

Name _____

Comments: This is a preview of the midterm exam. The main differences between this and the actual midterm will be (**shortening**) some of the questions or options listed here won't be on the midterm, (**ordering**) the questions or options on the midterm may be given in a different order, (**minor substitutions**) some of the questions or options may be tweaked, e.g., by adding the word "not" or changing "behaviorism" to "functionalism." This is meant to ensure that everyone understands the ideas, and doesn't just memorize a list of answers.

1. (6 pts) Bostrom argued that... (circle all that apply)
 - a. ...current trends of technological growth suggest we'll be able to build matrices.
 - b. ...we will definitely cure AIDS, ebola, and other diseases before they can kill us all.
 - c. ...functionalism is true.
 - d. ...ethical constraints will keep people from ever building matrices.
 - e. ...matrix architects have especially strong reason to think they're sims themselves.
 - f. ...we should still think we're flesh-and-blood, even if there exist many matrices.

2. (8 pts) For each item on Descartes' To Do list, specify whether Descartes aimed to do that item (1) in his first meditation, (2) in his second meditation, or (3) in his later meditations. (Write '1', '2', or '3' in each blank.)

To Do.

_____ Figure out where my idea of God came from.

_____ Prove that I seem to have sensory experiences.

_____ Prove that I exist.

_____ Prove that I have hands.

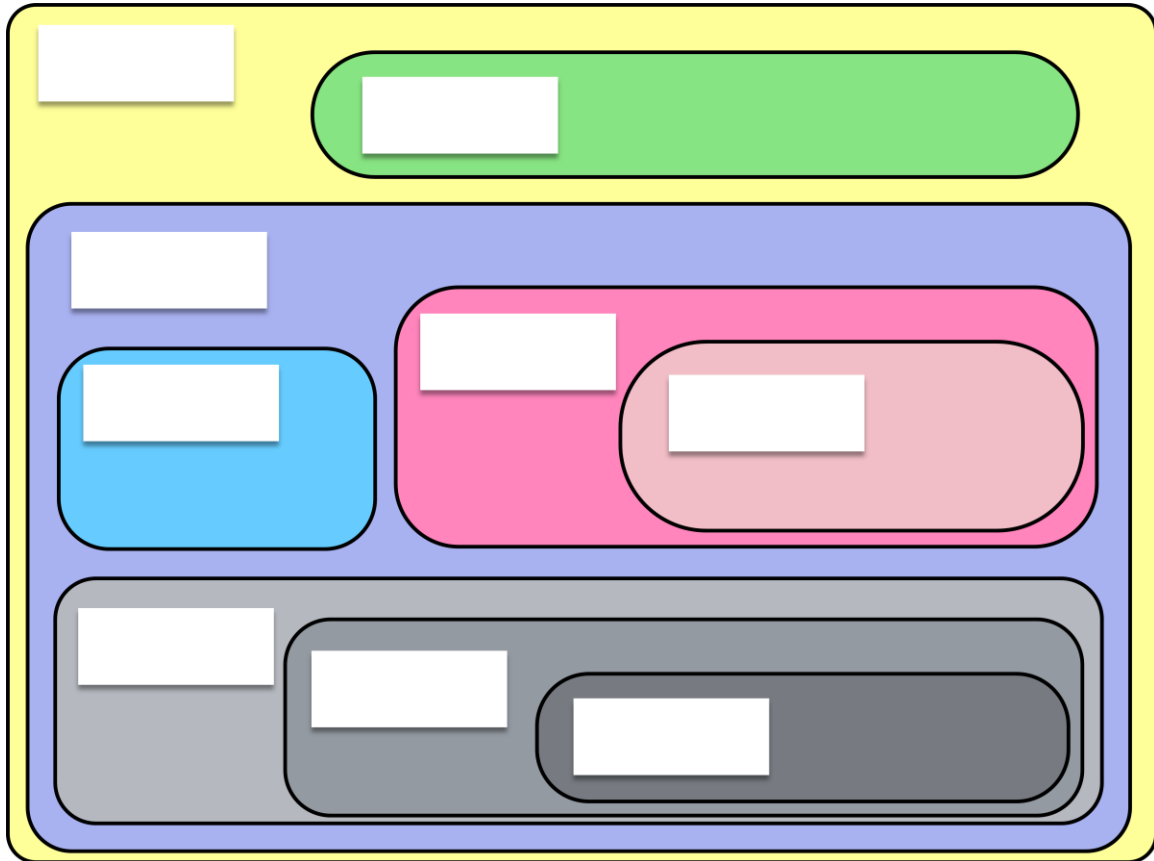
_____ Prove that God exists.

_____ Question everything I've ever believed.

_____ Use the method of doubt.

_____ Wonder whether or not I'm awake.

3. (18 pts) We used a diagram like the following to show the relations between different types of arguments. Correctly label each oval in the diagram by writing both a letter for that type of argument and a number for the description that best characterizes that type. So, for example, you might write “**A 1**” on one of the white labels.



- | | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| A. Abductive | 1. The conclusion best explains some observation. |
| D. Deductively valid | 2. Guarantee: if the premises are true, so is the conclusion. |
| E. Evidential | 3. Offer evidence that the conclusion actually is true. |
| I. Inductive | 4. Concludes that something else is like some sample. |
| G. Analogy. | 5. The sample is a single highly relevant thing. |
| L. All arguments | 6. Offer premises in support of a conclusion. |
| N. Indubitable | 7. The premises and conclusion are beyond doubt. |
| P. Prudential | 8. Cite benefits of believing a conclusion. |
| S. Sound | 9. The premises (and hence the conclusion) are true. |

4. (24 pts) Match each term on the left with the best characterization on the right. (You might use some characterizations multiple times, and others not at all.)

Views:

- ___ Behaviorism
- ___ Dualism
- ___ Eliminativism
- ___ Functionalism
- ___ Identity Theory
- ___ Physicalism

- A. How can I know what's happening in your mind?
- B. There are no beliefs or desires.
- C. Computer technology keeps growing at a geometric rate.
- D. Mental states are dispositions to respond to stimuli.
- E. Everything is made out of the same general sort of stuff.
- F. I can conclude that you have a mental state I've never had.

Authors:

- ___ , ___ Bostrom (two answers)
- ___ Descartes 1st Meditation
- ___ Descartes 2nd Meditation
- ___ Descartes later Meditations
- ___ Russell
- ___ Searle
- ___ Sober

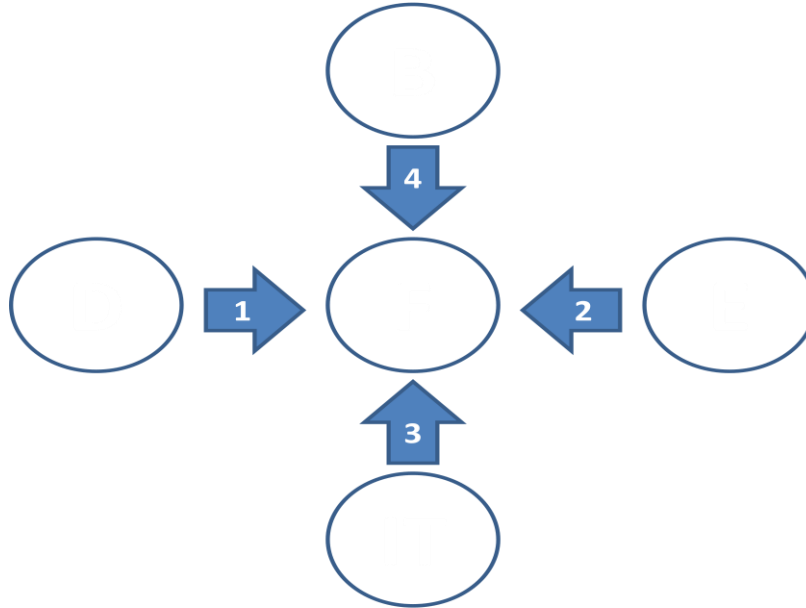
- G. I can conclude only that you have mental states like ones I've had myself.
- H. I want to set aside any beliefs I don't know for sure.
- I. How are minds related to brains?
- J. Minds are completely separate from bodies.
- K. Minds could be implemented in other ways than they are in humans
- L. Our world was surely created by someone who wouldn't deceive us.

Other:

- ___ Chinese Room
- ___ Moore's Law
- ___ Ockham's Razor
- ___ C-fibers
- ___ Multiple Realizability
- ___ Chauvinism Objection
- ___ Foundational
- ___ Turing Test
- ___ Mind/Body Problem
- ___ Problem of Other Minds

- M. Our world was probably created by someone who deceived us.
- N. Some beliefs I can be certain are true, without needing any argument for them.
- O. Something can converse without understanding what it is saying.
- P. Pain is just this particular type of brain state.
- Q. Something that can converse must be intelligent.
- R. To have a mind you just need to be running the right software.
- S. Simpler explanations tend to be better.

5. (5 pts) We used a diagram like the following to illustrate the relations between **(B)** Behaviorism, **(D)** Dualism, **(E)** Eliminativism, **(F)** Functionalism and **(I)** Identity Theory. Indicate which theory had which location in the diagram by writing '**B**', '**D**', '**E**', '**F**' and '**I**' in the appropriate circles.



6. (8 pts) The numbered arrows in the above diagram indicated significant reasons that people have had for moving in the direction of the arrows. For each reason listed below, indicate which arrow that reason corresponds to by writing a number in the blank.

___ Ockham's razor.

___ There is evidence linking different cognitive functions to particular brain areas.

___ It's hard to convince someone else of a view you say you don't believe yourself.

___ By introspection you can tell that at least one person has a mind (namely you).

___ An actor might perfectly pretend to be in pain even though she isn't.

___ Some warriors might show no signs of being in pain even if they are.

___ Chauvinism.

___ Multiple realizability.

7. (3 pts) What do the three views stacked up vertically in the middle of the diagram have in common that made us place them together in the same column?

8. (21 pts) Is each of the following arguments (**A**) abductive, (**D**) deductively valid, (**I**) inductive, (**P**) prudential, or (**G**) an argument from analogy? Write '**A**', '**D**', '**I**', '**P**' or '**G**' in each blank.

- ___ An argument that appeals to self-interest.
- ___ "If I'm dreaming then it won't matter what I believe, so I may as well believe I'm awake."
- ___ "We should believe in the external world – we won't lose anything if we're wrong, whereas if we're right this belief will be crucial to our survival."
- ___ An argument that guarantees that, if the premises are true, the conclusion must be true.
- ___ Descartes' proof of God's existence.
- ___ "Knowledge requires certainty. I'm not certain I have hands. So I don't know I have hands."
- ___ An argument that generalizes from a sample to other things outside that sample.
- ___ Moore's Law.
- ___ "Other views that have posited non-physical substances to explain things have failed, so we should reject dualism too."
- ___ "Since the vast majority of all the other beings who will have had experiences like mine will have been simulations, I am probably a simulation myself."
- ___ "The farmer will probably feed us this morning just as he did every other morning."
- ___ An argument that concludes that two things that are known to be similar in some ways are probably similar in some further respect as well.
- ___ "Matrices would be a lot like internet porn. People easily bypassed ethical concerns about allowing such porn. So people would bypass ethical concerns about allowing matrices."
- ___ Russell's solution to the problem of other minds.
- ___ "You look so much like me, you probably think like me too."
- ___ Using Ockham's Razor.
- ___ Sober's solution to the problem of other minds.
- ___ , ___ "We should attribute minds to other people, as doing so allows us to correctly predict their behaviors in an easy way." (two answers)
- ___ "Other people must have minds – otherwise their behaviors would be inexplicable."
- ___ "We should be physicalists because we don't need to posit anything non-physical to explain our experiences and our behaviors."
- ___ Inference to the best explanation.

9. (6 pts) Which of the following did we consider as good characterizations of philosophy? (circle all that apply)

- a. Reasoning carefully about hard problems.
- b. Where you end up if you keep asking “Why?”
- c. The academic field with the highest rate of alcoholism.
- d. A grab-bag of topics that people don’t yet understand well enough to have delegated to more specialized departments like Physics or Political Science.
- e. The part of the map of human knowledge that is labeled “Here there be dragons”.
- f. A padded room to keep dangerous thinkers occupied without causing real harm.

10. (3 pts each) Short answer questions:

- a. What’s the difference between arguments from analogy and inductive arguments?
- b. What’s the difference between sound arguments and valid arguments?
- c. What’s the difference between foundational beliefs and true beliefs?
- d. What’s the difference between Descartes’ attitude toward matrices and Bostrom’s?
- e. What’s the difference between Dualism and Physicalism?
- f. What’s the difference between Identity Theory and Eliminativism?
- g. What’s the difference between Behaviorism and Functionalism?

11. (21 pts) We've talked about five views of the mind/body problem:

- (B) Behaviorism
- (D) Dualism
- (E) Eliminativism
- (F) Functionalism
- (IT) Identity Theory.

Each item below is a reason that people have taken either to weigh in favor of one of these views, or else to weigh against one of these views. For each item, indicate which view that item has been taken to be relevant to, and whether it was taken weigh for or against that view. E.g., if you think the first item was taken to weigh in favor of Dualism, write "for D" next to it.

- ___ A computer simulation of a rainstorm isn't a rainstorm.
- ___ An actor might perfectly pretend to be in pain even though she isn't.
- ___ By introspection you can tell that at least one person has a mind (namely you).
- ___ Folk psychological talk of beliefs and desires hasn't progressed at all in 2000 years.
- ___ It makes sense to talk about the north half of your *brain*, but not the north half of your *mind*.
- ___ It would be *chauvinistic* to assume that the way humans implement pain is the only way.
- ___ It's hard to convince someone else of a view you say you don't believe yourself.
- ___ Mental states are *multiply realizable*.
- ___ Ockham's razor: we should prefer simpler explanations.
- ___ Science often proceeds by discovering the hidden nature of things, like Water = H₂O.
- ___ Some warriors might show no signs of being in pain even if they are.
- ___ The Chinese Room could follow the right flowchart, but not understand Chinese.
- ___ The mind's role in controlling behavior is analogous to software's role in controlling a computer.
- ___ There is evidence linking different cognitive functions to particular brain areas.
- ___ This view allows most easily for the possibility of an afterlife.
- ___ Traditional talk of minds offers no explanation for mental illness, dreams, memory, etc...
- ___ We ordinarily attribute mental states to other people just by watching how they act.

12. (24 pts) We've talked about ways of assessing how good different sorts of arguments are, listed on the right. For each question on the left, indicate which assessment on the right that question would be most relevant to. For example, if you think the first question would be most relevant to determining whether an argument is valid, write 'V' in the first slot.

Questions to ask about an argument:

Assessments:

- ___ Is there a guarantee that, if the premises are true, then the conclusion has to be true as well?
- ___ Can I imagine any possible way that the premises could be true, but the conclusion false?
- ___ What happens when we substitute new terms into the argument?
- ___ Are the premises of this argument actually true?
- ___ Is the conclusion of this argument actually false?
- ___ How large of a sample do we have?
- ___ Are the things in our sample likely to be representative of the thing(s) we're trying to draw a conclusion about?
- ___ Was there any bias in how members of our sample were selected?
- ___ How similar is our sample to the thing we're trying to draw a conclusion about?
- ___ Are two things that are similar in the ways we've observed also likely to be similar in the ways that we're trying to conclude about?
- ___ Which hypothesis is simplest?
- ___ Which hypothesis most strongly predicts that we would see the sorts of things that we have observed?

- V.** Is this argument valid?
- S.** Is this argument sound?
- I.** Is this a strong inductive argument?
- G.** Is this a good argument from analogy?
- A.** Is this a good abductive argument?

13. (25 pts) For each statement below, circle '**Russell**' next to that statement if Russell would agree with that statement. Similarly, circle '**Sober**', if Sober would agree with it.

Russell Sober The best solution to the problem of other minds is to use analogies.

Russell Sober The best solution to the problem of other minds is to use abduction.

Russell Sober The best solution to the problem of other minds is to use brain scanners.

Russell Sober I can be justified in believing that somebody has a mental state completely unlike any that I've ever had myself.

Russell Sober I can be justified in believing that somebody has a mental state, even if I have no idea what sorts of behaviors that mental state might cause.

Russell Sober You could be justified in thinking that something without a brain has a mind.

Russell Sober We might be justified in believing that aliens have minds, even if those aliens don't seem to be at all similar to us in any other ways.

Russell Sober We have no clue what the people around us are actually thinking.

14. (9 pts) Which of the following did Descartes think were foundational? (circle all that apply)

a. "I think."

b. "I exist."

c. Beliefs he could doubt.

d. "I have an idea of a perfect God"

e. "I am awake."

f. " $2+3=5$ "

g. "God exists"

h. Beliefs that an evil demon could trick him into believing.

i. "I have hands."

15. (25 pts) For each statement below, circle the ‘**D**’ next to that statement if most Dualists would agree with that statement. Similarly, circle the ‘**B**’, the ‘**IT**’, the ‘**F**’, and/or the ‘**E**’ if, most Behaviorists, most Intity Theorists, most Functionalists and/or most Eliminativists would agree with that statement. (For some answers you may need to circle none or all the letters.)

D B IT F E Anything without a ghostly thinking substance doesn’t have a mind.

D B IT F E If we gradually replace all your neurons with silicon parts that still interact with the other parts of your brain in the same way, you would still have a mind.

D B IT F E In deciding whether or not something has a mind, it matters what kind of stuff that thing is made out of.

D B IT F E A detailed computer simulation of Jackie Chan’s mind controlling a robot facsimile of Jackie Chan’s body would have a mind just like Jackie Chan’s.

D B IT F E Terry Schiavo might have had a mind, even if she was completely unable to produce any behaviors.

D B IT F E The computer simulations described by Bostrom would have minds.

D B IT F E A circus automaton would definitely have a mind if it produces its actions by looking up its current situation in a huge table that specifies exactly the same actions that you yourself would perform in each possible situation.

16. (3 pts each) For each of the following terms, give a short definition.

a. Multiple Realizability

b. Moore’s Law

c. Foundational Belief

d. Matrix

e. Argument

f. Philosophy

g. Deductively Valid Argument

17. (6 pts) If Descartes' argument for believing in daggers is going to succeed, which of the following beliefs would have to be foundational? (circle all that apply)

- a. I seem to see a dagger before me.
- b. I have an idea of a perfect God.
- c. Each idea must be caused by something at least as perfect as what it's an idea of.
- d. A perfect God exists.
- e. A perfect God wouldn't allow me to be mistaken about whether a dagger is before me.
- f. There is a dagger before me.

18. (10 pts) Suppose you want to use a valentine to persuade someone you love them. Write a sentence or two in the heart on the left to make a valentine that Russell would find persuasive. And write a sentence or two in the heart on the right to make a valentine that Sober would find persuasive.

