

Your name: _____

Your section (circle):

Mon. Tues. Wed. (am) Wed. (pm)

Metaphysics Exercise 10

Phil. 93, Winter 2006. Due Tues., Feb. 21

1. About which of the following would Spinoza and Porphyry disagree?
 - a. Non-substances are in substances.
 - b. A substance is prior in being to any non-substance that is in it.
 - c. A substance is prior in definition/knowledge/conception to any non-substance that is in it.
 - d. A substance is defined/known/conceived by certain essential properties which make it what it is.
 - e. All of the above.
 - f. None of the above.

2. About which of the following would Porphyry and Descartes agree with each other, but disagree with Spinoza:
 - a. A substance is defined/known/conceived by certain essential properties which make it what it is..
 - b. There are types (genera or species) of substance which differ from each other in essential properties.
 - c. A given substance can have more than one essential property (so it can share some, but not all, of its essential properties with another substance).
 - d. There can be two different substances with exactly the same essential properties.
 - e. All of the above.
 - f. (b) and (d).

3. About which of the following would Avicenna and Descartes agree with each other, but disagree with Spinoza:
 - a. Extension is an essential property of any corporeal substance.
 - b. It belongs to the essence of a corporeal substance that it can be measured and divided.
 - c. There are corporeal substances which differ in essential properties from other corporeal substances (i.e., there are different species of corporeal

substance).

d. All of the above.

e. (b) and (c).

f. (a) and (b).

4. Spinoza thinks we should believe that God exists because:

a. The Bible clearly states that God exists. If we interpreted it honestly we couldn't deny that.

b. If we are not confused or distracted then we will see just by examining the definition of "God" that God self-evidently exists.

c. Natural science can demonstrate that there have been miracles.

d. Spinoza is really an atheist. He doesn't really think we should believe this. He inserts a proof into his book to avoid condemnation by the Church.

e. Spinoza is a rationalist. He thinks that whatever ideas we rationalize are true for us—that is, "agree with" our reality (Axiom 6). So it is true for us that God exists, even if it might not be true for others who don't rationalize the same ideas.

f. (b) and (e).