

Title	Inception
Director	Christopher Nolan
Date	2010
Area	Epistemology
Theme	Scepticism - dreams
Plot Summary	<p>Don Cobb (Leonardo di Caprio), who is hired by businesses to steal secrets from the subconscious of rivals during their dream states, has become an international fugitive as a result. Japanese energy magnate Saito says he will fix Cobb's problems with the US government so he can return to his children if he does one last job – not steal, but plant an idea in a rival's mind, i.e., to break up the business empire the rival has inherited from his father. He takes the job, planning three layers of dreams within dreams so that his target will think he has come up with the idea himself.</p> <p>The film leaves the viewer asking: Is Cobb himself in a dream or reality? And can he possibly know whether or not he's dreaming?</p>
Key Scenes	<p>The final scene ends before we find out whether the spinning top is going to stay spinning (the pre-arranged sign of being in a dream), or topple over. However even if the spinning top had toppled over, it would still be impossible to tell whether Cobb was dreaming, because the earlier state where he created the sign might itself have been part of a dream.</p>
Relevant Text	Descartes, Meditation 1