

# Quiz 9

- Kant, *Grounding for Metaphysics of Morals*

- Mill, "Understanding and Defending Utilitarianism"

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**1. The Utilitarian attempts to handle the sense of absoluteness in morality (e.g. that it is just wrong to lie) by :**

- a. observing that if a lie is told to you, you would be made unhappy by it.
- b. appealing to the greater overall happiness that normally follows from telling lies.
- c. claiming that this sense is an illusion as frequent exceptions to these absolutes indicate.
- d. showing that greater unhappiness is always caused by lying than by truth-telling.

**2. Which of the following do not hint at a formulation of the Categorical Imperative:**

- a. act to enhance the good of all.
- b. universalize the intention under which you act.
- c. act in accord with a community of rational legislators.
- d. do not treat others as a mere means.

**3. An act is right according to Utilitarianism when:**

- a. it maximizes the overall happiness.
- b. it can universalize the actor's intentions.
- c. it accords with a just moral rule.
- d. most people benefit from it.

**4. One major objection to utilitarianism is that:**

- a. it allows injustices to individuals for the sake of gains in overall utility.
- b. it treats happiness as an ultimate objective of all or almost all human actions and projects.
- c. it does not count individuals' happiness equally.
- d. it seeks to make moral questions into questions answerable by an objective analysis.

**5. For Kant, to be genuinely morally motivated is:**

- a. to act in conformity with duty.
- b. to act for the sake of duty.
- c. to act out of concern for oneself and others.
- d. to act out of a desire to do good.

**6. Kant's derivation of the Categorical Imperative depends crucially on the idea that the moral law must supply:**

- a. an empirical test.
- b. a formal test.
- c. principles that harmonize with human nature.
- d. commands of God.

**7. Which of the following is not an advantage of Utilitarianism:**

- a. the right act is susceptible to empirical calculation.
- b. each creature that is capable of happiness or pleasure desires it.
- c. it implies a defense of natural rights.
- d. each creature's pleasure or happiness is counted impartially.

**8. For Kant, inclination cannot be a moral motive because it:**

- a. is not universalizable.
- b. is not in the agent's control.
- c. does not affect consequences.
- d. does not affect intentions.

**9. Mill replies to the objection that utilitarian calculations are not feasible by:**

- a. dismissing the objection as irrelevant.
- b. accepting the objection but thinking it unimportant.
- c. rejecting it as ignoring the history of human learning about what promotes happiness or not.
- d. rejecting it as ignoring the ease with which humans can engage in elaborate calculations.

**10. For Kant, what matters for the goodness of the good will is:**

- a. whether it accomplishes its goal.
- b. whether it fails to accomplish its goal.
- c. whether what it wills maximizes overall happiness.
- d. internal to the good will itself.

**11. In Utilitarianism, the principle that each is to count as one and only one cannot be equated with "one man one vote" because:**

- a. utilitarian calculations do not require voting.
- b. the intensity, not just the numbers, count for overall happiness.
- c. the utility gained from bad acts is not counted.
- d. utilitarians reject equality as a value.

**12. The point of Mill's famous remark "better to be a human being dissatisfied than a pig satisfied" is that:**

- a. other features of humans besides pleasure make their lives more valuable than pigs.
- b. some kinds of pleasure are more valuable and desirable than others.
- c. the pleasure experienced by humans is to be counted more than the pleasure experienced by animals.
- d. in the utilitarian calculation we can discount the pleasures of lower animals.

**13. One problem with Mill's proof of the principle of utility—from each desiring their own happiness to the desirability of the happiness of all—is that:**

- a. not everyone desires their own happiness.
- b. the inference from something being heard or seen to its being audible or visible is questionable.
- c. desirability must imply worthy of desire, not merely capable of being desired.
- d. many acts that are impermissible are ones which increase the overall happiness of all concerned.

**14. Failing Kant's test of the Categorical Imperative reveals itself in:**

- a. a decrease in the overall welfare.
- b. a decrease in the overall welfare, if acted upon.
- c. an invalid argument.
- d. an inconsistency.

**15. Kant's claim about a maxim permitting indifference to the welfare of others is that:**

- a. it would greatly diminish overall utility.
- b. it would greatly diminish happiness.
- c. it could not be in harmony with a universal law of nature.
- d. it could not be willed to be a universal law of nature.

**16. The Categorical Imperative is most similar to which of the following:**

- a. the Bill of Rights.
- b. the Declaration of Independence.
- c. the Golden Rule.
- d. the Ten Commandments.

**17. A person who does the morally right action, but for the motive of self-interest would be, for Kant:**

- a. acting in accordance with duty but not out of duty.
- b. acting out of duty but not in accordance with duty.
- c. acting both in accordance with and out of duty.
- d. acting neither in accordance with nor out of duty.

[Answers 1. B 2. A 3. A 4. A 5. B 6. B 7. C 8. B 9. C 10. D 11. B 12. B 13. C 14. D 15. D 16. C 17. A]