

Key/p#	Note (the bottom 3 must be questions recorded as you read)

Questions. Leave nothing blank. Answer with a question if you are uncertain.

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Questions

1. Taylor continues his examination of the question “can anything be said in reason to someone immersed in the contemporary culture of authenticity?” in this chapter. What does Taylor mean by this and why is the question in doubt? (The answer to this requires reflection on previous chapters.)
2. How has the common (Taylor would call it debased) understanding of authenticity changed the nature of social and political relationships? In answering this question think about the quote from the self help book reproduced on p. 44
3. How can individualism be manifested in both ethical and debased forms?
4. What social and historical changes have occurred in the last 400 years that have changed the meaning and sources of the concept of identity ? (46+)
5. A key theme in this chapter is the idea of recognition. What does Taylor mean by this concept? Why is recognition important to the idea of authenticity? How has the concept of recognition changed from pre-modern to modern times? (46-49)
6. On page 50 Taylor indicates that modern society holds that “denied recognition can be a form of oppression.” In light of Taylor’s idea of the self, explain why this would be true.
7. The rest of the chapter (50-53) is spent examining the question, can a lifestyle that is “centered on the self, in the sense that involves treating our associations as merely instrumental, be justified in the light of the ideal of authenticity?” What is Taylor's answer to this question?
8. If you addressed the issue of what Taylor calls the horizons of significance in the last question, you are done. If not, explain how he connects his arguments here to this concept (which was first raised in chapter 4.)