



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. How does Taylor understand the concept of authenticity? What are the two ways that authenticity can be misunderstood? What are the implications of this misunderstanding?
2. The key question of this chapter is, why is the ideal of authenticity so prone to “deviation into the trivial?” (57) Taylor outlines three broad categories of causes that answer this question. What are these categories, what are the specific examples of each and how does each tend to push the ideal of authenticity into more debased forms? (This answer should be well thought out and include examples as it will be the source of class discussion.)
3. How does Taylor argue that modern and (especially) postmodern thought has contributed to the debasement of authenticity? (this is a hard question. Do your best - we will talk about this in class - the only wrong answer is no answer at all.)
4. What does Taylor see as the connection between art and authenticity? How does Taylor indicate that the demands of an aesthetic life conflict with the demands of an authentic life? Answer this question thoroughly - art as a metaphor for authenticity is a recurrent theme.
5. What is Taylor’s principle critique of post modernism? (66+)
6. Towards the end of the chapter (66+), Taylor answers in very direct form, the ways in which the ideal of authenticity has slid into debased forms. What is Taylor’s essential argument here?
7. What is the relationship between the debased forms of authenticity and the concept of power? What are the implications of this relationship?

Terms (define): Social atomism (58), mimesis (62), Poiesis (62), Postmodernism, anthropocentrism

Please note down three questions you have regarding this chapter: