

Phil 2, Final Exam Study Guide

- Feel free to bring notes, books, and laptops. They are **allowed** in the exam.
- On the final exam, you will be asked to answer **three** questions.
- Each answer should be **under 600 words**.
- **Every** question that will be on the final exam is on this list.
- However, **not** every question that is on this list will be on the final exam.
- If you wish, you may write out answers to all of these questions on this list, bring them to the final, and then turn in answers to three of the questions on the final. (I'm not recommending that you do this; it seems like a lot of work. But you're free to do it.)

1. Is the best life always the one with the most pleasure and least pain?
2. What are the strengths and weaknesses of Bentham's utilitarian theory of punishment?
3. What is Singer's argument that we are morally required to donate money to Oxfam rather than spending it on luxuries such as nice clothes or dinners out?
4. What does Nietzsche mean when he says that morality is the result of a "slave revolt"? In what way is it a criticism of morality?
5. According to Ayer, when one person says, "Abortion is wrong" and another says, "Abortion is not wrong," are they really disagreeing? Why or why not?
6. Are religious claims, such as claim that there exists a wise and benevolent God, a way of explaining how there could be objective moral truths (which do not depend on anyone's beliefs, feelings, or culture)? Why or why not?
7. Why is it, according to Hobbes, that the sovereign may *do* to us whatever he wants, but cannot *command* (or *oblige*) us to do whatever he wants?
8. Why, according to Mill, should we refrain from socially regulating the expression of individual opinions?
9. What is the point of Nozick's "Wilt Chamberlain" example?
10. What is Rawls's argument for the "Democratic Equality" interpretation of his second principle of justice?

Good luck!