

Write your name: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle the time of your discussion section below your TA's name:	Nathan Roser	Bill Simkulet	Chris Wood
	F, 12:30	F, 11:30	R, 11:30
	F, 2:30	M, 11:30	R, 2:30
	M, 2:30	M, 12:30	R, 3:30
	M, 3:30	M, 1:30	M, 8:30

## Test on normative ethics - key

This test has six sections comprising a total of twenty questions worth 5 points each. You must write your answers in the blanks below.

$\frac{D}{1}$      $\frac{B}{2}$      $\frac{D}{3}$      $\frac{A}{4}$      $\frac{C}{5}$      $\frac{D}{6}$      $\frac{B}{7}$      $\frac{A}{8}$      $\frac{C}{9}$      $\frac{C}{10}$   
 $\frac{A}{11}$      $\frac{C}{12}$      $\frac{B}{13}$      $\frac{C}{14}$      $\frac{A}{15}$      $\frac{D}{16}$      $\frac{A}{17}$      $\frac{D}{18}$      $\frac{D}{19}$      $\frac{D}{20}$

### I. Implication

- Let X be one statement and let Y be another. Which of the following is equivalent to the claim that X is an implication of Y?
  - X and Y are both true.
  - X and Y could both be true at the same time.
  - If X is true, then Y is true, too.
  - If Y is true, then X is true, too.
- Suppose you are comparing several normative-ethical theories, or moral theories, and are trying to figure out which has the greatest chance of being correct. Which of the following statements describes the role that the concept of implication should play in your comparison of the theories, according to the standard method for evaluating normative-ethical theories?
  - Whichever theory has the most implications about common-sense morality has the greatest chance of being correct.
  - Whichever theory's implications most agree with common-sense morality has the greatest chance of being correct.
  - Whichever theory's implications most thoroughly fill in the gaps in common-sense morality has the greatest chance of being correct.
  - Whichever theory's implications about common-sense morality are likely to most promote overall happiness has the greatest chance of being correct.

### II. Ethical Egoism

- How is ethical egoism different from psychological egoism?
  - It isn't - ethical egoism is the same as psychological egoism.
  - Ethical egoism depends on psychological egoism, while psychological egoism does not depend on ethical egoism.
  - Psychological egoism depends on ethical egoism, while ethical egoism does not depend on ethical egoism.
  - Ethical egoism is a theory about how people ought to act, while psychological egoism is a theory about how people actually act.
- It is often claimed that ethical egoism is deficient as a moral theory because it cannot handle conflicts of interest. Which of the following principles would be open this same objection?
  - "When two people are having a conflict, each ought to yield to the other."
  - "When two people are having a conflict, they ought to choose the outcome that will most conform to God's will."
  - "When two people are having a conflict, they ought to choose the outcome that will maximize overall happiness."
  - "When two people are having a conflict, they ought to choose the outcome that will enable both of them to behave virtuously."

5. Which of the following is a valid criticism of ethical egoism? (I.e., which one is not false?)
- (A) Ethical egoism's implications are all wrong.
  - (B) Ethical egoism requires a person to always act to the detriment of others.
  - (C) Ethical egoism tells each person that others' interests have no moral weight.
  - (D) Because ethical egoism cannot handle conflicts of interest, it is inconsistent.

### III. Utilitarianism

6. Utilitarianism says that, in any circumstance, the right thing to do is \_\_\_\_\_.
- (A) whatever God commands
  - (B) whatever will be most immediately useful
  - (C) whatever will make you as happy as possible
  - (D) whatever will make every affected as happy as possible
7. Why, according to utilitarianism, should laws not impose unnecessary restrictions on individuals' freedom?
- (A) because individuals have a natural right to freedom
  - (B) because restrictions on freedom tend to diminish happiness
  - (C) because it is expensive to hire police officers to enforce freedom-restricting laws
  - (D) because the laws are based on a social contract, and the idea of the social contract entails maximizing individuals' freedom
8. Suppose that a dangerous defendant who will otherwise be acquitted can be convicted through the giving of false testimony. In the following dialogues, which of the following statements is inconsistent with utilitarianism?
- (A) Eric: "Giving false testimony is unjust and, therefore, immoral."
  - (B) Fred: "Not all conduct traditionally regarded as unjust is immoral."
  - (C) Eric: "Well, giving false testimony is illegal in nearly every society."
  - (D) Fred: "Well, that does not necessarily mean it's immoral."

9. Which of the following statements is the strongest evidence that the person saying it is a utilitarian?
- (A) Ginny: "Violations of rights are very serious, from the moral point of view."
  - (B) Helen: "I agree. It is always immoral to violate someone's rights."
  - (C) Ginny: "Well, I wouldn't say 'always'. It's o.k. to violate rights whenever the good you can produce by doing so outweighs the harm you do by violating the person's rights."
  - (D) Kate: "I disagree with both of you. In my opinion, it's immoral to violate someone's rights unless doing so is the only way to prevent that person from violating others' rights."
10. Consider the question, "What is meant by the charge that utilitarianism is too demanding?" Now suppose the following answer is given: "Utilitarianism requires moral people to respond to important moral concerns such as helping the less fortunate, while allowing immoral people to pursue their careers, family lives, and personal projects." What is wrong with this answer?
- (A) Nothing - that answer is correct.
  - (B) It falsely describes what utilitarianism requires of moral people.
  - (C) It falsely describes what utilitarianism allows of immoral people.
  - (D) It relies on a false dichotomy between moral people and immoral people.

### IV. Kant's Moral Theory

11. Suppose a person named Nick tells you to give \$100 to the United Way, and you say that you are perfectly happy with the charitable contributions that you currently make (which do not include anything for the United Way). What response from Nick would indicate to you that he meant his remark categorically?
- (A) "It doesn't matter whether you are already happy; you still have to give \$100 to the United Way."
  - (B) "O.k., if you are perfectly happy with the charitable contributions you currently make, then I withdraw what I said."
  - (C) "I'm not making this request of just you; I'm telling every adult human being that they have to give \$100 to the United Way, too."
  - (D) "You may think you are perfectly happy with the charitable contributions you currently make, but giving \$100 to the United Way will make you even happier."

12. What is the maxim of an act?
- (A) the rule that tells you how to do it
  - (B) the best outcome that might result from the act
  - (C) the rule or principle that you would be following if you did it
  - (D) the idea that you should only act on rules that you can will to become a universal law
13. Suppose someone says the following things to himself, in his head, in order to decide whether to make a false promise. Which of these is not part of the method for applying the first formulation of the categorical imperative? (If there is more than one, choose the *first* one that is not part of that method.)
- (A) "The rule I would be following is that it's o.k. to make a false promise in order to get yourself out of a large inconvenience."
  - (B) "So now I have to figure out what the consequences would be if I were to do that, and what the consequences would be if I were not to do that."
  - (C) "If I were to do that, then I would benefit a lot, and others would suffer only a little bit of inconvenience. If I were not to do that, then I would be greatly inconvenienced."
  - (D) "Therefore, to minimize overall inconvenience, it is o.k. for me to make the false promise."
14. The second formulation of the categorical imperative may be interpreted as requiring that we always respect others' rationality. Suppose someone thinks that, in practice, this means affirming that others are as intelligent as oneself. What would be wrong with this interpretation of the second formulation of the categorical imperative?
- (A) Nothing - that is basically what the second formulation is about.
  - (B) Nothing - that is the gist of the first formulation of the categorical imperative, and since the two formulations are equivalent, that is the gist of the second one, too.
  - (C) It says nothing against manipulating other people, and that is what the second formulation is really about.
  - (D) It says nothing against acting on maxims that cannot be universalized, and that is what the second formulation is really about.
15. Suppose Opie and Patty are thinking about a specific moral problem, such as whether it's immoral to keep a wallet they've found with lots of money in it. Opie thinks about the situation in terms of the first formulation of the categorical imperative, and Patty thinks about the situation in terms of the second formulation. They reach different conclusions: Opie think it's o.k. and Patty doesn't. What would Kant say in response?
- (A) "One of them must misunderstand the formulation of the categorical imperative he or she is thinking about, since they always give the same result."
  - (B) "One of them might misunderstand the formulation of the categorical imperative he or she is thinking about, or this might be a case in which they really give different results."
  - (C) "When the two formulations disagree, the first formulation takes precedence over the second."
  - (D) "When the two formulations disagree, that means that it is a problem that is outside the scope of my moral theory."
- V. Social-Contract Theory**
16. According to social-contract theory, an act is right if it would be allowed by
- (A) rules dictated to humans by God for their spiritual improvement
  - (B) the rules that people would follow in the state of nature
  - (C) the rules for treating one another that will result in maximum overall happiness
  - (D) the rules for treating one another that people would agree on for their mutual benefit
17. Consider a two-person game with the structure of a prisoner's dilemma. Suppose that if we both choose move C, then we will both get sentenced to 5 years in jail, but that if we both choose move D, then we will both get sentenced to 10 years in jail. Suppose that if I choose D while you choose C, you will get sentenced 15 years in jail. Given that this is a prisoner's dilemma situation, which of the following could be the number of years I will get sentenced to jail, if (as just mentioned) I choose D while you choose C?
- (A) 2
  - (B) 7
  - (C) 12
  - (D) 17

18. Which of the following is an example of a prisoner's dilemma situation?
- (A) Two people are trying to decide which movie to go to together. They have two different movie preferences, but they would both rather go to some movie together than go to any movie alone.
  - (B) A person is accused of embezzlement. The prosecutor offers him 5 years in jail if he pleads guilty out of court, but will try to get him sentenced to 15 years in jail if she has to take him to court and get a conviction there.
  - (C) Two people are playing chess. One player sees she is in a position to win; the other player does not realize this. The first player is trying to decide whether to lose the game on purpose. Each player ranks any outcome involving winning over any outcome involving losing.
  - (D) Patrons at various tables of a restaurant are trying to decide whether to talk loudly or quietly. The people at each table would prefer to talk loudly rather than quietly, but the people at each table also prefer a restaurant full of quietly talking tables (even including their own) to a restaurant full of loudly talking tables.

## VI. The Ethics of Care

19. Suppose someone says that people from Kansas support the Jayhawks and that people from Missouri support the Tigers, and that therefore the way people from Kansas think about college athletics is superior to the way people from Missouri think about college athletics. Which of the following responses to this claim would be analogous to the response given by proponents of the ethics of care to the claim that the differences between men's and women's thinking about morality shows men's thinking about morality to be superior?
- (A) "That's correct: the way people from Kansas think about college athletics is superior."
  - (B) "You cannot assume that everyone in Kansas supports the Jayhawks, or that everyone in Missouri supports the Tigers."
  - (C) "Actually, people from Kansas and people from Missouri do not tend to think about college athletics differently."
  - (D) "It may be true that that people from Kansas think about college athletics differently from the people in Missouri, but neither way is superior to the other."
20. What does it mean to say that the ethics of care is one part of the ethics of virtue?
- (A) that the ethics of care is a feminist approach to ethics
  - (B) that the ethics of care is the correct approach to thinking about ethics
  - (C) that the ethics of care focuses more on caring than on fulfilling one's obligations
  - (D) that the ethics of care focuses more on what kind of person you are than on what your duty is