

PD 25 meaning? by Woolf (2004)

Post by "wbernys" of May 11, 2026 at 12:34 PM

[Quote from Cassius](#)

But the general point is the happiness and predominance of pleasure do require total absence of pain,

Are you missing a "does not" in the middle here?

Gonna be honest, I don't really see how we disagree, now I'm just kinda confused and want the conversation to be over, since I worry we're just talking past each other.

Final post on topic. Then I'm done.

My understanding is Epicurus thought removal of pain was important since it didn't allow height of pleasure, BUT even if you didn't reach the height of pleasure (no pain in mind or body) you could still have predominance of pleasure over pain thanks to mental pleasures understanding limits of pain and gratitude for past goods, etc. Especially as mental pleasures are more important than physical ones.

As far as the whole explain Epicurus to normal people thing, I would broadly stress how to enjoy as much pleasure with as little pain as possible as the goal of life by his philosophy by understanding nature needs little, but doesn't shun more as long as they are not outweighed by pains, and that limits of pain make physical pain negligible to our happiness, with the mind being completely within our own control and more important, with the mind alone we can have more pleasure than pain at any moment, but we should still get rid of or avoid pain in the flesh, if able, as it is still bad and prevents the height of pleasure, like those of the gods.