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**Categorical Imperative**

**1)**

The video first explains how a categorical imperative is the polar opposite of a hypothetical imperative. The hypothetical counterpart says that the imperative should be supported by “considerations of the agent’s desires”. An example of a hypothetical imperative is whenever a person is hungry, they eat something. The act of the person eating something is not considered a moral choice regardless of how they eat the food they have; hence the act of a hungry person is considered a hypothetical imperative.

**2)**

Treating someone as a means to an end is often frowned down upon since it implies that you are essentially using them to get to a certain point, just to ditch them once you achieve your goal. There are some derivations of this that are morally ethical. One example of this is using a professor to help you understand a certain topic better. Although common, the student is using the professor’s knowledge to get through the course. This would be considered ethical since it is a professor’s job to pass their knowledge on to the students and that the professor is not acting like a mere means to an end.

**3)**

The lying promise example proposes a situation where someone asks for money and promises to pay it back knowing very well that they cannot. The non-beneficence example proposes a situation where a person who is thriving encounters a person who is not as fortunate and completely ignores them. The borrower essentially swindled the lender out of $100 by making a false promise and the thriving person failed to acknowledge the less fortunate. In both of these scenarios, the borrower and the thriving person are both not considering the others as an end but as mere means to an end in different ways.

**4)**

The formula of humanity essentially says that we should treat everyone as an end rather than a means to an end because of our autonomy. We should always live by this standard because we all have our own self-governing thoughts and rationale. This also works alongside the *golden rule* of treating others the way you would want to be treated. Not any person wants to be manipulated or deceived, hence according to the golden rule and the formula of humanity, we should not strictly treat people as a mere means since we would not like to be treated as such.