### **Chapter 20: The Death Penalty**

\*1. The claim that no one deserves to suffer challenges which of these arguments?

a. The *Absolutist Argument*

b. The *Argument from Just Deserts*

c. The *Incoherence Argument*

d. The *Argument from Discrimination*

Answer: b

2. Some opponents of the *Argument from Just Deserts* claim that if no one freely chooses to do anything, then

a. no one can be justly punished.

b. no one can commit murder.

c. everyone can be justly punished.

d. murder can be justly committed.

Answer: a

\*3. *Lex talionis* is a principle commonly invoked by proponents of which theory of punishment?

a. Rehabilitation

b. Retributivism

c. Deterrence

d. None of the above

Answer: b

4. *Lex talionis* is fatally flawed because it

a. cannot tell us what many criminals deserve.

b. does not deliver severe enough punishments for serious crimes.

c. helpfully distinguishes between accidental and intentional harm.

d. requires a murderer to understand the suffering of their victim.

Answer: a

\*5. What does *lex talionis* recommend as the appropriate punishment for torturers?

a. The criminal should receive the death penalty.

b. The criminal should be rehabilitated.

c. The criminal should be helped to understand the pain of the victim, but not tortured.

d. The criminal should be tortured.

Answer: d

\*6. Van den Haag claims that we are risking lives

a. whether we impose the death penalty or not.

b. only if we do not impose the death penalty.

c. only if we impose the death penalty.

d. None of the above

Answer: a

7. What is civilization, according to Reiman?

a. The awakening of the human mind

b. The taming of the human species

c. The cultivation of greater retributive justice

d. The deterrence of crime through fear

Answer: b

\*8. How does Primoratz respond to the objection that executing a young person is not proportionate to the murder of an elderly person?

a. He admits that capital punishment may not be justified in that case.

b. He asserts that we should treat all lives as equally valuable.

c. He claims that anyone who would murder an elderly person has no claim to proportionate punishment.

d. None of the above

Answer: b

9. What sorts of rights does a murderer have, on Nathanson’s view?

a. The same rights as everyone else

b. Some basic rights but not as many as ordinary people

c. No rights whatsoever

d. The right to a fair trial but no other rights

Answer: b

10. Nathanson claims that abolishing the death penalty would

a. be inconsistent with proportional retributivism.

b. be inconsistent with *lex talionis*.

c. remove a key deterrent to crime.

d. symbolize an unfortunate tender-heartedness.

Answer: b