

Name: _____ Date: _____

Categorical Imperatives & Social Contracts: 11th Grade Ethics

Students sharpen their moral reasoning by applying complex frameworks like Contractarianism and Prima Facie duties to modern geopolitical and tech dilemmas.

1. A state governor restricts travel during a pandemic, citing Thomas Hobbes' view that citizens trade certain liberties for collective security. This aligns with which framework?

- A. Virtue Ethics
- B. Social Contract Theory
- C. Nihilism
- D. Divine Command Theory

2. In Immanuel Kant's 'Categorical Imperative,' an action is only moral if you would be willing to make that action a universal law that everyone must follow.

- A. True
- B. False

3. An AI developer decides to include a 'kill switch' in a robot even if it reduces efficiency, because they believe the safety of humanity is an absolute rule, or a _____ duty.

- A. Teleological
- B. Deontological
- C. Hedonistic
- D. Relativistic

4. W.D. Ross proposed 'prima facie' duties. Which of the following best describes this concept in a moral dilemma?

- A. Absolute rules that can never be broken under any circumstance.
- B. The idea that only the pleasure of the individual matters.
- C. Self-evident moral obligations that may conflict, requiring us to find the 'actual duty'.
- D. The belief that there is no objective truth in ethics.

5. John Stuart Mill, a famous Utilitarian, argued that 'higher pleasures' (intellectual and moral) should be weighted more heavily than 'lower pleasures' (physical).

- A. True
- B. False

6. In the context of the 'Veil of Ignorance,' philosopher John Rawls suggests we should design social systems as if we don't know our own status, aiming for _____.

- A. Strict Hierarchy
- B. Egoism
- C. Justice as Fairness

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

D. Authoritarianism

7. A scientist refuses to falsify data even though doing so would unlock a grant that could fund a cure for cancer. This scientist is likely following which ethical approach?

- A. Act Utilitarianism
- B. Kantianism
- C. Ethical Egoism
- D. Cultural Relativism

8. An 'Ethical Egoist' believes that humans are incapable of acting in anything other than their own self-interest.

- A. True
- B. False

9. Aristotle's 'Golden Mean' suggests that virtue is found in the balance between two extremes. What is the virtue between 'Cowardice' and 'Rashness'?

- A. Temperance
- B. Generosity
- C. Courage
- D. Justice

10. When a software company prioritizes releasing a buggy product to stay in business rather than following safety protocols, they are prioritizing _____ over Deontology.

- A. Consequentialism
- B. Virtue Ethics
- C. Stocism
- D. Existentialism