

Your name: _____

Metaphysics Exercise 2

Phil. 93, Winter 2006

1. Which word belongs in the following blank? “Socrates and Plato are different, but they belong to the same species. They do not differ in species; they differ only ____.”
 - a. in independent nature
 - b. equivocally
 - c. essentially
 - d. numerically
 - e. (a) and (d).

2. Which of the following is correct (according to Aristotle/Porphyry)?
 - a. Although *animal* is often used as an example of a genus, it is not, strictly speaking, a genus, because “animal” is a secondary substance, not a genus.
 - b. *Animal*, unlike *horse*, is a genus, but, unlike *substance*, it is also a species.
 - c. *Animal* is a genus, but not a species, because it has no differentia, and every species must have a differentia.
 - d. *Animal* is a genus, but not a species, because it has no genus, and every species must have a genus.
 - e. (c) and (d).

3. Porphyry says that *black* is an “inseparable accident” in Ethiopians. Why not say that it is a differentia?
 - a. *Ethiopian* is not a species, because *human* is a lowest species. Therefore, *Ethiopian* has no differentia.
 - b. Since ravens are also black, *black* is only a proprium of Ethiopians, not a differentia.
 - c. Since ravens are also black, *black* is not even a proprium of Ethiopians, let alone a differentia.
 - d. *Ethiopian* is only a secondary substance, and so it is equivocal.
 - e. (a) and (c).
 - f. (a) and (c) and (d).

4. Consider the use of the word “healthy” in these two sentences: (i) “This chicken was ill before, but now it is healthy.” (ii) “This chicken is healthy; you should have another helping of it, rather than filling up on candy later.” Which of the following is correct?
- “Healthy” is used univocally in (i) and (ii), because in both cases it is used to describe a primary substance (this chicken), so it is used in the same category.
 - “Healthy” is used univocally in (i) and (ii), but in (i) it signifies the essence (what-is-it) of the substance, whereas in (ii) it signifies an inseparable accident of the substance.
 - “Healthy” is used equivocally in (i) and (ii), because it would be defined differently in each case, and so the account that signifies the essence is different.
 - “Healthy” is used equivocally in (i) and (ii), but the two meanings are related and meaning (i) is primary.
- d. (c) and (d).
5. According to reading (U), the four elements are defined by qualities which have contraries. This is a problem because:
- According to reading (K) (the part “On differentiae”), all differentiae surpass the genus in substance. But if one contrary is greater than the genus, the other must be less.
 - It seems to imply that there are four elements in nature, all of which have contraries, whereas (according to reading (T)) there are three elements: two which are contraries and a third which has no contrary.
 - It seems to imply that differentiae are quantities, whereas (according to reading (V)) they are qualities.
 - It seems to imply that differentiae are accidents, whereas (according to reading (Q)) they are not accidents.
- e. (c) and (d).