

On Nature, Book 28

Post by “Bryan” of March 15, 2024 at 10:52 AM

Some further notes on Book 28

Αἱ Πλάναι: “wanderings, errors”

1. We can use common words, but it is important to recognize that those words can contain errors.
2. To avoid retaining errors in the use of common words, we must perceive each object fully and we must align the basic and original meaning of a word to that fully perceived object. *To keep from making mistakes with common words, we should really see things clearly and make sure the word's true meaning matches what we sense.*
3. Errors arise when our ideas are misaligned with our sensations (i.e., our preconceptions, perceptions, and receptions). *Mistakes happen when what we think does not fit with what we sense.*
4. As much as possible, we should identify errors in the use of words by identifying the harmful behaviors that come from the error. *We should try to spot mistakes in how words are used by looking at the harmful actions they lead to.*

Data that is empirical (ἐπιβλητικός) is derived from impressions (φαντασίαι) that we perceive clearly through the focus (ἐπιβολαὶ) of our faculties (κριτήρια). These faculties are the [1] sense-organs (αἰσθητήρια) which we use to focus on something clear (τι ἔναργές), and the [2] intellect (διάνοια), which we use to focus on the clear thought of the subject (τὴν ἔναργῆ τοῦ πράγματος ἐπίνοιαν).