

Phil. 302: Ethics
Quiz: The Socratic Paradox

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1 Multiple Choice

Directions: Choose the best response to each of the following questions and circle the letter of the answer corresponding to the best answer.

1. According to Socrates, all persons seek
 - (a) pleasure
 - (b) what is in their self-interest.
 - (c) to help others as much as possible.
 - (d) rightly or wrongly to do their duty.
 - (e) what is servicable to society.
2. According to Socrates, if a person is ignorant, then that person
 - (a) will make wrong decisions.
 - (b) will make bad decisions.
 - (c) will not make good decisions
 - (d) is what others call "evil."
 - (e) is all of the above.
3. According to Socrates, sometimes we make good decisions when we
 - (a) act rightly.
 - (b) act on the basis of our knowledge.
 - (c) are not ignorant of the relevant facts.
 - (d) are correctly informed and knowledgeable.
 - (e) are all of the above.

4. The most important thing in living a life of excellence is, according to Socrates is
- (a) to do only that which we know to be right.
 - (b) to survive and prosper.
 - (c) to seek pleasure and avoid pain.
 - (d) to distinguish between things in our control and things outside our control.
 - (e) none of the above.
5. According to Socrates, if I choose to cheat on a test in order to get a passing grade, then, other things being equal,
- (a) I am only acting in my self-interest.
 - (b) my action is right if I pass.
 - (c) my action is acceptable only if I don't get caught.
 - (d) I don't really understand the nature of the soul.
 - (e) all of the above are true.

2 Essay

Thoroughly explain the Socratic philosophy implicit in the answer to question 5 above.

NAME