

Introduction to Philosophy

Dr. Hicks

Final Exam

Instructions: This exam has four parts. Each part is worth 20 points. Time: two hours.

Part A. Since the last test we have read Freud's *Civilization and Its Discontents*.

From that work, choose two sentences or passages that you judge to be important. Variety is good. Type or write your two chosen passages onto a sheet and bring it with you to the exam. During the exam, for each passage explain its context, what it means, and why you think it is important for understanding the work as a whole.

Part B. For each of our six authors, write a one-paragraph answer to this question: *What is the most important thing in life?*

Part C. Religion was a theme for all of our authors this semester:

- Socrates was put on trial and found guilty of impiety;
- Galileo was silenced despite arguing for a compromise between science and religion;
- Descartes tried to prove with certainty the existence of God;
- One of Rand's characters says to Roark: "You are a profoundly religious man, Mr. Roark—in your own way. I can see that in your buildings";
- Lewis devoted two chapters to how and why religion must be a matter of faith;
- Freud dismissed religion as a childish illusion but nonetheless argued that it is necessary socially.

In your judgment, which of our authors has the best approach to religion?

Part D. In your judgment, what is the most *dangerous* work we read this semester? First give a clear and sympathetic presentation of the work's important themes; second, state your criterion/criteria of *dangerousness*; finally, explain why you think the work is dangerous.

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A copy of these exam questions will be posted at www.StephenHicks.org.