

21F.224

Instructor: A. C. Kemp

## **Richard Feynman**

Answer these questions in your own words. Do not write the text of the speech!

*First video (1:26) On the beauty of a flower*

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zSZNsIFID28>

1. Richard Feynman (American physicist 1918-1988) talks about how he and his artist friend see a flower. How does the artist think they see the flower differently?  
The artist thinks only artists can see the beauty of the flower, but scientists can't.
2. Why does Feynman think he sees more beauty in the flower than his friend?  
He can see the beauty in smaller dimensions, such as its cells and structures. He also can see why the flower has beautiful color and smell to attract insects.

*Second video (1:52) On Social Sciences*

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_EZcpTTjjXY&feature=related](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_EZcpTTjjXY&feature=related)

3. What, according to Feynman (not some other reference), is the difference between a "pseudo-science" and a real science? (Note: pseudo is pronounced SOO-doh.)  
A pseudo-science has not found any laws, although the people in those areas follow scientific forms.
  4. Would he like to be colleagues with someone in the social sciences department?  
He didn't mention it, but I think he would not.
  5. What is his feeling about people who practice this kind of science? How does he see himself compared to them?  
He thought that they don't know all necessary information and don't verify it well. He thought that he knows the meaning of knowing something, but the people who do pseudo science don't.
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6. Do you think Professor Feynman was a polite man? Why or why not? You don't have to choose the "right" answer, but you must say "why."  
Yes. Although he said his thought about pseudo-science straightforwardly, he still said that he might be wrong.