

## Final Exam, Part 1

### Philosophy 4

Answer the following questions (8 points):

1. Explain the second premise of Singer's overall argument. In what cases is it intuitive to act on this premise? In what cases is it counterintuitive? Why is the qualifier, "without thereby sacrificing anything of equal importance" an important part of the premise?
2. Explain what the Bystander Effect is. How does this explain why it seems to us that we have less obligation to others than Singer maintains? Explain why Thomson would reject the second premise of Singer's overall argument. Can Thomson consistently maintain that there are instances where the Bystander Effect entails some moral failing?
3. Why did a distinction between acts of duty and charity originally arise, according to Singer? Why is the distinction now obsolete? Why is charitable giving a perfect duty for Singer? Why is it an imperfect duty for Kant?
4. Why is Utilitarianism very specific in the way it guides behavior? Why does this make it a more demanding and difficult theory to put into practice? Why is Kantianism less specific in the way it guides behavior? How is it useful as a guide to moral decision-making? Why is it more easily put into practice than Utilitarianism?
5. Explain the distinction between Act and Rule Utilitarianism. Give at least one reason why one might reject Act Utilitarianism in favor of Rule Utilitarianism. Explain the concern that Rule Utilitarianism ultimately 'collapses back into' Act Utilitarianism.

Answer the following question (10 points):

6. Suppose someone claims that a particular race is inferior because most of its members possess a certain set of undesirable traits. What sort of racist do they seem to be, then? What kind of evidence would support a stereotype generalization about a race? What kind of evidence would falsify such a generalization? What are two possible explanations why such evidence would be ineffective at getting such a racist to abandon their racist beliefs? Explain what Appiah means by *racial prejudice*.