Metaphysics Exercise 10


1. About which of the following would Porphyry and Descartes agree with each other, but disagree with Spinoza:
   a. Non-substances are in substances.
   b. A substance is prior in definition/knowledge/conception to any non-substance that is in it.
   c. A substance is defined/known/conceived by certain essential properties which make it what it is.
   d. A given substance can have more than one essential property.
   e. All of the above.
   f. (b) and (d).

2. 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. There can be two different substances with exactly the same essential properties.
   c. All corporeal substances have exactly the same essential properties.
   d. At least some corporeal substances can be measured and divided.
   e. (b) and (c).
   f. (b) and (d).

3. Spinoza thinks we should believe that God exists because:
   a. 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.
   b. As everyone agrees, the Bible says that God exists.
   c. Although people disagree about what the Bible says, that is because they don’t follow the correct rules of interpretation. Correctly interpreted, the Bible says that God exists.
   d. Philosophical reasoning can demonstrate that there are miracles. But miracles could only be caused by God.
   e. There is nothing that could conceivably cause God not to exist.
   f. God has objective being because he is a true determinate substance.