Study/Discussion Questions
“The Matrix,” Plato, and Descartes

-identify comparisons between Plato’s “Allegory of the Cave” and “The Matrix”

-what is skepticism
  -how do Erion/Smith characterize skepticism and its forms?
  -how can we refute skepticism

-did Descartes ask for too much in his quest for certainty?
  -where did Descartes make an error in his process of radical doubt?
    -do we make the same error in our use of skepticism?

-what “inherent problem” does Korsmeyer identify regarding the idea that we might be in the matrix?

-how does “The Matrix” show a combination of Plato’s and Descartes’ views that we have covered in class?

-if you’re in a world of deception…
  -how do you figure that out?
  -how do you get out?

-is acceptance of ignorance a kind of suicide?

-do we “settle” too easily for reality as it is presented to us?

-would you live in a completely artificial world (e.g., “the matrix”) if you could?

-what about reality (perceptual experience) is worth living for?

-why should we even be concerned about the difference between reality/illusion?

-are you a prisoner of your own mind?
  -or within your own mind…