

Study Guide for Final

Bokulich PH 100
Fall 2007

The Final is Saturday Dec. 15 from 9:00am-11:00am in the usual lecture room (KCB 101).

Part 1: You will have to identify five (5) of the following terms chosen from a list of six.
You should be specific, but also explain the context and relevance of the term.
(Each ID is worth 5 points)

Watch in Heath
Irreducible Complexity
Mousetrap & Cilium
Intelligent Design
Fact of Evolution

Moral Relativism
Conventionalism
Subjectivism
Moral Objectivism
Validity

Soundness
Inductive Argument
Deductive Argument
Eudaimonia
Instrumental Good

Intrinsic Good
Egoism
Utilitarianism
Good Will
Doctrine of Swine Objection

Categorical Imperative
Hypothetical Imperative
Socratic Humility
The Unexamined Life
Epistemology

Ontology
Ethics
Deceiving Demon
Cogito Ergo Sum
“God Is Not a Deceiver”

Clear and Distinct Ideas
Thinking Things
Begging the Question
Argument from Ignorance
Extended Things

Rationalism
Empiricism
Locke’s Ideas
Primary Qualities
Secondary Qualities

Idealism
Relations of Ideas
Matters of Fact
Constant Conjunction
Custom or Habit

Problem of Induction
Falsifiable
Libertarianism
Incompatibilism
Compatibilism

Soft Determinism
Freedom of Action vs. Freedom of Will
Deep Self
'Ought' implies 'Can'
Immanent (Agent) Causation

Type-Type Identity
Token-Token Identity
Functionalism
Silicon Alien
Zombies

Transeunt (Event) Causation
Physicalism
Substance Dualism
Property Dualism
Leibniz's Law

Disembodiment Argument
Knowledge Argument
Mary the Neuroscientist
Turing Test
Epiphenomenalism

Intentionality
Chinese Room
Syntax vs. Semantics
Strong A.I.
Weak A.I.

Part 2: You will have to answer three (3) of the following questions chosen from a list of four.

Be sure to answer all aspects of the question being asked. Realize that an excellent answer does more than simply offer a correct response to the question. It should also: (a) briefly identify the context and significance of the issue raised, (b) include a clear explanation of how the response answers the question, (c) carefully support any claims that might be controversial. (Each question is worth 25 points.)

1) What is the one foundational certain truth that Descartes finds? How is he then eventually able to establish certainty about such things as the existence of his body? Be sure to explain carefully the key steps in Descartes' argument. Is the argument valid? Is it sound?

2) What is a quality, and how does Locke distinguish between primary and secondary qualities? Is his characterization of these two categories of qualities correct (perhaps allowing for refinements by modern physics)?

3) Why is causation important to Hume's account of knowledge? What is causation according to Hume? How do we come to know causal relations? What problems are raised by Hume's analysis? Can those problems be resolved?

4) Explain Popper's account of the scientific method. What problems is this account intended to overcome? What challenges does his account face? Is there a way to decide whether a practice is "scientific"?

5) Why does Behe believe that irreducible complexity shows the falsity of evolution? Is his argument sound? Do his considerations about (e.g.) cilia give us reason to believe in intelligent design?

6) Would the truth of moral conventionalism give us reason to tolerate the moral codes of other cultures? Why or why not? What are the strongest arguments for and against moral conventionalism? Are they sound?

7) Compare Aristotle's characterization of the highest good to Kant's characterization of the one thing that is morally good. What reason does each give to support his characterization? How does their choice affect the content of their ethical systems? Who has the better account?

8) Why might someone think that the libertarian account of free will is incoherent? Is there a libertarian definition of freedom that escapes these objections? Would this sort of freedom be desirable?

9) What does Chisholm mean by "transeunt" causation and "immanent" causation? What position does he hope to support by making this distinction? Is his argument a good one?

10) Explain the "deep self" view of freedom and moral responsibility. What challenges is it intended to overcome? Does it succeed?

11) What is the Turing Test? Is it likely that a computer will ever be able to pass it? If not, why not? If so, what will this establish that the computer has mental states like ours? Should we think that there will be any important differences between our mental states and its?

12) What are the strongest arguments for and against substance dualism? Offer a careful evaluation.

13) What is functionalism? How does it resolve the mind-body problem? In what way does it avoid the problems of the (type-type) identity theory?

14) Explain Searle's Chinese Room argument. What position is he trying to undermine? Does he succeed? Be sure to develop and respond to possible replies to Searle.

15) Explain Jackson's "knowledge argument" involving Frank and Mary. What precisely is the argument intended to show? Does it succeed? Be sure to support your assessment.

16) What is the point of the disembodiment argument and the zombie argument? Gertler points out that conceivability arguments of this sort require "sufficiently comprehensive" concepts. Are we able to conceptualize qualia and physical properties in a sufficiently comprehensive way to make these arguments go through?

17) Why might someone think that qualia are epiphenominal? What arguments can be brought against this position? What should we think is the true nature of qualia? Respond to objections facing your position.

18) What point is Dennett trying to establish in his essay "Where am I?" How might an opponent respond to him? Who has the more compelling case?

19) Explain the difference between the Hard Determinist and the Soft Determinist on the question of whether we should punish people on the basis of desert (i.e., because they *deserve* to be punished). Does either position imply that we should *never* punish anyone for any reason? Is each position coherent?