



PHIL 205 – Critical Thinking and Writing in Philosophy
San Diego Miramar College
Reflection 4.1
March 23, 2026

Subject: Are humans primarily driven by reason or emotion?

It really depends. Nothing in life is really black and white, but gray. Not even that statement, there are things that are black and white, but in the majority of scenarios, things are quite gray, i.e. ambivalent. How a human reacts to an event or action depends on the time they have to change the course of such action, and how important the ramifications of such action are to the human. If the human considers the ramifications of the action important but have plenty of time to change the course of the action, then it tends to behave with more reason. Similarly, if humans consider the ramifications of the action not important, but doesn't have much time to change them, it tends to act reasonably as well. However, if the ramifications are important for him or her, and he has not much time, he or she tends to behave emotionally.

That being said, humans tend to act emotionally when they have a small window of time to change an action or event, and especially when this event is important to them. Basically, in abstract terms, the less control you have of something you care about, the more emotional you act.