

Phenomenology

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Experiences common to many

- Playing hide and seek
- Being picked for a team
- Learning to ride a bike
- A first kiss
- Mastering a difficult skill
- Graduating from college
- Afraid of the dark
- Dream/nightmare about not having your homework or being ready for a test
- Most embarrassing moment
- Losing a pet

Definition

- The study of phenomena, the way things appear to us in experience or consciousness.
- A discipline to describe how the world is constituted and experienced through conscious acts.
- Describes the experience, without pre-conception or theory
- Phenomenological researchers must look at the world with fresh eyes
- Does not produce empirical or theoretical observations or accounts. Instead, it offers accounts of experienced space, time, body, and human relation as we live them.
 - From Phenomenologyonline.com

You try it...

- Suggest a topic, or choose from an earlier list
- Write for five minutes
- We will share three
- Look for themes across the descriptions

Phenomenology Online

- www.phenomenologyonline.com
- Also linked from the class web site
- This web site created to support a course in phenomenological research, by a leader in the field
- Notice the map showing the relationships of various terms
- Click each term for an explanation

Visit Sources page

- Skim titles of Articles and Textorium
- Pick several that interest you and briefly skim them
- Be prepared to answer these questions
 - How do the papers start?
 - What is described?
 - How is this “scene” related to the reader?
 - How is “theory” used?