

Assignment #4: Is the mind the same thing as the brain? If not, so what?

First draft due [*Paper version*]: September 23, 2008

Your paper should be typed, double-spaced with 1-inch margins all around, and 12 point font.

Your full name and your KUID should appear in a header, or at the top of each page.

(n.b., a paper version of the 1st draft with peer comments **must** be handed in.)

Peer-review of 1st drafts: September 23, 2008

(If you do not have a 1st draft to share, then don't bother showing up today...and "Yes, this will count toward your grade on this assignment.")

Final draft due: September 30, 2008

You are welcome (and encouraged) to submit your **FINAL** answer via e-mail instead of handing in a paper copy; electronic copies/attachments should be saved in RICH-TEXT-FORMAT only.

(n.b., a paper version of the 1st draft with peer comments **must** be handed in.)

Goal for this assignment: demonstrate your understanding of the issues being debated, and explore the implications of accepting one view versus the other.

This question is based on the material in:

Mason, M. (2005). *Taking Sides: Clashing views on controversial issues in Cognitive Science*. Dubuque, IA: McGraw-Hill/Dushkin. (pp. 2- 21).

This is a complex question that I have broken down into 3 parts:

A) In Mason (2005), Tang describes the point of view that Churchland proposes regarding the relationship between the mind and the brain. What is this point of view called and how is the mind related to the brain in this perspective? Briefly describe the evidence that supports Churchland's view of the relationship between the mind and the brain.

B) Mason (2005) also discusses ideas by Mills regarding five dangers that could occur if one accepts the point of view (regarding the relationship between the mind and the brain) proposed by Churchland. Identify each of the points that Mills discussed and provide a description of each point in your own words. You should also elaborate on each of those points by providing an example (either the one discussed in the text or an example of your own).

C) Mills points out the problems of accepting the view of Churchland (as described by Tang). But what about the view proposed by Mills; what does accepting a dualist perspective of mind and brain imply for the development of artificial intelligence, and for the evolution of cognitive processes?