Study Questions for Chang (2004) Inventing Temperature.

Chapter 5.

- 1. According to Chang, what is the basic problem that faces empirical science informed by empiricist philosophy?
- 2. What is foundationalism? What problems does it face?
- 3. What is *coherentism*? Why is the metaphor of erecting a building on firm ground more appropriate for coherentism than foundationalism?
- 4. Why does Chang think coherentism should be taken as a philosophy of progress, rather than justification?
- 5. What is Chang's notion of "epistemic iteration"?
- 6. How can the degree of progress achieved by epistemic iteration be judged?
- 7. According to Chang, is truth an epistemic virtue?
- 8. According to Chang, what are the two modes of progress enabled by iteration?
- 9. How is the "Bridge Street Bridge" story an example of enrichment?
- 10. How is Chang's scratched up glasses story an example of self-correction?
- 11. In what sense is epistemic iteration coservative?
- 12. In what sense is epistemic iteration pluralistic?
- 13. Why should we be careful not to equate epistemic iteration with the "scientific method"?

Chapter 6.

- 1. According to Chang, what is the *complementary* function of history and philosophy of science?
- 2. What is the acute dilemma Chang associates with normal science?
- 3. Why can't specialist science afford to be completely open? What is a potential problem with this?
- 4. What is the role of philosophy of science, according to Chang?
- 5. According to Chang, in what sense is the role of history of science similar to that of philosophy of science?
- 6. What are two methods that history and philosophy of science employs in its complementary mode?
- 7. According to Chang, how can any knowledge of nature be generated by historical or philosophical studies?
- 8. How is HPS in its complementary mode different from the following: sociology of scientific knowledge, internalist history of science, methodology of science, naturalistic epistemology?
- 9. In what sense is HPS in its complementary mode (i.e., "complementary science") *critical* but not *prescriptive* in relation to specialist science?