

Foundations of Ethical Philosophy

Ethics · Practice Test · 18 Questions

1. Which ethical theory, primarily associated with Jeremy Bentham and John Stuart Mill, evaluates the morality of an action based on its consequences?

- A) Deontology
- B) Utilitarianism
- C) Virtue Ethics
- D) Nihilism

2. Immanuel Kant is the primary historical figure associated with which ethical framework?

- A) Categorical Imperative
- B) Hedonism
- C) Egoism
- D) Relativism

3. In Virtue Ethics, which philosopher argued that moral virtue is a mean between two extremes of excess and deficiency?

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

4. The 'Categorical Imperative' is a central concept in which branch of moral philosophy?

- A) Consequentialism
- B) Deontology
- C) Existentialism
- D) Relativism

5. What term describes the ethical view that moral judgements are true or false only relative to a particular standpoint, such as a culture or historical period?

- A) Moral Absolutism
- B) Ethical Relativism
- C) Divine Command Theory
- D) Universalism

6. Which 18th-century philosopher proposed the 'Greatest Happiness Principle'?

- A) John Stuart Mill
- B) Thomas Hobbes
- C) David Hume
- D) Jean-Jacques Rousseau

7. Which ethical system posits that morality is derived from the commands of a deity?

- A) Natural Law Theory
- B) Divine Command Theory
- C) Social Contract Theory
- D) Emotivism

8. What is the primary focus of 'Applied Ethics' in a curriculum context?

- A) The study of abstract concepts
- B) The application of moral theories to real-world controversies
- C) The analysis of historical manuscripts
- D) The study of linguistic definitions of good

9. The 'veil of ignorance' is a thought experiment associated with which political and ethical philosopher?

- A) John Rawls
- B) Robert Nozick
- C) Karl Marx
- D) Friedrich Nietzsche

10. According to Deontological ethics, what is the primary determinant of the morality of an action?

- A) The outcome of the action
- B) The intent and adherence to duties or rules
- C) The popularity of the action
- D) The emotional state of the agent

11. Which of the following is considered a 'cardinal virtue' in classical Greek philosophy?

- A) Temperance
- B) Humility
- C) Generosity
- D) Patience

12. What does the term 'Meta-ethics' study?

- A) The application of ethics to medicine
- B) The nature and meaning of moral properties and judgments
- C) The history of moral laws
- D) The promotion of specific virtues

13. In social contract theory, what is the 'state of nature' typically defined as?

- A) A perfect utopia
- B) A condition of human life without government or social order
- C) The natural world before human intervention
- D) A state of absolute moral enlightenment

14. Which ethical framework focuses on the inherent character and disposition of the individual rather than specific rules or outcomes?

- A) Consequentialism
- B) Virtue Ethics
- C) Deontology
- D) Contractarianism

15. Who wrote 'Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals', a foundational text for deontological ethics?

- A) Immanuel Kant
- B) John Locke
- C) Baruch Spinoza
- D) Thomas Aquinas

16. What is 'Ethical Egoism'?

- A) The belief that people should act in their own self-interest
- B) The study of the ego's development
- C) The belief that all humans are inherently selfish
- D) The denial of objective morality

17. Which of these is a core principle often discussed in bioethics?

- A) Autonomy
- B) Profit maximization
- C) Aesthetic beauty
- D) Legal immunity

18. In the context of moral development, which psychologist is famous for the 'stages of moral development' theory?

- A) Sigmund Freud
- B) Lawrence Kohlberg
- C) B.F. Skinner
- D) Abraham Maslow