooke-Taylor. Adams believed that the number that Cleese came up with was 42 and he decided to use it. He eventually decided that it should be something that made no sense whatsoever a number, and a mundane one at that. And that is how he arrived at the number 42, completely at random. The puzzle is an illustration consisting of 42 multi-coloured balls, in 7 columns and 6 rows. So I thought that just for a change I would actually construct a puzzle and see how many people solved it. Of course, nobody paid it any attention. This is similar to the book where the "Answer to the Ultimate Question of Life, the Universe, and Everything" is known but not the question. Adams has described the puzzle as depicting the number 42 in ten different ways. Six possible questions are: Similar to a colour blindness test. Many chatbots , when asked about the meaning of life, will answer "42". Several online calculators are also programmed with the Question. Binding for System Application Program Interface API , uses the number 42 as the required return value from a process that terminates due to an unhandled exception. The Rationale says "the choice of the value 42 is arbitrary" and cites the Adams book as the source of the value. In fact, the TIFF version number 42 has never changed, and probably never will. The number 42 was chosen for its deep philosophical significance. After typing "42" in a right place, text "What was the question? The number 42 was chosen as a reference to the answer to life, the universe and everything. When producer Rick Berman was asked about the unusual frequency of the number, he stated, "47 is 42, corrected for inflation. For some reason, if a strag strag: Furthermore, the strag will then happily lend the hitchhiker any of these or a dozen other items that the hitchhiker might accidentally have "lost". What the strag will think is that any man who can hitch the length and breadth of the galaxy, rough it, slum it, struggle against terrible odds, win through, and still knows where his towel is, is clearly a man to be reckoned with. Adams got the idea for this phrase when he went travelling and found that his beach towel kept disappearing. On Towel Day , fans commemorate Adams by carrying towels with them. Mostly Harmless[

edit] The only entry about Earth in the Guide used to be "Harmless", but Ford Prefect managed to change it a little before getting stuck on Earth. Those two words are not what Ford submitted as a result of his researchâ€”merely all that was left after his editors were done with it. It is the title of the fifth book in the Hitchhiker series. Its popularity is such that it has become the definition of Earth in many standard works of sci-fi reference, like The Star Trek Encyclopedia. Additionally, "Harmless" and "Mostly Harmless" both feature as ranks in the computer game Elite. Also, in World of Warcraft , there is a rifle that fires mostly harmless pellets. Low-scoring players in the multiplayer version of the game Perfect Dark and GoldenEye are awarded with the designation "mostly harmless". In the edition of the board game Cosmic Encounter, the Human race is given the attribute "Mostly Harmless". In the game Kerbal Space Program , there is an atomic rocket motor with the description "mostly harmless". Instead, it invariably produces a concoction which most people found unpleasant that is "almost, but not quite, entirely unlike tea". According to the Jargon File , the briefer "not entirely unlike" has entered hacker jargon. In the radio version, this phrase had its own song sung in Fit the Ninth of the radio series , which was sung by a choir of robots during "special occasions". The Sirius Cybernetics Corporation tends to produce inherently faulty goods, which renders the statement ironic since few people would want to "Share and Enjoy" something that was defective. Among the design flaws is the choir of robots that perform this song: The Guide relates that the words "Share and Enjoy" were displayed in illuminated letters three miles high near the Sirius Cybernetics Complaints Division, until their weight caused them to collapse through the underground offices of many young executives. The upper half of the sign that now protrudes translates in the local tongue as "Go stick your head in a pig", and is lit up only for special celebrations. Furthermore, Fit the Twenty-First of the radio series, the last episode in the adaptation of the novel So Long, and Thanks for All the Fish , features a polyphonic ringtone version of the tune. So Long, and Thanks for All the Fish[edit] After mice, the second most intelligent species on Earth were the dolphins. The dolphins had long known of the impending demolition of Earth and had made many attempts to alert mankind to the danger The last ever dolphins message was misinterpreted as a surprisingly sophisticated attempt to do a double backward somersault through a hoop whilst whistling "The Star-Spangled Banner," but in fact the message was this:

Chapter 3 : The Golfer's Guide to the Meaning of Life: Lessons | BookPage

At the top of every golfer's wish list is the blockbuster golf book of the year, Tiger Woods' How I Play Golf. With help from the editors of Golf Digest, Woods has compiled a thorough treatise on the basic aspects of the game, from putting to smoking the driver.

Chapter 4 : Lewis Masonic - Special Offers > A Starter's Guide To The Meaning Of Life

Advice on golf and life from one of the great golfers of the modern age. If there were a Mount Rushmore of golf, Gary Player's face would be on it.

Chapter 5 : Phrases from The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy - Wikipedia

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Chapter 7 : The Golfer's Guide to the Meaning of Life - Exclusive Books

In "The Golfer's Guide to the Meaning of Life," Player reflects on the most important life lessons that the game has taught him, lessons humble and profound, wise and universal. Written for nongolfers, new golfers, and experienced golfers alike, this is a book not about hitting a ball into a cup, but about what a funny old game can teach you.