

Introduction to Philosophy

Dr. Hicks

Final Exam [Draft of questions so far]

Instructions: Answer one question from each part.

Part A. Imagine that you are an attorney at Socrates' trial. Defend one of the following propositions.

1. Socrates should be found guilty of impiety and corrupting the youth.
2. Socrates should not be found guilty of impiety and corrupting the youth.

Part B. In Part 1, Chapter 15 of *The Fountainhead*, Roark says to Weidler, "That was the most selfish thing you've ever seen a man do." Defend one of the following propositions:

3. Howard Roark is the most selfish character in *The Fountainhead*.
4. Peter Keating is the most selfish character.
5. Dominique Francon is the most selfish.
6. Gail Wynand is the most selfish.
7. Ellsworth Toohey is the most selfish.

Part C. Imagine that you are an attorney at Galileo's inquisition. Defend one of the following propositions:

8. Galileo's argument in the "Letter to the Grand Duchess Christina" is a true and useful resolution of the conflict between science and religion.
9. The argument of the "Letter to the Grand Duchess Christina" is heretical and must be condemned.

Part D. Defend one of the following propositions:

10. The arguments of Descartes's Meditation I show that the only thing I know is that I know nothing for certain.
11. Meditation II demonstrates successfully that I do know for certain my own existence as a thinking being.
12. Descartes's argument for the existence of God in Meditation III is sound.

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Questions forthcoming on C. S. Lewis and Sigmund Freud.

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