Week 1 Review Sheet

Vocabulary

You ought to be comfortable with the following terminology:

- 1. Argument
- 2. Premise
- 3. Confusion
- 4. Inductive argument
- 5. Deductive argument
- 6. Deductive validity
- 7. Conditional
- 8. Antecedent
- 9. Consequent
- 10. Normative ethics
- 11. Meta-ethics
- 12. Applied ethics
- 13. Cultural Relativism
- 14. Begging the question
- 15. Divine Command Theory
- 16. Objective goodness
- 17. Omnipotent
- 18. Omniscient
- 19. Omnibenevolent
- 20. Dilemma

Study Questions

You ought to be able to answer the following questions:

- 1. What are two distinctive features of philosophy, as opposed to other academic disciplines?
- 2. What are three ways that philosophy studies morality?
- 3. What are three theses that cultural relativists generally hold to be true?
- 4. Suppose two cultures disagree about whether some practice is moral. How would the relativist argue this shows whether the practice is moral depends on one's culture?
- 5. If an anti-relativist proposed to resolve the disagreement between two cultures, how would they have to do so? How would the relativist respond?
- 6. What is the general argument for Cultural Relativism?
- 7. Why is the second premise of the argument necessary for it to be valid?
- 8. What undesirable consequences does the second premise of the argument have?
- 9. How does James Rachels account for serious moral disagreements between cultures? Give an example.
- 10. Why does Rachels believe all cultures have some moral rules in common?
- 11. What argument does William Lane Craig present in favor of Divine Command Theory?
- 12. In the absence of God, what purpose would our practices of moral praise and blame, and our feelings of obligation serve? Why is this not sufficient for the existence of morality?
- 13. Explain the Euthyphro dilemma. If we ought to obey God's commands, what are the two possibilities, of which we are committed to one being true? What undesirable consequences follow from each one?
- 14. How might the Divine Command theorist respond to the Euthyphro dilemma? What Euthyphro-style argument can we give in turn?