

**NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE**

**EXAMINATION FOR ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES 1**

(Semester 2: 2012-2013)

**PHILOSOPHY**

**PH1102E INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY**

**APRIL / MAY 2013 - Time Allowed: 2 Hours**

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**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

1. This examination paper contains **TWENTY** questions and comprises **SEVEN** printed pages.
2. Answer **ALL** questions.
3. This is a **CLOSED BOOK** Examination.

1. "Even if I keep the bird-feeder in my yard filled with bird-seed all winter long, thousands of birds will still die of starvation over the course of the winter. So I might as well not fill the bird-feeder at all." This reasoning most closely resembles **an objection to**
  - a) The argument from evil **not relevant**
  - b) Alastair Norcross's "puppy" argument **not relevant**
  - c) Loren Lomasky's defense of eating certain factory farmed products
  - d) Peter Singer's "drowning child" argument **d**
  - e) None of the above
  
2. "No life lived entirely within an experience machine could be as valuable as the life of Franz Josef Haydn." Who would clearly agree with this statement?
  - a) Jeremy Bentham **Robert Norzick he will reject this statement as an experience machine is > than human life**
  - b) Roger Crisp **human life**
  - c) Alastair Norcross **Factory Farming** **e**
  - d) David Chalmers **Metaphysical about our consciousness**
  - e) None of the above
  
3. "Spacetime could have been completely empty. Therefore, something transcending spacetime accounts for the fact that spacetime is not empty." This reasoning tacitly relies on
  - a) The principle of sufficient reason
  - b) Determinism
  - c) The cosmological argument **c**
  - d) The same cause/same effect principle
  - e) None of the above

4. "A monolingual English speaker could learn all the physical facts about Japanese speakers, and yet not know what a single Japanese sentence meant. Therefore, the fact that a given Japanese sentence means what it does is not a physical fact." This reasoning most closely resembles

- a) The argument for extended cognition
- b) The Chinese Room argument
- c) The argument for strong artificial intelligence
- d) The knowledge argument
- e) The zombie argument

d

5. "As an individual consumer, I have no power over the factory-farming industry. In particular, I cannot influence the industry by abstaining from factory-farmed products. So I might as well continue to consume such products." If this argument is sound, it justifies consumption of factory-farmed

- a) Eggs
- b) Veal
- c) Chicken
- d) All of the above
- e) None of the above

d

6. "If God is the ultimate source of all human behavior, then human beings do not deserve to be blamed for any of their harmful actions." According to David Hume, this statement is

- a) True
- b) False

b

Intention is all it matters; whether the factors are uncontrollable or not.

7. "You will exist 70 years from now only if 70 years from now, someone will have conscious experiences that belong to the same stream of consciousness as your present experiences." This statement is true, according to

- a) The experiential theory of the self
- b) The memory theory do not have to be same steam?
- c) The biological theory of the self body is continuous so wrong.
- d) Both (a) and (b)
- e) None of the above the experiential theory of self is at least correct.

a

8. According to David Chalmers, the hypothesis that you have always been an envatted brain

- a) Is a metaphysical hypothesis **correct.**
- b) Implies that real trees are fundamentally computational
- c) Is compatible with our ordinary everyday beliefs **correct**
- d) All of the above
- e) None of the above

**d**

9. The extended mind hypothesis states that

- a) All true cognition has an external component
- b) One's cognitive state at any given time depends on features of one's external environment
- c) It is wrong to apply a double-standard to functionally identical processes depending on whether they occur inside or outside of someone's head
- d) Otto's notebook contains memories, metaphorically speaking
- e) None of the above

10. "Pascal argues for the existence of God using expected utility reasoning." This statement is

- a) True
- b) False

11. Those who maintain that moral responsibility is compatible with determinism ought to favor

- a) The view that every event (except possibly the first event) has a cause
- b) A dualistic conception of the mind
- c) The idea that murderers are on a par with deadly diseases, morally speaking
- d) The memory theory of personal survival
- e) Physicalism

**a**

12. If God (defined as a supremely powerful and knowledgeable being who cares about us) exists, then

- a) It must be possible for us to prove that God exists
- b) All evil must arise from abuses of God-given freedom of will
- c) The cosmological argument is sound
- d) Expected utility reasoning proves that you should believe in God
- e) The argument from evil is unsound

e

13. According to a hedonist like Roger Crisp,

- a) Only that which causes pleasure is good for its own sake **can be instrumentally good**
- b) One should always seek pleasure and avoid pain **b**
- c) Enjoyment is valuable, because it is a kind of achievement
- d) The value of your life depends on the average net amount of pleasure that you have **the total aggregate pleasure**
- e) None of the above

14. Consider the following statements:

- i) It costs about \$10 to cure a case of malaria. **not a premise**
- ii) A human life is infinitely more valuable than any luxury item.
- iii) It would be morally wrong to let a child drown just for the sake of saving on dry-cleaning bills.
- iv) Improving public health actually tends to decrease population. **not relevant**
- v) Your relationship to a child that you see drowning in a pool is identical to your relationship to children dying of hunger in impoverished countries, in all morally relevant respects.
- vi) Citizens of rich countries have a moral obligation to assist citizens of poor countries.

Which of these statements are premises of Peter Singer's argument in favor of devoting resources to global relief efforts?

- a) (i) and (ii) **wrong**
- b) (i) and (vi) **wrong**
- c) (iii) and (v)
- d) (iii) and (vi) **wrong**
- e) (iv) and (v) **wrong**

c

15. "Because of our finite mental powers, it is impossible for us to know why God lets so many terrible things happen to people in this life." Someone who says **this must reject**

- a) The argument from design
- b) Indeterminism **not every event has a cause-**
- c) Theism **wrong, must believe in God** d
- d) The principle of sufficient reason
- e) None of the above

16. According to Galen Strawson,

- a) We are not morally responsible for our actions, because we live in a deterministic world
- b) It makes no sense to punish or reward people for their behavior **wrong**
- c) It is impossible for us to choose our actions, if determinism is true **we still have choice**
- d) Violent criminals do not deserve to be imprisoned **wrong** a
- e) You are morally responsible for your actions, provided that you act out of a considered desire to do some good or harm **intention is hume**

17. Consider the following statements:

- i) We cannot imagine what it is like to be a bat.
- ii) A bat is not a purely deterministic system. **irrelevant**
- iii) God could have created a world physically indistinguishable from ours without creating conscious bats. **irrelevant**
- iv) Bats are conscious. **dualism or physicalism never imply any of these.**
- v) Bats are capable of cognition, but not conscious experience.
- vi) There is no difference between knowing what it's like to be a bat, and being able to imagine the kinds of experiences that bats have.

Which of these statements **jointly imply that physicalism is false?**

- a) (i), (vi) Physicalism- all the knowledge you want to know about consciousness it there.
- b) (ii), (iv) **wrong**
- c) (iii), (iv) **wrong**
- d) (iii), (v) **wrong** a
- e) None of the above

18. According to Alastair Norcross,

- a) Whether it is wrong to consume factory-farmed products depends partly on how much we enjoy consuming them
- b) It is wrong to eat factory-farmed meat, no matter how much pleasure it gives us
- c) Factory farming is immoral, because it degrades the natural environment **irrelevant**
- d) Factory farming wastes food resources that could be used to feed the world's starving people **wrong**
- e) Those who eat meat are guilty of murder **wrong** **b**

19. "If computers can think, then the person in the Chinese Room understands Chinese." According to John Searle, this statement is

- a) True
- b) False **a**

20. "If you know what options are available to you, and you know the possible consequences of choosing each of those options, you can use expected utility reasoning to make a rational choice." This statement is

- a) True **a**
- b) False

**END OF PAPER**