

Brain and mind

- 1.1 [The brain is associative](#)
- 1.2 [We perceive events rather than snapshots](#)
- 1.3 [Visual perception fluctuates](#)
- 1.4 [Neurons have so many connections](#)
- 1.5 [The brain is expensive](#)
- 1.6 [The goal of thinking is action](#)
- 1.7 [The brain is lazy](#)
- 1.8 [It is useful to think of the mind extending into our tools](#) ([Extended mind thesis](#))
- 1.9 [Retrotransposons may help memory formation](#)

Cybernetics and similar

- 2.1 [Cybernetics is best understood in action](#)
- 2.2 [Dynamic vs. static equilibrium](#)

Human groups

- 3.1 [Bourbaki was a French collective of mathematicians](#)
- 3.2 [The Oulipo writing group contained writers and mathematicians](#)

- 3.3 Republic of Letters letters were often sent multi-hop

Narrative and persuasion

- 4.1 Persuasion requires telling a persuasive *story*
- 4.2 Linear text is read as creating a graph of firm concepts
- 4.3 Russian fairy tales are constructed from linearly-organized event types
- 4.4 Truth requires disagreement
- 4.5 Ideology is imposed on self more than on other
- 4.6 What persuades scientists persuades us

The growth of concepts

- 4.7 Rhyming and rhythm solidify concepts
- 4.8 Concepts evolve through use

Philosophy???

- 5.1 The goal is the cause of the action
- 5.2 Postmodernism is bricolage
- 5.3 Philosophy generates new concepts (Deleuze)
- 5.4 Some words turn out not to be worth arguing about (Rorty)

Metaphysics??

- 6.1 [Why is gradually-then-suddenly so prevalent?](#)
- 6.2 [Questions to ask of models](#)

Abstraction and detail and reasoning and such

- 7.1 [What does the abstraction abstract away?](#)
- 7.2 [How do Supreme Court justices think about context?](#)
- 7.3 [Would you rather be correct or effective?](#)
- 7.4 [Reasoning is matching](#)
- 7.5 [Gettier problems are dumb](#)
- 7.6 [Jaina seven-valued logic adds a sort of context](#)

Sociology

- 8.1 [Simmelian Numbers](#)
- 8.2 [Ostrom's rules for a sustainable commons](#)

Structuralism

- 9.1 [Four principles of structuralism](#)
- 9.2 [Structuralism has its problems](#)
- 9.3 [Stability due to fluctuation](#)

Tools

- 10.1 [People attribute too much agency to tools](#)

- 10.2 [Learning a tool goes with some rejiggering of your life](#)

Continental philosophy

- 11.1 [Derrida is entranced by recursion](#)
- 11.2 [Skepticism can be particular or general](#)
- 11.3 [Saussure is a good example of an academic fad](#)
- 11.4 [Self-reference is an attractive nuisance](#)

Tacit knowledge and such

- 12.1 [Experts find it hard to justify decisions](#)
- 12.2 [Prefer collections of narratives to collections of tools](#)
- 12.3 [Interesting thinkers reject their own world preference](#)
- 12.4 [Checklists make it easier to notice what's on the list, harder to notice what isn't](#)

Social processes and the meaning of words

- 13.1 [Solon the Liberator started mass slavery](#)
- 13.2 [Freedom is not a universal](#)
- 13.3 [The meaning of the word freedom started as a contrast to slavery](#)
- 13.4 [Silence is speech](#)

- 13.5 [Gardening is solving the mystery of growth conditions](#)

Getting along

- 14.1 [People hate negativity](#)
- 14.2 [Happiness comes not from the absence of error, but from the correction of error](#)
- 14.3 [An example would be handy right about now](#)

Socialism

- 15.1 [Socialism aimed to change the environment in order to change mankind](#)

Status and competition and justification

- 16.1 [Status difference is shown when HighStatus doesn't have to attend at all to LowStatus](#)
- 16.2 [LLMs as bullshit generators](#)

Hypertexty stuff

- 17.1 [Zettelkasten is a serendipity machine](#)
- 17.2 [Link traversal produces pheromone trails](#)
- 17.3 [Zettelkasten makes writing essays additive rather than subtractive](#)
- 17.4 [The scholar's job is to create new claims](#)

- 17.5 [A Zettelkasten document is not a world model](#)
- 17.6 [An encyclopedia is a world model](#)
- 17.7 [Luhmann would run over multiple cards for a single claim](#)

Philosophy etc. of scholarship

- 18.1 [Science as formalized common sense](#)
- 18.2 [Academia often locks in too quickly](#)
- 18.3 [Abstractions in use determine the context allowed](#)
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