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Mathematics has stood as a bridge between the Humanities and the Sciences since the days of classical antiquity. For Plato, mathematics was evidence of Being in the midst of Becoming, garden variety evidence apparent even to small children and the unphilosophical, and therefore of the highest educational significance. In the great central similes of *The Republic* it is the touchstone of intelligibility for discourse, and in the *Timaeus* it provides in an oddly literal sense the framework of nature, insuring the intelligibility of the material world. For Descartes, mathematical ideas had a clarity and distinctness akin to the idea of God, as the fifth of the *Meditations* makes especially clear. Cartesian mathematics are constructions as well as objects envisioned by the soul; in the *Principles*, the work of the physicist who provides a quantified account of the machines of nature hovers between description and constitution. For Kant, mathematics reveals the possibility of universal and necessary knowledge that is neither the logical unpacking of concepts nor the record of perceptual experience. In the *Critique of Pure Reason*, mathematics is one of the transcendental instruments the human mind uses to apprehend nature, and by apprehending to construct it under the universal and necessary laws of Newtonian mechanics.

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