“To be an `ideologist’ –a clinical analyst of the nature of consciousness – was to be a critic of `ideology’, in the sense of the dogmatic, irrational belief systems of traditional society. But this critique of ideology was in fact an ideology all of itself…” (T. Eagleton, *Ιdeology. An Introduction* )

“It is a choice irony that in seeking to replace an impassioned fanaticism with an austerely technocratic approach to social problems, the end-of-ideology theorists unwittingly re-enact the gesture of those who invented the term 'ideology' in the first place, the ideologues of the French Enlightenment.” (Eagleton, *Ideology*, p. 5)

“'You ideologues', [Napoleon] grumbled, 'destroy all illusions, and the age of illusions is for individuals as for peoples the age of happinesss.' […]In 1812, in the wake of his Russian debacle, Napoleon rounded upon the ideologues in a now celebrated speech:

`It is to the doctrine of the ideologues - to this diffuse metaphysics, which in a contrived manner seeks to find the primary causes and on this foundation would erect the legislation of peoples, instead of adapting the laws to a knowledge of the human heart and of the lessons of history-to which one must attribute all the misfortunes which have befallen our beloved France’” (op.cit. pp 67-8)

“The confrontation between Napoleon and Tracy, then, is an early instance of the conflict between the pragmatist who appeals to custom, piety, intuition and concrete experience, and the sinister 'intellectual' who puts all of this in brackets in his remorseless rationalism” (Eagleton (ed), *Ideology*, p.5)

**QUESTIONS (choose one)**

1. Analyse the last text by Eagleton
2. Analyse the first text by Eagleton