Philosophy 0300, Introduction to Ethics, Fall 1996
Professor: David Gauthier
Recitation Leader: Ben Eggleston   Name: _____

First Quiz — Tuesday, September 17, 1996

1.   What are a few of the main ideas of the conception of justice argued for by
      Thrasymachus and, subsequently, by Glaucon and Adeimantus, and which
      are the main topic of conversation in books II through IV of the *Republic*?

2.   (a)   Socrates claims that if the three classes in a city are in harmony, then the
             city will be just. What are these three classes?

      (b)   Socrates claims that if the three parts of a person's soul are in harmony,
             then the person will be just. What are these three parts? (List them in the
             order in which they correspond to the three classes in a city.)

3.   How does Hobbes characterize the commonwealth in his introduction to
      Leviathan? (Hint: The answer is not that he characterizes it as a great monster,
      though he is, of course, alluding to that meaning of the term "leviathan" in the
      Book of Job.)

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Second Quiz
Thursday, September 17, 1996

1.   Hobbes argues in chapter 13 of *Leviathan* that the rational thing for a person to do in the state of nature—i.e., in the absence of a sovereign to make laws, to enforce covenants, etc.—is to try to take advantage of others rather than to cooperate with them. What, according to Hobbes, is the logic behind this strategy?

2.   In chapter 15, Hobbes provides his "definition of INJUSTICE" and adds that "whatsoever is not unjust, is *just*." What is Hobbes's "definition of INJUSTICE"?

3.   Hobbes describes a "fool" who says that it cannot be against reason to act unjustly when so acting is in one's self-interest. What is Hobbes's reply to this objection?

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Second Quiz
Tuesday, October 1, 1996

1.   In chapter 15, Hobbes provides his "definition of INJUSTICE" and adds that
       "whatsoever is not unjust, is *just*." What is Hobbes's "definition of INJUSTICE"?

2.   Hobbes describes a "fool" who says that it cannot be against reason to act unjustly
       when so acting is in one's self-interest. What is Hobbes's reply to this objection?

3.   Kant distinguishes (a) acting *from* duty from (b) acting *in accordance with* duty.
       What's the difference? (Feel free to use an example in your answer if it will help.)

Third Quiz
Thursday, October 10, 1996

1.   Kant distinguishes (a) acting *from* duty from (b) acting *in accordance with* duty. What's the difference? (Feel free to use an example in your answer if it will help.)

2.   Another distinction that Kant makes is between (a) hypothetical imperatives and (b) categorical imperatives. What's the difference?

3.   Suppose than a man makes a promise that he does not intend to keep, in order to get himself out of difficulty. Does his conduct comply with Kant's categorical imperative? Briefly explain the reasoning behind your answer.

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Third Quiz
Tuesday, November 5, 1996

1.   What are the two principles of Rawls's conception of justice?

2.   What's the difference between straightforward maximization and constrained
        maximization? How does Gauthier justify his claim that it's more rational
        to be a constrained maximizer than to be a straightforward maximizer?

3.   Rawls argues that the parties in an initial choice situation of the sort that Gauthier
        defends would be situated unfairly. How does Rawls set up his "original position"
        so that it that differs from Gauthier's "presocial circumstances" enough to make it
        an initial choice situation that he deems to be fair?

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Fourth Quiz
Thursday, November 7, 1996

1.   What are the two principles of Rawls's conception of justice?

2.   What's the difference between straightforward maximization and constrained
        maximization? How does Gauthier justify his claim that it's more rational
        to be a constrained maximizer than to be a straightforward maximizer?

3.   Rawls argues that the parties in an initial choice situation of the sort that Gauthier
        defends would be situated unfairly. How does Rawls set up his "original position"
        so that it that differs from Gauthier's "presocial circumstances" enough to make it
        an initial choice situation that he deems to be fair?

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Fourth Quiz
Tuesday, November 19, 1996

1.   According to Nietzsche, what are the values associated with good (as contrasted
        with evil); and what are the values associated with evil?

2.   According to Nietzsche, how has humanity been improved by its experience with
        the framework of good vs. evil?

3.   On what basis does Ayer argue that ethical statements (or, rather, pseudo-
        statements, according to him) are, strictly speaking, meaningless?

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Fifth Quiz
Thursday, November 21, 1996

1.   According to Nietzsche, what are the values associated with good (as contrasted with evil); and what are the values associated with evil?

2.   According to Nietzsche, how has humanity been improved by its experience with the framework of good vs. evil?

3.   On what basis does Ayer argue that ethical statements (or, rather, pseudo-statements, according to him) are, strictly speaking, meaningless?

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Fifth Quiz
Tuesday, November 26, 1996

1.   Ayer's theory of ethical language is called emotivism. What does emotivism say is
        (or are) the function(s) of ethical language?

2.   According to Nagel, what is the significance of resenting something done to
        oneself, as opposed to merely not liking it?

3.   Pick one of the persons whose consciences Bennett discusses and summarize what
        he says about that person's conscience.