

# Study Questions

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## Descartes, "Meditations I-II"

1. What **method** does Descartes adopt in the opening section of "Meditation I"?
2. What **argument** does Descartes give to show that we can't always trust our senses? What strength or weaknesses do you find in this argument?
3. What role do **dreams** play in Descartes' argument?
4. What role does the "**evil genius**" play?
5. What conclusion does Descartes reach at the end of the first meditation?
6. What is Descartes' claim in "Meditation II" about the nature of his own existence? Do you agree with him? Explain.
7. How does Descartes characterize the **imagination**?
8. What point is Descartes making in his discussion of the piece of wax? (This is a difficult section. Do your best to figure out what Descartes is saying and what distinctions he is making concerning perception and judgment.)

Timothy Quigley, revised 7 Jan 14