

# METAPHYSICS 101 : CHART 05

IN ALL CREATURES			
<p>Esse = what makes a thing to be.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. An ACT, a PERFECTION.</li> <li>2. Is a UNIVERSAL act, found in every reality.</li> <li>3. Is a TOTAL act. It is found in every single act or perfection of every single thing.</li> <li>4. Is therefore PRIOR to any other act.</li> <li>5. Is the MOST COMMON of all acts.</li> <li>6. Is the MOST INTIMATE, INNERMOST act.</li> <li>7. Is the MOST INTENSIVE act.</li> <li>8. Is a CONSTITUENT act, the MOST RADICAL or BASIC of all perfections. Without it, nothing would be.</li> </ol>	ESSE	IN ALL MATERIAL THINGS	
		SUBSTANTIAL FORM	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The determining principle of the essence.</li> <li>2. Is what strictly limits or restricts the act of being.</li> <li>3. Is what makes a thing to be that kind of thing.</li> </ol>
<p>1. Essence = what makes a thing to be that KIND of thing.</p> <p>2. Because a thing is what it is, it ACTS in a certain way. As such, essence is also called NATURE. Nature is essence, seen as principle or source of operations.</p> <p>3. Essence is signified by a DEFINITION. As such it is called QUIDDITY (<i>QUIDDITAS</i>) or "WHATNESS".</p> <p>4. Insofar as it is KNOWN (i.e., in our mind), essence is known as UNIVERSAL.</p>	ESSENCE	PRIME MATTER	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Pure passive potency in material beings (i.e., angels do not have prime matter).</li> <li>2. Mere capacity to receive an act.</li> <li>3. Not yet determined by some form (i.e., it is indeterminate).</li> <li>4. Never exists unless actualised by a substantial form.</li> </ol>