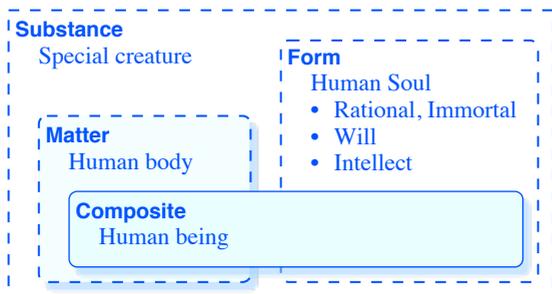
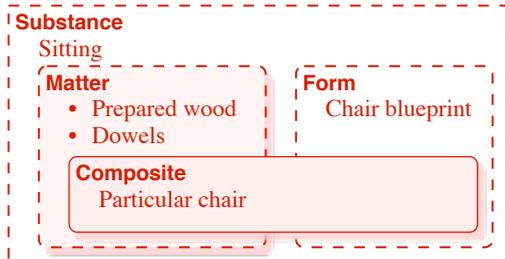
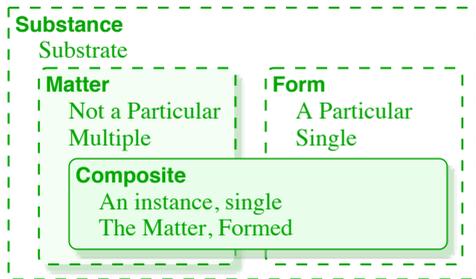




Vehicle 2 • Composition



Composition

- Taught in Modern "philosophy" as hylomorphism ¹, however, Aristotle's Composition is not so limited
- Every *thing* in the created universe (not necessarily physical, or natural) is composed:
 - of Matter: *out of which* the thing is made
 - and Form: *according to which* the thing is made
 resulting in the Composite: the Matter, Formed
 (There is one exception, angels, which are Forms only: they do not have a body, Matter)
- The Hierarchic Set diagram (with additional notation) is used for the vehicle, to illustrate the subject. The relations and dependencies are clear.

Matter

- *Matter* is the immediate Matter (prepared wood; dowels; etc) that is Formed, not the prior Matter (acorn; mature oak tree) from which the immediate Matter is Formed. Any prior Matter can be shown as a Composite (tree Formed into planks)
- Matter is shown with colour and depth, signifying that it is **sensible** (can be sensed)
- The dashed line signifies **Potentiality**, the solid line **Actuality**
 - The Composite is the only Actuality
- The Composition vehicle can be used for simple or complex things
- A particular chair is a Composite of:
 - Matter: prepared wood, not a tree, not just timber, but that required by the Form
 - Form: the blueprint for the particular chair, not the archetypal blueprint for all chairs of that type

Form

- The Form may not be sensed, but it can be known; determined, it is **intellective**
- It defines the *nature* of the thing, and thus the *nature of its existence*
- The Form holds the Matter as the Composite, if the Form were to be removed:
 - the chair would cease to exist (as that particular chair)
 - the policeman would revert to a person
 - the particular human being would die
- The Form is the principle of motion and power (action). Thus it defines its power to act, what it can and cannot do (while the Form remains a Potentiality in relation to the Composite)

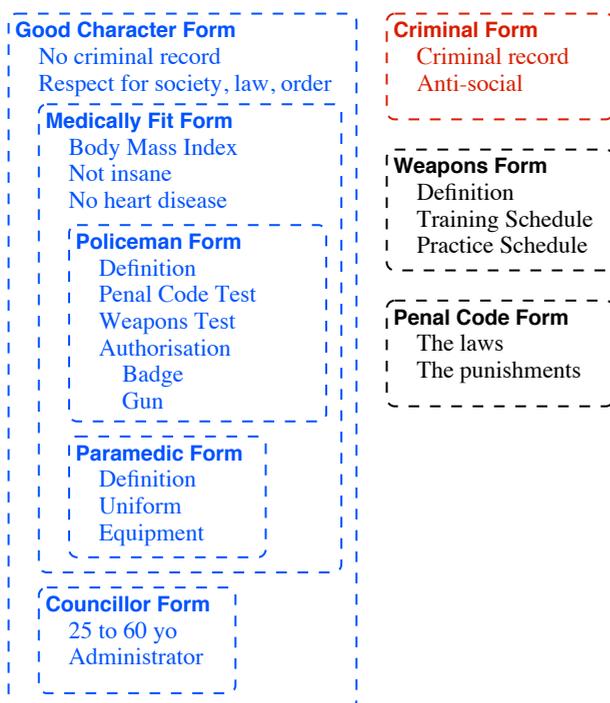
Substance

- Aristotle's *Substance* is the substrate of both *Matter* and *Form*. It is not about sub-atomic particles, in those times it was related to the *ether*.
- In simple terms, it relates to the Final Cause, the teleology.

Composite

- The Composite is the particular, the individual being studied
- The Matter, Formed by a single particular Form
- The Composite (Actuality, particular) performs the act: the Form defines the nature of the policeman, his power to act, but it is the particular policeman who performs the act

Composition • Formation



- Forms are quite involved, perceive them as Sets
- This allows them to be arranged or nested, and clearly understood
- For any particular Composite, just one Form is Causal, it is shown in the Composition (above)
- Here, in the discussion of Forms, it is the innermost

Aristotle *De Anima* (On the Soul)

... the soul is, as it were, the principle of living things ... the cause for its existence
 ... the soul is the cause of its body
 ... the [final] cause of the soul is to partake in the eternal and divine

¹ *Hylomorphism* is misunderstood; taught incorrectly in order to suppress Aristotle; and limited to physical objects (materialism). Aristotle's vehicles have no such limitations. Hence I do not use the term. The vehicle can be used to study (conceptualise, analyse) anything: the natural universe; a person or office; or something that does not comprise Matter (a concept).