Rene Descartes
1596 - 1650.

René Descartes was a famous philosopher from the 17th century, born in France over 400 years ago. He is known as the "father of modern philosophy" for his important ideas about questioning what we know and how we know it. Descartes believed in doubting everything until it could be proven true, and he is famous for his phrase, "I think, therefore I am".

Unlike philosophers who accepted knowledge passed down through tradition, Descartes insisted on questioning everything to discover the truth. He believed that by doubting and using reason, we could arrive at reliable knowledge. His ideas laid the foundation for modern scientific thinking and encouraged people to be curious, ask questions, and not simply accept things without evidence.

Descartes also studied mathematics and science, making discoveries that helped shape how we understand both. His dedication to questioning led to a new way of thinking that encourages us to use critical thinking in our everyday lives. Descartes' work continues to inspire us to ask questions, explore deeply, and use reason to make sense of the world around us.