

Reading Questions: Hobbes, *Leviathan I*

1. How does Hobbes describe life in the Introduction?
2. What is the picture of reality described by Hobbes in the first paragraphs of Chapter 2? Is it a world in which mysterious invisible forces play an important part? Is it an Aristotelian world in which each object has a *telos*?
3. Where do our dreams come from according to Hobbes? What problems arise from people having incorrect understandings of what dreams are?
4. What does truth consist in according to Hobbes? To what “science” does he compare his method of arriving at “precise truth?”
5. What does it mean for Hobbes to call something “insignificant?”
6. What is reason according to Hobbes? How does it relate to his ideas of speech and truth?
7. What is the source of faith for anyone who doesn’t have an immediate revelation of divine truth? How does this compare to other ideas of faith we’ve come across?
8. What is the first general inclination of all mankind according to Hobbes?
9. How does Hobbes characterize the natural condition of mankind?
10. What is the first law of nature according to Hobbes? How does his conception of natural law differ from that of Aquinas? What are all the laws of nature oriented toward?
11. Which natural rights are inalienable, if any?
12. How does Hobbes characterize justice?