

Chart for 2 on the Berkeley outline

Epistemological Argument: Principles I, 18-20

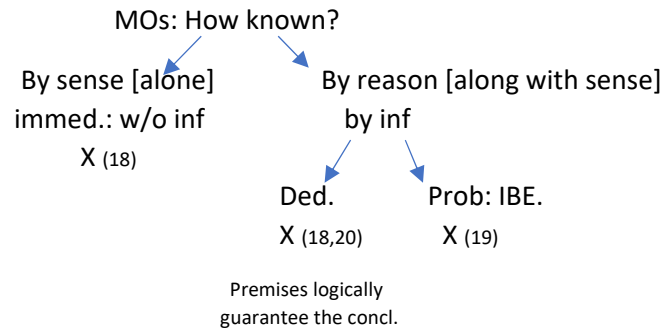


Chart for 5 on the Berkeley outline (Principles I, 56-57)

	Relation of ideas / POs	Materialism?	Evaluation
D on common belief	Take ideas to be caused by resembling POs	Take the POs to be mind-independent	Some truth; and some of what's true can be made known
B,H on common belief	Take the ideas to be the physical objects	Take the POs to be mind-independent	Contradiction! Based on a bad inference
B,H on Phil/Ref materialism [starting with what it accepts and rejects of common thought]	X Instead: take the ideas to be caused by resembling POs	✓ Take the bodies to be mind-independent	Bad! In order to preserve the m-I of bodies, philosophers have made bodies completely unknowable and even inconceivable
B's own response to common thought	✓ Bodies are collections of ideas, just as we ordinarily take them	X Accept that bodies are collections of ideas (and so are mind-dependent) and....	...everything is fine

Descartes: see M3, 8th-9th pars., and “Normal belief in bodies characterized” section of 9/8 handout

X, ✓: This is how Berkeley construes previous philosophers as responding to the common belief: they keep the mind-independence (materialism) of the common belief, but do so by thinking of bodies in a way very different from how they're commonly thought of. Those philosophers might not characterize the common belief as Berkeley does if they were asked about it, so they might not accept Berkeley's characterization of how they are reacting to the common belief. They might (mistakenly) come to think of the common belief as being like their philosophical belief, and so come to (mistakenly) see themselves as defending the common belief. (That's what Berkeley might well have said of Descartes's characterization of the common belief.)

What we can know, or even conceive of

What we can know indirectly—through representation (to conceive of it) and through inference (to know it exists)	Other minds and their operations (we have “notions” of these)	[sensory] Ideas in other minds
What we can know immediately—w/o inference, w/o representation	our own mind and its operations active	Our own [sensory: sensations or imaginations] ideas passive