### **Chapter 8: The Ethic of Prima Facie Duties**

\*1. Ross’s theory explains why

a. what is good for us is up to us.

b. we sometimes experience moral conflict.

c. there are many kinds of good life.

d. some moral rules may never be broken.

Answer: b

2. Which of the following is not identified by the text as an advantage of Ross’s view?

a. It makes sense of why we experience moral conflict.

b. It explains why we feel moral regret.

c. It accommodates our sense that there is more than just a single fundamental moral consideration.

d. It explains why moral rules may never permissibly be broken.

Answer: d

3. What did Ross think is the relationship between justice and well-being?

a. Behaving justly is always more important than promoting well-being.

b. Promoting well-being is always more important than behaving justly.

c. Sometimes behaving justly is more important than promoting well-being and sometimes not.

d. The demands of justice will never conflict with promoting well-being.

Answer: c

\*4. How does Ross think we can know that something is a prima facie duty?

a. By deducing it from other moral principles

b. By reflecting carefully on what it really is

c. Through a process of circular reasoning

d. None of the above (Ross did not think we could know our prima facie duties.)

Answer: b

5. When moral rules conflict, how does Ross think we determine the right thing to do?

a. By consulting a permanent ranking of the rules from least to most important

b. By following the rules that are most important to us

c. By following the absolute rules and breaking the non-absolute ones

d. None of the above (Ross did not think there was a definite method for determining right action in such cases.)

Answer: d

\*6. According to Ross, how can we know what to do when two prima facieduties conflict?

a. By calculating the consequences of our options

b. By consulting religious texts

c. Neither a nor b, the answer is self-evident.

d. Neither a nor b, there is no definite way to know what to do in such situations.

Answer: d

7. According to Ross, how do the general principles of duty become self-evident?

a. Through experiencing sufficiently many instances of right and wrong action

b. Through studying philosophy

c. Through learning mathematics

d. They are self-evident from birth.

Answer: a

8. Ross objects to utilitarianism because it does not consider obligations created by

a. promises.

b. family relationships.

c. favors others have done in the past.

d. All of the above

Answer: d

9. What objection does Ross raise to Kant’s theory?

a. It is impossible to apply.

b. It demands too much of us.

c. It does not allow for the fact that it is sometimes permissible to break promises.

d. All of the above

Answer: c

\*10. What is the difference between a prima facie duty and a duty proper?

a. Prima facie duties can be overridden; duties proper cannot.

b. Duties proper can be overridden; prima facie duties cannot.

c. Prima facie duties are not actually morally relevant factors; duties proper are.

d. Duties proper are not actually morally relevant factors; prima facie duties are.

Answer: a