

**NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE**

**EXAMINATION FOR ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES 1**

(Semester 1: 2012-2013)

**PHILOSOPHY**

**PH1102E INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY**

**NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2012 - 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. Consider the following statements:**

- (i) The animals that live on factory farms would not be alive at all, but for the fact that there is a market for their meat, eggs, or milk. **correct**
- (ii) Hedonism is correct, insofar as it applies to non-human animals.
- (iii) The animals that live on factory farms have more pleasure than pain in their lives.
- (iv) The animals that live on factory farms are no worse off than their wild counterparts. **not relevant**
- (v) The only “right” that animals have is not to be unnecessarily deprived of pleasure, or unnecessarily subjected to pain.
- (vi) There is nothing wrong with promoting the creation of lives worth living. **correct**

Which of these statements are the premises of an argument in defence of consuming factory-farmed products?

- (a) (i), (ii), (iii), (iv). **wrong**
- (b) (i), (ii), (iii), (vi). **b**
- (c) (i), (ii), (iv), (vi). **wrong**
- (d) (ii), (iv), (v), (vi).
- (e) None of the above.

**2. “If a dog knew as much as its master, it would not blame its master for taking it to the veterinarian for vaccination; in fact, it would be grateful to its master for doing so. Analogously, if God exists, we should be grateful to him for allowing children to be raped.” A theist who wishes to refute this reasoning can do so by appealing to:**

- (a) the spiritual benefits of suffering.
- (b) agnosticism. **irrelevant**
- (c) the limited powers of finite human minds. **a**
- (d) the high expected utility of belief in God.
- (e) none of the above.

3. Consider the following table, in which various cells are labeled with letters (A, B, C, etc.):

	It rains. 40%	It doesn't rain. 60%	Expected value of your decision
Bring your umbrella with you.	A	B	C
Do not bring your umbrella.	D	E	F

Which way of putting numbers in cells A through F yields a consistent representation of a decision problem?

- (a) A: 10, B: 5, C: 7, D: 1, E: 20, F: 12.4.
  - (b) A: 5, B: 10, C: 8, D: 20, E: 1, F: 8.6.
  - (c) A: 8, B: 3, C: 6, D: 0, E: 10, F: 6.
  - (d) Both (a) and (b).
  - (e) Both (a) and (c).
4. “If you think you have lived your whole life in an Experience Machine, that just means that you have some unusual ideas about the fundamental underlying nature of reality.” Who would clearly agree with this?
- (a) Robert Nozick.
  - (b) David Hume.
  - (c) Frank Jackson. e
  - (d) John Searle.
  - (e) David Chalmers.

## 5. Consider the following statements:

- (i) If physicalism is true, then if you know all the facts about a bat, you know everything about the bat. **yup**
- (ii) You could know everything about the physical nature of a bat, without knowing what it is like to have the kinds of experiences that bats have. **not premise**
- (iii) Knowing all the physical facts about a bat is sufficient for knowing everything about the bat.
- (iv) Physicalism implies that you can learn everything there is to know about a bat by learning about the bat's physical nature.
- (v) Only by actually having the sorts of experiences that a bat has can one learn what it is like to have such experiences. **not premise**

Which of these statements are not premises of the Knowledge Argument?

- (a) (i), (ii), (iv). **wrong**
- (b) (i), (iii), (v).
- (c) (ii), (iii), (iv). **wrong**
- (d) (ii), (v).
- (e) (iii), (iv). **wrong**

**d**

## 6. "The extended mind hypothesis tends to blur the distinction between speaking with someone directly, and speaking with him through an interpreter."

- (a) True.
- (b) False.

## 7. "According to physicalists, all conscious mental states have purely physical causes; according to dualists, conscious mental states do not have purely physical causes."

- (a) True.
- (b) False.

**a**

**both dualist and physicalists says mental states have physical causes.**

## 8. "Derek Parfit uses the example of the Experience Machine to suggest that we may someday have the technology to give people virtual lives far better than any non-virtual life."

- (a) True.
- (b) False.

**b**

9. "According to hedonists, that which causes pleasure, and that alone, is good for its own sake."
- a
- (a) True  
(b) False.
10. According to David Hume, if God makes us do the things we do, we don't deserve praise or blame for any of our actions.
- b
- (a) True.  
(b) False.
11. "By definition, a computer is a simple set of rules for manipulating symbols."
- b
- (a) True.  
(b) False.
12. Galen Strawson argues that there is no such thing as moral responsibility. If he is correct, this poses a direct challenge to
- d
- (a) hedonism about value.  
(b) the principle of sufficient reason.  
(c) the cosmological argument.  
(d) the free will defense of theism.  
(e) Pascal's wager.
13. "John is morally responsible for this, therefore he is to blame." This inference is
- a
- (a) Valid.  
(b) Invalid.
14. "A human life is infinitely more valuable than a new suit of clothes." Who would clearly agree with this statement?
- c
- (a) Roger Crisp.  
(b) David Hume.  
(c) Peter Singer.  
(d) Alastair Norcross.  
(e) None of the above.

**15. “If you, as an individual consumer, cannot shut down any factory farms by boycotting factory-farmed products, then it makes no difference to the factory-farming industry whether you boycott its products.”**

- (a) True.
- (b) False.

b

**16. The extended mind hypothesis states that**

- (a) our mental processes often depend crucially on processes that take place outside our bodies.
- (b) even one’s consciousness can extend beyond the limits of one’s own body.
- (c) many of our mental processes occur outside of our bodies.
- (d) the mind takes advantage of external aids to cognition, but does not delegate the actual work of performing mental tasks to these external aids.
- (e) None of the above.

**17. “It doesn’t make sense to ask why the Universe exists, since if it hadn’t existed, we would not have been able to pose the question.”**

- (a) True.
- (b) False.

**18. “According to Peter Singer, whether you should save a person’s life depends on what you must sacrifice in order to do so.”**

- (a) True.
- (b) False.

a

**19. Consider the following statements:**

- (i) Computational equivalence implies cognitive equivalence.
- (ii) Syntax is not enough for semantics. **more like a conclusion**
- (iii) In carrying out his instructions, the person inside the Chinese room follows the same computer programs that an ordinary Chinese speaker follows when comprehending Chinese sentences. **yes computationally the same level**
- (iv) The person inside the Chinese room does not understand Chinese. **correct**
- (v) The system that includes the Chinese room, the person inside it, and everything else described in Searle's thought-experiment is computationally equivalent to an ordinary Chinese speaker. **nope**

Which of these statements are premises of the Chinese Room Argument?

- (a) (i), (ii), (v). **wrong**
- (b) (i), (ii), (iii). **wrong**
- (c) (i), (iii), (iv). **d**
- (d) (iii), (iv).
- (e) (iv), (v). **wrong**

**20. "It is not a necessary fact that space has three dimensions. But only something that exists outside of space can possibly explain why space has three dimensions. Therefore, there must be something outside of space that explains why space has three dimensions." Which of the following, if true, makes this argument sound?**

- (a) Indeterminism.
- (b) The principle of sufficient reason.
- (c) The extended mind hypothesis.
- (d) Physicalism. **b**
- (e) None of the above.

**END OF PAPER**