

September 8, 1971

Dear Mr. Ferrater Mora,

I owe you a phil. 101 paper from last semester. Mrs. Pruett kept giving me extensions all summer, but I never got further than extension notes. I had planned to deal with the Apprehension of Reality in The Republic concentrating on what Plato thinks is real and now he thinks it can be perceived. I didn't write it first because I started working at my job (governess for a facer-and five year old boy) immediately after I left school and continued until two days before I left for France. I was with two boys twelve hours a day all the time except I had every other weekend off. In order to bear the routine (I did not like the boys) it was necessary for me to anesthetize myself quite thoroughly and I never really believed I'd write the paper in that state. The other reason I didn't write it is that while I think I understand rather well what Plato thinks I am not at all sure what I think about it. I have gradually come to believe that there are ontological absolutes like good and evil, but I just can't (or possibly don't want) believe that they can be fully apprehended by any person. This is all instinctive + with no reference to logics.

Anyway, that's as far as I've gotten.

I don't know whether or not you were obliged to flunk me which I can understand or if you wanted to which I can understand even better, but either is the case I don't want to keep thinking about whether or not people can develop the vision. Socrates claimed to have in some measure. On the other hand, if I still have an incomplete or a condition I'd like to know what you want me to do and when. I have more time now than I did all the summer + I am in the habit of thinking a little so I could send you something two weeks or so after hearing from you, but if you're indifferent to when you get it February I would be a neat date to have it due because I have six weeks of vacation and can't afford to travel during all of them.

I enjoyed your course, especially Plato and am even planning to take more philosophy when I get back (In fact, I have to confess I take 101 so I could read St. Thomas Aquinas and the other [medaentasts?]) I hope you enjoyed Barcelona.

Sincerely,

[signatura]