

Final Exam

PHIL 105

May 4, 2017

Argument Identification (20 points)

*Pick **two passages**. Identify (i) the main point of the passage; (ii) the evidence or argument that supports this point*

1. human pain differs from animal pain by an order of magnitude. This qualitative difference is largely the result of our possession of language and, by virtue of language, our ability to have thoughts about thoughts and to imagine what is not...we can draw a distinction between pain, which a great many animals obviously experience, and suffering, which depends on a degree of self-consciousness only a handful of animals appear to command. Suffering in this view is not just lots of pain but pain amplified by distinctly human emotions such as regret, self-pity, shame, humiliation, and dread.
2. Because giving money is regarded as an act of charity, it is not thought that there is anything wrong with not giving. The charitable man may be praised, but the man who is not charitable is not condemned. People do not feel in any way ashamed or guilty about spending money on new clothes or a new car instead of giving it to famine relief. (Indeed, the alternative does not occur to them.) This way of looking at the matter cannot be justified. When we buy new clothes not to keep ourselves warm but to look "well-dressed" we are not providing for any important need. We would not be sacrificing anything significant if we were to continue to wear our old clothes, and give the money to famine relief. By doing so, we would be preventing another person from starving. It follows from what I have said earlier that we ought to give money away, rather than spend it on clothes which we do not need to keep us warm.
3. It is curious that, even though the cost of a ticket to the opera or to a rock concert or a Broadway play is considerably more than a dinner at most upscale restaurants, the attitudes toward concert-going music lovers are rarely as disapproving as those toward foodies. Indeed, many people who feel morally uncomfortable spending \$50 or \$100 for a meal, buy such tickets themselves; they drive Volvos rather than Subarus or Hondas; they own large flat-screen TVs. There is no reason to think that the amount of money the typical foodie spends in the service of her foodieism, then, is especially large, relative to other middle- and upper-class indulgences. That it should be more likely to arouse moral criticism needs to be explained in other ways.

Definitions (20 points)

Pick **four** of the five and provide the definition

1. Agrarianism:
2. Necessary condition:
3. Localism:
4. Deontology:
5. Taste of reflection:

Multiple Choice (30 points)

Answer the following questions

1. What is the precise definition of a functional food in the USA?
 - A. Anything with vitamins and nutrients
 - B. There is no precise definition, in the USA, of a functional food
 - C. A food supplement
 - D. Anything with added ingredients aimed at providing a specific health effect
2. The consumer must demonstrate that a functional food product is unsafe for a product to be pulled from the market
 - A. True
 - B. False
3. The “unnaturalness” objection (UE) is a kind of intrinsic objection to GM food
 - A. True
 - B. False
4. A genetically modified food is one that
 - A. contains foreign genetic material
 - B. is grown or bred with a specific purpose in mind
 - C. is more dangerous to consume
 - D. is cultivated from materials that are not native to the place in which it is grown/raised
5. The problem with “negative information” is that
 - A. people tend to be too pessimistic
 - B. people act too incautiously with respect to negative information
 - C. people tend to give too much weight to negative information
 - D. people tend to give too little weight to negative information

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6. According to Singer, distant bad occurrences are less morally relevant to us than local ones.
- A. True
 - B. False
7. Food security solely concerns the quantity of food available to a population
- A. True
 - B. False
8. Singer argues that we are morally obligated to help the food insecure
- A. True
 - B. False
9. The Principle of Preventing Bad Occurrences is only true if utilitarianism is true
- A. True
 - B. False
10. An extrinsic property is one that
- A. an object has independently of anything else
 - B. an object has in relation to something else
 - C. no object can possess
 - D. only some objects can possess
11. A global or cosmopolitan conception of food culture is one that
- A. privileges a specific group or people's cultural traditions over those of others
 - B. is concerned only with the interests of those people that one has a relationship with
 - C. takes into consideration the interests of all peoples and respects their practices
 - D. values a concern with the environment
13. Kant construes a "taste of sense" as one which
- A. concerns something that tastes good
 - B. concerns something that has a flavor
 - C. concerns and expresses the objective experience of something beautiful
 - D. concerns and expresses the subjective experience of something agreeable or disagreeable

14. According to Kant, valuing something as beautiful required only that one had a personal preference towards that thing
- A. True
 - B. False
15. A sufficient condition is:
- A. what is enough for something to be the case
 - B. what is irrelevant for something to be the case
 - C. what is required for something to be the case
 - D. what is both required and enough for something to be the case

Short Essay (30 points)

Answer only **two** of the three

1. Explain the “principle of preventing bad occurrences”. How does Singer use this principle to argue for famine relief? What objections might we raise for this argument? How might Singer respond in defense of the argument?
2. Explain what a genetically modified food is and Comstock’s division of objections to it between intrinsic and extrinsic objections. Then explain the “unnaturalness objection”. Discuss at least one reason why one might consider GM food unnatural. Discuss at least one problem with this reasoning.
3. Explain what a functional food is. Kaplan raises an objection to functional foods based on market forces. Describe this objection. Is the objection persuasive? Why or why not?

