

ETHICS (PHIL 2103) STUDY SHEET. FALL 2023.

Introduction

No questions

Pleasure

1. What is the sensation view of pleasure?
2. What is the desire view of pleasure?

Well-being

3. What is an intrinsic prudential good? How is it different from an instrumental prudential good?
4. What is the hedonist view of well-being?
5. Be able to explain Nozick's objection to the hedonist view of pleasure. (We addressed this objection in our class on well-being, but it is actually in Ch. 1 of the reading).
6. What is the desire-satisfaction theory of well-being?
7. What are objective list theories of well-being?

Egoism

8. What is psychological egoism?
9. If we want to find out whether people can act altruistically, why can't we just ask them?
10. What is ethical egoism?

Contractarianism

11. What is a prisoner's dilemma?
12. What are moral rules, according to the contractarian theory?
13. What is the free-rider problem?
14. What are two ways that contractarians can solve the free-rider problem?
15. What is an objection discussed in class or the reading to the contractarian view?

Tragedy of the Commons

16. Explain how a farmer's productivity illustrates the idea of Adam Smith's "invisible hand."
17. What is a commons? What are some examples of commons?
18. In what way is overpopulation similar to the problems encountered by cattle farmers who feed their cattle in the same common green space?
19. What are two ways, discussed in class, to solve the tragedy of the commons via a social contract?

Consequentialist ethics/Mill's Utilitarianism

20. What is the name of the supreme principle of morality, according to Mill? What does it say?
21. What does Mill mean by "happiness"?
22. What case did we use in class to explain the justice objection? Describe the justice objection, and explain how the case seems to raise the justice objection.

23. What is the difference between act and rule utilitarianism? How might someone use rule utilitarianism to respond to the justice objection?

Treatment of Animals

24. Why is discrimination against other sexes or races wrong, according to Singer?
25. What does Singer (like other utilitarians) mean by “interests”?
26. What does Singer mean by “speciesism”? Be able to explain an example (one of those used in class or given in the reading) used to show that we are speciesist.

Kantian Deontology

27. What is the major difference between consequentialist ethical theories and deontological ethical theories? Which theory that we studied is consequentialist, and which is deontological?