1. Record Nr. UNINA9910779538003321 Autore Burbidge John <1936-> Titolo Ideas, concepts, and reality [[electronic resource] /] / John W. Burbidge Montreal, : McGill-Queen's University Press, c2013 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 0-7735-8831-0 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (180 p.) Collana McGill-Queen's studies in the history of ideas;; v. 58 121/.4 Disciplina Soggetti Concepts Idea (Philosophy) Mind and reality Thought and thinking Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Nota di bibliografia Includes index. Nota di contenuto Part one: From ideas to concepts. 1 Frege and psychologism -- 2 From sensations to ideas: the empiricists -- 3 How ideas emerge: Hegel -- 4 language -- From retentive to mechanical memory -- 6 Thoughts and Descartes's rules -- 7 Second rule: analysis and definition -- 8 Third rule: synthesis and unity -- 9 Fourth rule: comprehensiveness -- 10 Conceiving ---Part two: Tendrils of thought. 11 Hegel's logic -- 12 Syllogisms 13 Modus ponens et al. -- 14 Arguments from analogy -- 15 Linguistic Variations -- 16 Ideas and concepts -- Epilogue. Sommario/riassunto Do concepts exist independently of the mind? Where does objective reality diverge from subjective experience? John Burbidge calls upon the work of some of the foremost thinkers in philosophy to address these questions, developing a nuanced account of the relationship between the mind and the external world. In Ideas, Concepts, and Reality John Burbidge adopts, as a starting point, Gottlob Frege's distinction between "ideas," which are subjective recollections of past sensations, and "concepts," which are shared by many and make communication possible. Engaging with Aristotle, Descartes, Kant,

Hegel, and many others, the book argues that concepts are not eternal and unchanging, as Frege suggested, but open to revision. We can move from ideas to thoughts, Burbidge suggests, that can be refined to

the point where they acquire independent and objective status as concepts. At the same time, they are radically connected to other concepts which either complement or are differentiated from them. Ideas, Concepts, and Reality offers a fresh perspective on the ways in which rigorous thought differs from other operations of the mind. Daringly inventive and accessibly written, the book will appeal to philosophers at all levels of interest.