

Introduction to Philosophy
Study Questions for Final Exam

On the exam date, you will be given 80 multiple-choice questions closely related to the following questions. In addition, there will be ten true/false questions aimed at assessing your grasp of the readings (on Mind and Personal Identity). You will not be allowed books or notes. And you ought not cheat.

1. What are validity and soundness? Provide an example, if possible, of an argument that is valid but not sound. Provide an example, if possible, of an argument that is sound but not valid.
2. What is Singer's challenge? Be prepared to identify standard attempts to meet the challenge and say how Singer might respond.
3. What is the distinction between a hypothetical and a categorical imperative? Be prepared to identify an example of each.
4. What is moral relativism? Give two problems with it.
5. What is a skeptical argument? Give an example.
6. What is the distinction between *a priori* and *a posteriori* propositions? Give an example of each.
7. Briefly discuss Locke's distinction between secondary and primary qualities? Give examples of each.
8. What is the causal-representational theory of perception? Is it consistent with Berkeley's proposed solution to Descartes' skepticism? Explain.
9. What is inductive reasoning? What are some examples of it? What is Hume's worry about it?
10. What is the general form of a cosmological argument? Give a cosmological argument starting with the premise that the universe began with a big bang. Give three objections to this argument.
11. What is the ontological argument for God? Assess its soundness.
12. What does it mean to say that something is: technologically, nomologically, metaphysically, or epistemically possible?
13. Present the problem of evil as an argument against the existence of God. Briefly describe the four typical responses to the argument on behalf of the theist (be sure to say which premise they challenge).
14. In terms of dollars, what is the expected utility of paying \$x for y% chance of winning \$z?
15. What does Pascal argue is the expected utility of believing in God?
16. Present Pascal's wager in the form of an argument. What is the major problem with this argument.
17. What are Descartes' two main theses regarding the nature of conscious beings?
18. Is there something it is like to be a carrot? Is the answer to this question knowable a priori? Is there something it is like to be a class of students? Is the answer to this question knowable a priori?
19. What is the difference between a composite and a simple object? Does it follow from the hypothesis that we are simple things that physicalism is false? Explain.
20. Intuitively, it's impossible for a pair of people to itself experience pain. One might hypothesize that this is due the number or nature (i.e., type) of the parts of the pair. How might one argue against this hypothesis?
21. What is meant by the claim that the mind is relational?
22. What is the logical form of the following argument? Give a different argument with the same form. Is it a valid form? What form did Descartes *think* the following argument had?
 1. I am certain that I exist.
 2. I am not certain that my body exists.
 3. Therefore, I \neq my body.
23. What is the logical form of the following argument? Give a different argument with the same form. Is it a valid form? Is the argument sound?
 1. I am something such that I am certain of it that it exists.
 2. My body is not something such that I am certain of it that it exists.
 3. Therefore, I \neq my body.

24. Evaluate the following argument—by definition, a *zombie* is a physical duplicate of a human that has no conscious experience:
1. Zombies are conceivable.
 2. What is conceivable is possible.
 3. Therefore, zombies are possible.
 4. If zombies are possible, then dualism is correct.
 5. Therefore, dualism is correct.
25. What are three general considerations in favor of physicalism?
26. Be ready to identify a naïve behaviorist proposal for analyzing sadness (i.e., x is sad iff ...). Be ready to identify counterexamples to such an analysis.
27. What is identity theory? What is the main problem with it?
28. What is functionalism?
29. Explain Jackson's "Mary" argument against physicalism.
30. What is teletransportation? Is the person in the Exit Module of a teletransporter the same person who entered the Entry Module according to (i) the physical-continuity theory of personal identity? (ii) the psychological-continuity theory? (iii) the Cartesian soul theory?