

Birkbeck BA Philosophy, Logic & Metaphysics 2001–2002, Term 1, Weeks 1–5

MODALITY

ESSAY QUESTIONS

1. Compare and contrast alethic and non-alethic modality.
2. In what way are necessity and possibility duals? How might other dual notions be used to build a modal semantics?
3. "Genuine modality is the most absolute realistic modal space." Discuss.
4. What is the relation between formal, conceptual, metaphysical and nomic possibility?
5. Which kinds of modality are a priori and which a posteriori? Why is that so?
6. How does Kripke introduce the notion of metaphysical modality?
7. Does conceivability imply possibility?
8. Is there good reason to believe in genuine modality?