

7. Discuss one or two real-life situations where false ideas about truth can lead to false ideas about life.

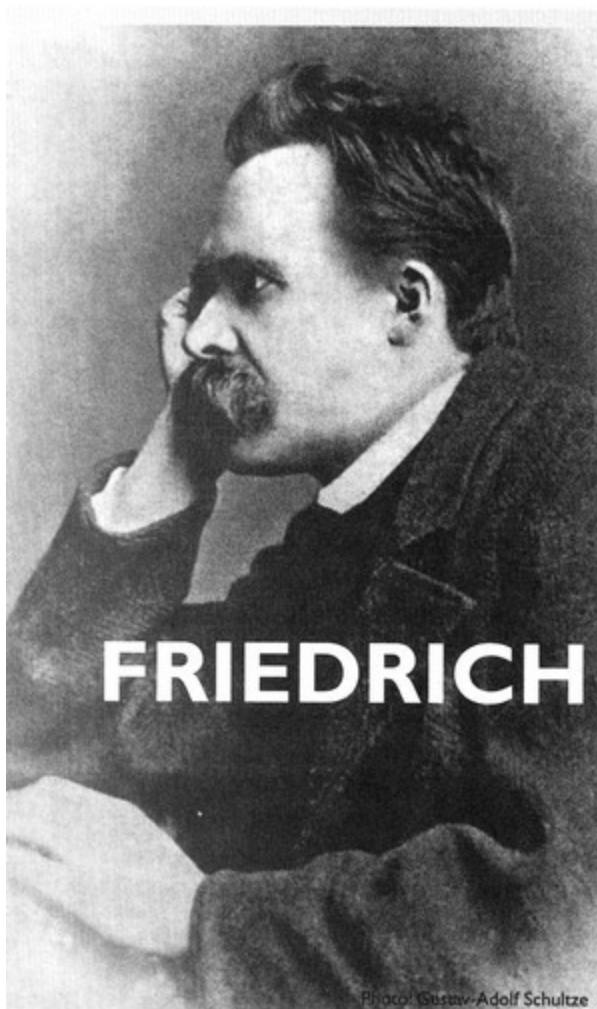


Photo: Gustav-Adolf Schultze

German philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche (1844–1900) was born near Leipzig in what was then Prussia. His father, a Lutheran minister, died when Friedrich was only five years old. His two-year-old brother died just six months later. Though he himself was prone to illnesses, especially headaches, Friedrich was accepted into a prestigious boarding school at age fourteen because of his prodigious aptitude for music and languages. There he was trained in classical Greek and Latin and philology, an area of study that included Greek and Roman history, philosophy, and literature.

When he was twenty, Nietzsche entered the University of Bonn to study theology and philology. But he soon renounced the Christian faith of his youth, having become more interested in the new philosophies he came into contact with at

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college. He was particularly taken with the writings of Arthur Schopenhauer, a German philosopher whose atheistic and turbulent vision of the world—and his highest praise of music as an art form—captivated Nietzsche. After graduation, Nietzsche entered military service and was assigned to an equestrian field artillery regiment. But he suffered