

Brainstorming possible short answer questions for final exam

PHIL 102, Spring 2018

Remember that for the final exam the short answer questions could be either:

- Quotes from one of the assigned readings or videos
- Short phrases/specialized terms from one of the assigned readings or videos

You will then need to give the author as well as 2-4 sentences explaining how the quote or phrase fits with one of their main arguments in their work. You'll need to explain the phrase or special term if it wouldn't be obvious to someone not in the course.

Possible phrases/special terms

Maxim (Kant)

Greatest happiness principle (Mill)

Categorical Imperative (Kant)

Categorical Desires (Belshaw)

Static/Kinetic Pleasure (Epicurus)

Mill - Intellectual/Sensual Pleasures

Natural/Vain Desires

Ataraxia

Consequentialism

Nussbaum Capabilities

Epicurus on death→it shouldn't matter. Soul dies. God cannot interfere

Nagel on death→ death in its nature is bad→ loss of something good→ people cannot be born earlier as it wouldn't be them

Universalizability: Kant

Justice & Beneficence O'Neil (Kant)

Good will Kant

Trolley Problem - Peoples' right to life

Animal ethics

Significance of animal life

Do animals think about their futures?

Impartiality→impartial caring: Mozi

Plato/Socrates - Piety and what is justice

Peter Singer - morally required vs morally permissible (supererogatory)

Happiness→ is defined in terms of pleasure and reduction of pain Mill/Epicurus

Gadfly Plato (Socrates)

Possible quotes

- "The highest good is pleasure ("Letter to M" p.2; Cicero p.1,3) (Epicurus/Mill)
- "It is better to be a Socrates dissatisfied than a pig satisfied"- Mill
 - Intellectual and sensual pleasures

- “If it is true that we have strong moral reasons against causing intense pain to animals, such that doing so is impermissible unless justified by other considerations, then painlessly killing a healthy animal in the prime of life is impermissible unless justified by other considerations” (Harman)
- happiness can be secured in all circumstances - (Epicurus, *The Principal Doctrines of Epicurus*)
- Death is bad for the person who dies because it’s a loss to that person of future possibilities of a good thing (life). (Nagel)
- “whether an act is morally right depends only on consequences (as opposed to the intrinsic nature of the act or anything that happens before the act)” (Mill)