### **Chapter 9: Virtue Ethics**

1. What does moral understanding require, according to virtue ethics?

a. The application of absolute rules to particular cases

b. Calculation about the effects of one’s actions

c. An exceptional amount of intelligence

d. Training and experience

Answer: d

2. How did Aristotle think that virtue could be acquired?

a. It is inborn.

b. One must have a conversion experience in which one experiences the good directly.

c. Virtue is acquired through education and training.

d. It is impossible to become virtuous.

Answer: c

3. Virtuous people differ from vicious people in their

a. behavior.

b. thoughts.

c. perceptions.

d. All of the above

Answer: d

\*4. Which of the following is a statement of the priority problem?

a. Virtue ethics wrongly defines duty in terms of virtue instead of vice versa.

b. A person can be virtuous without having all her priorities straight.

c. The consequences of an action sometimes have priority over one’s intentions.

d. Virtue ethics lacks a way of ranking moral principles in terms of importance.

Answer: a

5. The priority problem for virtue ethics claims that

a. the fact that an act is wrong explains why a moral exemplar would not do it, not the other way around.

b. the fact that a moral exemplar would not do it explains why an act is wrong, not the other way around.

c. the fact that a moral exemplar would not do it is irrelevant to whether it is wrong.

d. the fact that that an act is wrong is irrelevant to whether a moral exemplar would do it.

Answer: a

6. By “faculties,” Aristotle means

a. dispositions to act in certain ways.

b. capacities to experience passions.

c. states of character.

d. virtues and vices.

Answer: b

7. According to Aristotle, we grasp virtues via

a. careful philosophical reasoning.

b. perception.

c. experimentation.

d. All of the above

Answer: b

8. According to Aristotle, what is characteristic of vice?

a. Excesses of passions and actions

b. Defects of passions and actions

c. Passions and actions which cause harm

d. Both a and b

Answer: d

\*9. Aristotle thinks that virtues and vices cannot be kinds of passions because

a. we are praised and blamed for virtues and vices, but not for passions.

b. passions are states of character, but virtues and vices are not.

c. virtues and vices are innate to our nature, but passions are not.

d. None of the above (Aristotle thinks that virtues and vices *are* kinds of passions.)

Answer: a

\*10. Which of the following describes Aristotle’s view of human beings?

a. They are naturally virtuous; it is society that makes them wicked.

b. They are naturally vicious; it is society that teaches them to be virtuous.

c. They are naturally neither virtuous nor vicious; virtue must be learned.

d. They are irreparably bad; they can never truly become virtuous.

Answer: c