Written Assignment #2 (Due 18 April 2006)

In class we talked about simultaneously reading philosophy critically and sympathetically. For this assignment, select a passage from the Feldman reading (eg, a paragraph or two) and quote it, briefly summarizing any necessary context. Then:

A. Provide a critical analysis of this passage. Identify flaws in reasoning, inappropriate rhetorical devices, examples of bad writing, or any other problems you find with what the author is doing in this passage.

B. Provide a sympathetic answer to your criticism above. Show how to “fix” problems you have identified. Carry out another “step” of the dialectic to answer philosophical criticisms you have made.

Your essay should be about two pages.