

Candidate 2 evidence

2. (continued)

(i) Describe Hume's distinction between impressions and ideas.

3

Impressions are the sensation that you experience in the moment. They can be outer (physical) or inner (emotions). They are always more lively, vivid and forceful than ideas. Ideas are the faded remains of an impression. They are weaker. ~~Less~~ "Less lively, vivid and forceful." "The dullest sensation is still superior to the liveliest thought".

2. (continued)

(j) The role of the imagination is important in understanding Hume's distinction between simple and complex ideas.

(i) Describe how Hume thinks we use the imagination to create complex ideas.

You must refer to the idea of God in your answer.

6

There are 4 principles of imagination that are used to create complex ideas. Compound, where two simple ideas are combined together to create a complex one. E.g. Gold + Mountain = golden mountain. Diminish where a ~~simple~~ ^{simple} idea is made smaller. Augment where an idea is made larger. E.g. an elephant sized mouse. Finally, Transpose, where part of a simple idea is moved on top of another. E.g. An eagle transposed onto a horse makes a hypogriff. Our imagination is limited to these four things. God for example is the simple ideas of love, compassion, kindness, power, knowledge etc augmented and compounded to create the complex idea of God.

2. (j) (continued)

- (ii) Why does Hume choose the idea of God to support his claim that all ideas come from experience?

2

~~As~~ Hume claims that all ideas originate from impressions. He uses God as he is beyond according to Christianity, which at the time was had large amounts of power; God is all knowing, powerful and loving. We all are familiar with these characteristics. God is and was a well known idea. It is believable that we could augment and combine traits we experience and remember (ideas) to create a more complex idea. It shows that no matter the complexity ~~everything~~ [Turn over] everything has its origins in impressions.

3. (a) What is the purpose of the hedonic calculus?

2

Bentham created ~~to~~ so ~~peo~~ Utilitarians could calculate which action is more morally praise worthy. As Bentham believed pleasure was objective so could be given a value. So an action the consequences on ^{decision} our ~~action~~ could be calculated.

(b) Explain two problems with using the hedonic calculus.

4

The first is that it takes too long to use it's impractical to sit there and assign values to calculate which action is more morally praise worthy. No one is going to use it in a height of the moment situation. The second is ~~that it does sit~~ that pleasure is not objective we cannot ~~value~~ place a value on something that would change from person to person. I love a good book and hate football. Someone else may hate books and love football. We don't get the same pleasure from the same actions and decisions.

3. (continued)

(c) According to Mill, what is the difference between higher and lower pleasures?

You may give examples to support your answer.

4

Higher pleasures cultivate the mind, they are pleasures of intellect and provide a higher quality of pleasure. For example, music and philosophy. Lower pleasures are sensations of the body we share them with animals and they do not provide the same quality of pleasure. E.g. sleeping and eating. However, Mill does say we need lower pleasures to survive and so should not ignore them. Mill says that anyone who has experienced higher pleasures would not choose lower pleasures over them, even if in a larger amount.

3. (continued)

(d) Read the scenario below and answer the questions that follow.

David gets a lot of pleasure from playing games on his phone, even though he knows they are totally pointless. His parents are unhappy that he is wasting so much time and want him to focus on his other hobbies, such as running and playing the drums.

(i) Use two factors of the hedonic calculus to show why Bentham would agree with David's parents.

4

Duration
 Certainty
 Purity
 Extent
 Proximity
 Fecundity
 Security

Extent is how many people would benefit be affected. If David focused on his other pleasures more, he would gain pleasure and so would his parents as he isn't playing video games anymore. So Bentham would agree as ~~best~~ when he plays video games only he benefits. Duration is how long the pleasure lasts. ~~He~~ The pleasure would last longer if he focused on his other hobbies as he would develop beneficial long term skills - drums - and be healthier - running. ~~As~~ well as the adrenaline rush and endorphins received after a run would last longer than beating a level on a game.

3. (d) (continued)

(ii) Explain why Mill would agree with David's parents.

2

As video games are a lower pleasure
as they do not cultivate the mind.
Drums cultivates a skill in music
even though it may be frustrating
at times and give him blisters.
It is a higher pleasure.

3. (continued)

(e) Read the scenario below and answer the question that follows.

David tells his mum he is going for a run. When he gets back, he tells his mum he ran 5 kilometres. In fact, he was sitting in the park playing games on his phone.

You have studied another moral theory. What would followers of your other moral theory think about David's actions in the above scenario? You must refer to the scenario in your answer.

In your answer you should:

- describe the key features of your other moral theory
- explain why followers of your other moral theory would not approve of David's decision to act in this way.

10

Virtue Ethics focuses on personal development so that individuals add up to affect society. Virtues are good characteristics that you must think, feel and act. Vices are bad characteristics that you think feel and act. Aristotle says Virtues are not something you just have but something you must train and develop. You must do. Virtues Aristotle says that virtues are found between vices of opposite extremes. This is known as the Golden Mean. The Deficient is the lack of, e.g. cowardice. The extreme is the too much of, ~~recklessness~~ ^{recklessness}. The virtue between these two is Courage. Dish

3. (e) (continued)

When he tells his lies to his mum. This is ~~an~~ the deficient vice ~~of~~ with the extreme being tight lipped. The virtue is honesty. For a virtue Ethicist you should strive to be better and act on, think and feel morally. They would not approve of David acting upon a vice, instead of a virtue. Especially as he is also acting on the vice of disloyalty. His mother cares for him and by lying to her and deceiving her he is betraying her. Going behind her back. He is also demonstrating the vice of obsequiousness (where one does something to please others often due to peer pressure). He is pretending to go out on a run to please his mother so she will be happy and proud of him. Instead of just being honest with her. It is taking friendliness to the extreme.

3. (continued)

(f) Explain two criticisms of your other moral theory.

4

It is too focused on the individual, society won't improve as the theory is too self-centered. Instead of focusing on society as a whole, Aristotle said that there could be more virtues and vices than the 18 he identified and left room for his theory to grow. So Virtue Ethics is very adaptable even though it was created centuries ago.

ADDITIONAL SPACE FOR ANSWERS

Argues & A
(1.0.1) ii. If P then Q if Q then R if R then S.
S is undesirable so not P.