



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Words to know:

reality (*everything that truly exists*), principle (*a fundamental law or truth*), self-evident (*obviously true, not needing to be proven*)

One of the great questions of all time: Whether human beings can \_\_\_\_\_ any absolute \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ St. Thomas Aquinas calls each branch of knowledge a:

- A) Theology      B) Medicine      C) Metaphysics      D) Science

The science that studies BEING itself:	
Its purpose:	
One of its most important principles:	To ask about _____ as a _____.

### THE PRINCIPLE OF NON-CONTRADICTION

- **Principle of Non-Contradiction:** It is impossible for something to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ at the same time and in the same respect.
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- Aristotle says the principle of non-contradiction is a \_\_\_\_\_ principle. It cannot be proven, but also, it doesn't need to be proven because it is \_\_\_\_\_ to reason.
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- This principle is not about our subjective beliefs, experiences, or perspectives on things. The principle is about \_\_\_\_\_, that is \_\_\_\_\_ itself.

## WHAT THE PRINCIPLE TEACHES US

- The principle of non-contradiction underlies all \_\_\_\_\_ and all investigations.
- Reality is \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_.
- The principle of non-contradiction stands as a kind of witness that human beings can know something \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ about reality as a whole.

**Comprehension question:** Give an example of the principle of non-contradiction. Begin with “It is impossible that...”