Philosophy of Science in the Long Nineteenth Century: suggested questions

1. To what extent should Helmholtz be considered a Kantian?
2. “In endeavouring thus to draw inferences as to the future from the past, we always adopt the following process. We form for ourselves images or symbols of external objects; and the form which we give them is such that the necessary consequents of the images in thought are always the images of the necessary consequents in nature of the things pictured.” (Hertz, *Principles of Mechanics*). Discuss.
3. Is geometry conventional?
4. Is Poincaré a structural realist?
5. Compare the accounts of induction from any two of Whewell, Herschel, and Mill.
6. What is the philosophical significance of mechanical models of the ether?
7. Choose a development in nineteenth-century physics, and discuss how it influenced the philosophy of science.
8. Compare the views of Mach and James on the relation between sensation and the world.
9. Does Quine's holism differ from Duhem's? If so, in what way?
10. Compare Martineau's views on sociological method to Durkheim's.
11. Should Comte be considered the first philosopher of science?
12. Comment on the relationship between epistemic and ethical virtues in the work of Peirce and Du Bois.