

Foundations of Ethical Thought

Ethics · Answer Key · 12 Questions

1. Which ancient Greek philosopher is credited with developing the ethical framework known as Virtue Ethics?

- A) Socrates
- B) Plato
- C) Aristotle**
- D) Epicurus

2. Immanuel Kant's 'Categorical Imperative' is the foundation of which ethical theory?

- A) Utilitarianism
- B) Deontological Ethics**
- C) Virtue Ethics
- D) Nihilism

3. Which philosopher is best known for the 'Greatest Happiness Principle' in Utilitarianism?

- A) John Stuart Mill**
- B) Jeremy Bentham
- C) Thomas Hobbes
- D) David Hume

4. What is the primary focus of 'Divine Command Theory' in ethics?

- A) Natural law
- B) Scientific evidence
- C) Religious authority**
- D) Rational consensus

5. In John Rawls' 'A Theory of Justice,' what mechanism is used to determine fair social principles?

- A) The Golden Mean
- B) The Veil of Ignorance**
- C) The Categorical Imperative
- D) The Hedonic Calculus

6. Which 18th-century philosopher argued that morality is based on sentiment or 'passions' rather than reason?

- A) David Hume**
- B) Immanuel Kant
- C) Baruch Spinoza
- D) John Locke

7. Which ethical concept refers to the idea that there is no objective moral truth, and morality is determined by culture?

- A) Moral Absolutism
- B) Ethical Relativism**
- C) Moral Realism
- D) Egoism

8. The 'Euthyphro dilemma,' which questions the relationship between piety and the divine, appears in the works of which philosopher?

- A) Aristotle
- B) Socrates
- C) Plato**
- D) Zeno

9. What does the 'Hedonic Calculus,' developed by Jeremy Bentham, aim to measure?

- A) The moral worth of an action based on pleasure and pain**
- B) The financial cost of legal proceedings
- C) The speed of logical reasoning
- D) The validity of a scientific hypothesis

10. According to Thomas Hobbes in 'Leviathan,' the natural state of humanity before social contracts is characterized by what?

- A) Altruistic cooperation
- B) A war of all against all**
- C) Perfect equality and harmony
- D) Divine guidance

11. Which ethical theory focuses on the consequences of actions as the sole determinant of their moral worth?

- A) Deontology
- B) Consequentialism**
- C) Contractarianism
- D) Stoicism

12. 'Existentialist ethics,' as championed by Jean-Paul Sartre, emphasizes which core concept?

- A) Radical personal freedom and responsibility**
- B) Strict adherence to tradition
- C) The pursuit of divine grace
- D) The inherent hierarchy of nature