### **Chapter 7: Social Contract Theory**

1. Which of the following is a problem for the idea of the veil of ignorance?

a. It is unclear why we should follow agreements made by people unlike us.

b. It renders the agreements of the contractors unfair.

c. It assures that the contractors will disagree among themselves.

d. All of the above

Answer: b

\*2. According to contractarianism, what motivates the contractors to select the rules they do?

a. A desire for revenge

b. Rational self-interest

c. Impartial benevolence

d. Selfless altruism

Answer: b

\*3. The social contract that fixes our basic moral duties is

a. one that we have actually consented to.

b. one we would consent to under ideal conditions.

c. Both a and b

d. Neither a nor b

Answer: b

\*4. Which of the following is a problem for contractarianism discussed in the text?

a. Contractarianism is incompatible with following rational self-interest.

b. Contractarianism fails to maximize happiness.

c. Contractarianism breaks down when contractors disagree about moral rules.

d. All of the above

Answer: c

5. What is Rawls’s veil of ignorance thought to ensure?

a. The contractors will always agree among themselves.

b. The agreements of the contractors will be fair.

c. Both a and b

d. Neither a nor b

Answer: c

6. Why does Hobbes think that we should seek peace?

a. Because it is in our own self-interest

b. Because it is in the interest of others

c. Because God commands it

d. All of the above

Answer: a

7. According to Hobbes, what is needed to ensure that a contract is followed?

a. The contracting parties must act in good faith.

b. The contract must be in each party’s best interest.

c. There must be some power to force contracting parties to follow it.

d. The contract must be in writing.

Answer: c

8. What is the “state of nature?”

a. A situation in which there are no laws of government

b. A utopia in which everyone lives in perfect harmony

c. A government that is set up so that everything functions as it ought to

d. A place completely unpopulated by humans

Answer: a

\*9. What is Hobbes’s definition of injustice?

a. Treatment of people as they do not deserve to be treated

b. The performance of an action that does not bring about the best consequences

c. The conviction of an innocent person for a serious crime

d. The breaking of a contract

Answer: d

\*10. Under what circumstances does Hobbes think that people act for reasons other than self-interest?

a. When interacting with their family

b. When serving their country

c. Both a and b

d. None of the above (People always act out of self-interest.)

Answer: d