

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Answer Key: Nail Senior Ethics Theories Quiz

Synthesize complex moral frameworks and analyze high-stakes scenarios through comparative logic and deontological critiques.

**1. W.D. Ross proposed 'prima facie' duties to address flaws in rigid moral systems. Which scenario best illustrates a conflict between the duty of non-maleficence and the duty of fidelity?**

**Answer:** A) Breaking a promise to a friend to prevent a serious physical assault on a stranger.

Ross's pluralism suggests duties like fidelity (keeping promises) can be overridden by more urgent duties like non-maleficence (preventing harm).

**2. According to Thomas Aquinas's Doctrine of Double Effect, an action with a foreseeable evil outcome is permissible if the evil is the intended means to a greater good.**

**Answer:** B) False

False. The Doctrine of Double Effect specifically mandates that the evil effect must be a byproduct, never the intended means to the good end.

**3. In 'The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas,' Ursula K. Le Guin presents a city of perfect happiness dependent on the misery of one child. A strict \_\_\_\_\_ would argue this trade-off is morally mandatory.**

**Answer:** A) Act Utilitarian

Act Utilitarianism focuses on the net calculation of happiness; the joy of thousands outweighs the suffering of one, regardless of individual rights.

**4. Which concept from Immanuel Kant's 'Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals' prohibits using a human being merely as a tool for a specific end?**

**Answer:** B) The Formula of Humanity

The Formula of Humanity (or End in Itself) states that one must always treat humanity as an end, never merely as a means.

**5. Aristotle's Eudaimonia is achieved not through fleeting pleasure, but through the cultivation of \_\_\_\_\_, which represents the 'Golden Mean' between extremes.**

**Answer:** B) Phronesis (Practical Wisdom)

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Phronesis is the intellectual virtue that allows a person to determine the 'Golden Mean' for moral virtues in specific contexts.

**6. John Rawls's 'Veil of Ignorance' is a thought experiment designed to ensure that justice is determined without knowledge of one's own social status or talents.**

**Answer:** A) True

Rawls argued that fair social contracts are created only when the 'legislators' do not know their place in the resulting society.

**7. Philippa Foot's 'George and the Chemistry Job' dilemma critiques Utilitarianism by highlighting the problem of:**

**Answer:** B) Personal Integrity and Agency

This dilemma argues that demanding someone take a job they find morally repugnant for the 'greater good' ignores the importance of an individual's integrity.

**8. While Peter Singer argues for global charity based on \_\_\_\_\_, critics argue that we have special moral obligations to those closest to us, a central tenet of Care Ethics.**

**Answer:** B) Impartiality

Singer's utilitarian view requires strict impartiality, treating the lives of strangers as equal in value to the lives of our own family.

**9. An Ethical Egoist would argue that an individual should always act in a way that provides the most benefit to the community, even if it harms themselves.**

**Answer:** B) False

False. Ethical Egoism posits that the promotion of one's own self-interest is the only moral obligation.

**10. Contrast the Ring of Gyges (Plato) with Kant's Deontology. Why would a Kantian refuse to use the ring's power of invisibility for personal gain?**

**Answer:** C) Because a maxim of stealing cannot be universalized without contradiction.

Kant's Categorical Imperative requires that we act only on maxims that could become universal laws; if everyone stole, the concept of property would vanish.