

# STUDY GUIDE

## PHIL08

### Final Exam

I will choose *10* of the following questions, and you will be required to provide responses to *seven* of my selections. Your score replace the lowest two of your exam scores from the quarter, and will combined with your highest exam score to calculate your ‘exam average’ for the course.

1. William Frankena argues that there are three distinct types of questions that will arise in moral inquiry. Identify these, and provide an example of each type.
2. Rachels describes three problematic consequences of accepting cultural relativism. Explain two of these.
3. How is emotivism distinct from cultural relativism?
4. What is the “Euthyphro Problem”, and how does it challenge the Divine Command Theory?
5. How is psychological egoism distinct from ethical egoism?
6. James Rachels discusses a number of arguments that might be offered in favor of psychological egoism. Describe two of these, as well as his objections to them.
7. Nietzsche argues that the characteristics of a ‘master morality’ will be very different from those of a ‘slave morality’. Describe these different characteristics, and explain why they apply to each type of morality.
8. What role does the concept of “marginal utility” play in Singer’s views on famine relief?
9. John Arthur argues against Singer’s conclusions on famine relief. Ethical egoists will also likely reject Singer’s view, but their argument would be different from Arthur’s. Explain the difference between the objections that Arthur and ethical egoists would raise against Singer.
10. Explain the primary rule of morality, according to John Stuart Mill. How do act utilitarians and rule utilitarians interpret this differently?
11. Pojman identifies at least five separate problems for classical utilitarianism. Explain three of these.
12. State **verbatim** the first formulation of Kant’s Categorical Imperative, and explain how it generates a duty to keep promises.
13. Suppose that I have borrowed a sum of money from a friend, and that he seems to have forgotten about it (or otherwise doesn’t seem to care whether I pay him back), and that I now ask myself whether I should repay it. What *is* Kant’s “good will”, and how might it be applied to answer my question?
14. Held argues that obligation-centered theories commit a number of errors that are better addressed by the ‘ethics of care’. Identify and explain at least two of these.
15. Explain how virtue ethics approaches morality differently from Consequentialism (e.g. Mill’s Utilitarianism) and Deontology (e.g. Kant).
16. What is situationism? Why does it matter for virtue ethics?

17. Rachels (in “Active and Passive Euthanasia”) claims that active euthanasia can be morally preferable to passive euthanasia under some circumstances. What are these circumstances?
18. Steinbock argues that Rachels has mistaken the AMA’s position on euthanasia. What, according to Steinbock, is the correct way to describe the AMA’s view?
19. Tom Regan argues against what he calls a “contractarian” account of why we should not harm animals. What is the “contractarian” view, and why does Regan reject it?
20. Why does Regan think that we ought not to harm animals? Does he think that we likewise have an argument not to harm trees? Why/why not?
21. Carl Cohen argues that all humans—including those who are cognitively disabled—have moral rights, while no dogs do. Explain his argument.
22. Wolf argues that there are two possible types of moral saint—the *rational* saint and the *loving* saint. What is the fundamental difference between these two? What are her objections to each type of life?
23. Hazlett argues that if we accept the “denouncing principle”, then there are two ways that we can try to explain why people are not disgusted at the fictional evils in video games. What are these two ways?
24. Hazlett considers the argument that since we can’t directly help “possible folks,” we have no reason to be concerned with them whatsoever. He thinks that there’s something wrong with this argument—what is it?