Study Questions on Byrne and Hilbert

Why from the point of view of this course is it interesting to investigate whether sensory properties can be analyzed into “atomic” parts?

Summarize Byrne an Hilbert’s “conjunctive analysis” of what it means to say that “atomic sensory quality A is a part of sensory quality B”?

Kant’s “representational” theory is theory about the relation of the categories of reason to the properties of “things in themselves” that exist independently of the mind. He holds that we cannot know whether the qualities reason employs to understand substance in the world really correspond to any properties true of things in themselves independently of our understanding them. Discuss whether it is true first in the case of color sensation and then in the case of taste whether the qualities we sense correspond to direct physical properties of things that exist independently of the mind.