



Philosophie, Ethik für Sek II

Filosofix

3. Brain in a vat

3:11 Minuten

- 00:09** Just imagine: One night a neuroscientist creeps into your room.
- 00:20** He drugs you and drags you off to his lab, where he carefully removes your brain from your skull and places it in a nutrient solution.
- 00:37** He then links it up to a special machine. It processes your brain's nerve impulses and sends it all sorts of signals.
- 00:47** The scientist uses electrical impulses to create any imaginable perception in your brain to place you in a world that is deceptively real.
- 01:01** Because our conscious experience is generated by processes in the brain.
- 01:08** We actually don't need the body.
- 01:17** When you see a flower, Your eye sends information directly to your brain, which then creates the impression of the flower.
But you wouldn't need to go from flower, to eye, to brain if you could produce an identical state in the brain artificially.
- 01:40** It's the same for music, ...
- 01:45** ...for pain...
- 01:48** ...and even for love.
- 01:53** Basically, by stimulating your brain, you can be made to perceive anything. So how do you know that that's not already happening to you now?
- 02:02** Maybe your brain is currently swimming in a vat of nutrient solution and being stimulated in strategic places by wires, so that you only think that you're watching a «Filosofix» video.
- 02:13** Impossible? How can you be so sure?
- 02:19** In the 17th century, René Descartes claimed that there is an absolute certainty. There is something that **nobody** can doubt – the fact that right now, at this very moment, I am thinking.
- 02:34** So I have to exist! There is no thought without a thinker!
- 02:41** «**Cogito ergo sum**» – I think, therefore I am.
- 02:46** But how do I know that I am not just thinking, but that the world around me actually is the way that I experience it? How do we know that this world really does exist? And can you really be certain that you are not just a brain in a vat?