

Please write robust and informative answers, in your own words (referencing any quotes) BASED ON THE READINGS (!) for each of the following reading/reflection questions. Submit your answers to the dropbox in a Word document or PDF file.

Kant, "Duty and Reason as the Ultimate Principle" - pp. 506-512

1. Explain why Kant thinks the only thing truly good "in itself" is a good will.

The will is what drives our actions and grounds the intention of our act. It is good when it acts from duty.

2. What does Kant mean by doing our actions "from the motive of duty"? How is this different from acting out of self-interest, or out of natural inclination, or even just in "conformity" with duty?

that an action has moral worth if and only if it is done from the motive of duty, it's different because it's not doing something for a reward.

3. What does it mean for an action to have moral worth based on its principle, not based on the end it achieves?

To just do something with nothing in return for example man feeds poor with no camera recording and no one knowing what he did.

4. Explain in your own words Kant's two formulations of the Categorical Imperative, on 510 and 511-512:

a) I ought never to act except in such a way that I can also will that my maxim should become a universal law

He basically is saying that if you do an action, then everyone else should also be able to do it. Meaning if he can do it other people can too.

b) Act in such a way that you always treat humanity, whether in your own person or in the person of any other, never simply as a means, but always at the same time as an end

I think Kant is swaying people to do good and good will do good by you.

Mill, "Happiness as the Foundation of Morality" pp. 512-517

1. Write out and explain Mill's "Greatest Happiness Principle".

Principle that happiness is the ultimate criterion to establish what is moral and what is not

2. What does Mill mean when he writes, "Better to be Socrates dissatisfied than a fool satisfied"?

Since happiness is what we seek we must value it.

3. How does Mill discuss quality and kinds of happiness in contrast to calculating the quantity of happiness?

4. What role does all of previous human history and the experience of wise and competent people play in figuring out what will bring the most happiness in our actions?

They just give us experiences and answers