



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.

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

### Questions

#### Taylor Chapter 9 Study Guide

1. Summarize the rationale behind Taylor's rejection of boosterism and knockersism. What conceptual framework does Taylor propose instead?
2. In this chapter Taylor examines the second of the three malaises - instrumental reason.  
A) Define what Taylor means by instrumental reason and then, B) describe how the debate over instrumental reason parallels the debate over authenticity. In what ways does this debate lead to contradictions within the positions of each side?  
This last part regarding the internal contradictions of each side is important - don't ignore it.
3. What does Taylor mean when he writes of the "domination" model of viewing instrumental reason/science? Why does Taylor object to this model? In what ways does his handling of instrumental reason mirror his approach to authenticity?
4. What does Taylor mean when he refers to the "iron cage?" Does Taylor see this as a valid metaphor for the modern situation?
5. Taylor writes of the prevalence in the belief in "disengaged rationality." What does this mean and how does it relate to the idea of instrumental reason?
6. Taylor argues that to retrieve the idea of instrumental reason from its debased forms, that we have to understand the moral ideals that gave rise to instrumental reason. What are these moral ideals
7. Taylor argues that we need to develop an "alternative enframing of technology." What does he mean by this and what would be the principles behind such an alternative enframing?
8. How is the theme of "la lotta continua" from chapter 8 relevant to this chapter?

#### Points of possible controversy

1. Is the Iron cage inescapable?
2. Is our use and dependence on technology more beneficial or more detrimental to the overall health and trajectory of western society? Please support your position with specific examples drawn from your experience of the world. (And, yes, I am asking you to take a boosterish or a knockerish position here!)