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COLLEGE of COMPUTER STUDIES

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PROGRAM & SECTION : BSIT-2F

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Activity 1 THE GOOD LIFE

Instructions :

Compare and contrast each of terms related to Aristotle's Nichomachean Ethics as discussed previously.

1. Instrumental Good – Ultimate Good

- **Instrumental Good** : Instrumental goods, according to Aristotle's Nicomachean Ethics, are objects or activities that are valued or desirable not for their own sake but as a means to a greater aim or ultimate good. These items are valuable because they assist us in achieving our ultimate aims or well-being.
- **Ultimate Good** : According to Aristotle, the ultimate good is eudaimonia, which is sometimes translated as "happiness" or "flourishing." It is the greatest and most desirable condition of existence, and it is pursued for its own reason. In contrast to instrumental goods, ultimate good is pursued as the aim in and of itself.

2. Pleasure – Happiness

- **Pleasure** : Pleasure, according to Aristotle's ethics, is a form of emotion or experience that comes with the satisfying of wants or the fulfillment of specific physiological requirements. Pleasure can be physical (associated with physiological experiences) or intellectual (associated with the thinking). Aristotle recognizes pleasure as a component of the ideal life, but believes it should not be confused with happiness.
- **Happiness** : Happiness, or eudaimonia, as defined by Aristotle, is a far larger and more comprehensive concept than mere pleasure. It refers to the total well-being and thriving that comes from leading a moral and sensible life. While some pleasures may contribute to happiness, Aristotle argues that true happiness is attained via virtuous effort and realizing one's potential as a rational person.



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3. Virtue – Vice

- **Virtue :** In Aristotle's ethical framework, virtue refers to morally virtuous attributes or character traits that help people to make ethical and morally correct decisions. Courage, honesty, compassion, and temperance are examples of virtues. Virtue is essential to pleasure because virtuous behaviors are consistent with reason and benefit both people and society.
- **Vice :** In contrast, vice refers to morally faulty character characteristics or qualities that drive people to make unethical or morally incorrect decisions. Cowardice, dishonesty, brutality, and intemperance are examples of vices. Vices impede an individual's quest of happiness and are viewed as harmful to a happy existence.

4. Intellectual Virtue – Moral Virtue

- **Intellectual Virtue :** In Aristotle's ethics, intellectual virtues refer to traits of the intellect and rational powers of the mind. Wisdom, knowledge, and practical wisdom (phronesis) are among these virtues. Intellectual qualities are associated with the ability to understand and make good decisions.
- **Moral Virtue :** In contrast, moral qualities are associated with one's character and behavior in social and ethical circumstances. Courage, honesty, and charity are examples of moral virtues. Moral virtues are created by habit and practice, and they lead people in making virtuous decisions in their acts and interactions with others.

5. Science and Technology – The Good Life

- **Science and Technology :** Aristotle did not explicitly confront the notions of science and technology. His philosophy, on the other hand, emphasized the significance of rationality and the application of reason to comprehend the natural world. When directed by reason and ethical standards, science and technology may contribute to human well-being by expanding our knowledge and improving our material situations.
- **The Good Life :** The concept of "the good life" in Aristotle's ethics is closely tied to the idea of eudaimonia, or happiness. It is the ultimate objective of human existence, and it is attained through cultivating virtues, exercising reason, and pursuing perfection in all parts of life. Science and technology can be instrumental commodities that improve our quality of life, but they are not the ultimate good in and of themselves. The good life is a comprehensive and ethical idea that includes both personal and societal well-being.