

Chapter 1 Ethics and Ethical Reasoning

1. Looking at the source of an opinion instead of the reason given for it is called begging the question.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER:

False

2. According to the text, one reason why we study ethics is to see whether we can justify the beliefs we already hold.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER:

True

3. The following is an example of normative ethics: "Capital punishment is wrong because it is wrong to directly take a human life."

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER:

True

4. Recommending a certain behavior such as sharing due to one's own approval of that behavior is known as emotivism.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER:

True

5. Ethical considerations always start from the top, in other words, with the formulation of ethical principles or basic ethical values.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER:

False

6. Ethics is that branch of philosophy that seeks to discover what different moral beliefs different people do in fact have.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER:

False

7. Ethics is exclusively a descriptive discipline.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER:

False

8. While emotions or feelings may play some role in moral considerations, one is also expected to give reasons for one's moral judgments.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER:

True

9. An ethical theory is a systematic exposition of a particular view about what is the nature and basis of good or right.

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- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: True

10. In doing metaethics one analyzes the meaning and function of ethical language.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: True

11. Ethics is that branch of philosophy that is concerned with how we ought to live, with the idea of the good, and with the meaning of such concepts as right and wrong.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: True

12. "People often find it difficult to do what they believe is right" is a normative statement.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: False

13. To say that Sue has a right to know the truth is to give a consequentialist reason for being honest.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: False

Label the following as Consequentialist (C) or Non-consequentialist (NC) forms of reasoning.

14. Students ought not to cheat on their ethics test because if everyone cheated then the test grades would not mean anything.

ANSWER: C

15. Although you intended well, what you did was bad because it caused more harm than good.

ANSWER: C

16. It is only fair that you give him a chance for the position.

ANSWER: NC

Label these Normative Judgments as Ethical (E), or Aesthetic (A), or Legal (L) Judgments or as matters of Custom (C):

17. That is a worthless piece of art because it says nothing and expresses nothing.

ANSWER: A

18. What he did was praiseworthy because it was so selfless.

ANSWER: E

19. You ought to stand when the Queen enters the room.

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ANSWER: C

20. One ought to pay one's taxes.

ANSWER: L or E, depending on the reasoning

Choose the best answer:

21. The statement "More than half the people in this country believe that giving military aid to foreign governments is wrong" is Normative (N) or Descriptive (D)?

ANSWER: D

22. That type of ethics which holds that an act is never justified by its consequences, the end does not justify the means: Teleological (T) or Deontological (D) ethics?

ANSWER: D

23. Which type of ethics analyzes and asks the meaning and function of ethical terms such as "good" or "right" and ethical statements such as "This is Good." Normative ethics (N) or Metaethics (M)?

ANSWER: M

Label the following as Normative (N) or Descriptive (D) statements.

24. It would not be right to decorate a room with furniture from two different historical periods.

ANSWER: N

25. More people now than twenty years ago believe that the death penalty is sometimes justified.

ANSWER: D

26. We ought to respect our elders because it is the right thing to do.

ANSWER: N

27. Which of the following best describes Ethics?

- a. A form of the "golden rule."
- b. A branch of philosophy that uses reason to support positions.
- c. A body of beliefs about right and wrong handed down from one generation to the next.
- d. Behavior that is agreed upon to be moral by the majority.

ANSWER: b

28. The reading by Hume is about

- a. The difficulty of connecting ethics and natural science.
- b. The ethics of religion.
- c. The question of capital punishment.
- d. The problem of deriving an ought from an is.

ANSWER: d

29. Ethics requires skillful reasoning. Which of the following is not important to making a good argument?

- a. The structure of the argument.

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- b. The conclusion follows from the premises.
- c. The argument leads to the right conclusion.
- d. The argument has internal logic.

ANSWER:

c

30. The difference between teleological and deontological is that

- a. Teleological is moral and deontological is immoral.
- b. Teleological is focused on intention and deontological is focused on motive.
- c. Deontological is focused of intention and teleological is focused on consequence.
- d. Deontological is moral and teleological is immoral.

ANSWER:

c

31. Ethical theory does which of the following

- a. Proves an argument to be right or wrong.
- b. Shows people how they should act.
- c. Agrees with legal decisions.
- d. Provides reasons for judging actions to be right or wrong.

ANSWER:

d

32. Another name for a good argument is

- a. A correct argument.
- b. A sound argument.
- c. A winning argument.
- d. A fair argument.

ANSWER:

b

33. The reasons supporting a conclusion in an argument are called

- a. ethical principles.
- b. ad hominem.
- c. valid forms.
- d. premises.

ANSWER:

d

34. Which of the following is not a reason given for developing our natural moral reasoning skills?

- a. We should be able to critically evaluate our own beliefs.
- b. As we develop our skills we will be able to win more ethical arguments.
- c. People of all perspectives should be able to hold meaningful dialogue with each other.
- d. Diverse communities necessitate that values be built of reason.

ANSWER:

b

35. Metaethics is largely about studying

- a. The meanings of ethical language.
- b. Those things which are beyond normal ethics.

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- c. Historical literature about ethics.
- d. Ethical decisions sanctioned by religious beliefs.

ANSWER:

a