

Questions on **Philosophy Bites** for Higher Philosophy – **Consequentialism**

- 1 What is consequentialism?
- 2 What are the two sorts of Utilitarianism discussed? Describe them.
- 3 Why does Brad Hooker think *Rule* utilitarianism is superior?
- 4 Does Brad Hooker answer Nigel Warburton's criticisms with his "act to prevent disasters" rule (this is your opinion)? Explain your answer.
- 5 NW says all moral theories are trying to map/systematise something else. What is it?
- 6 What are the strengths associated with following a consequentialist model of ethics?
- 7 Which things does BH suggest should count as consequences?
- 8 How does he suggest one might undertake a 'consequences calculation'?
- 9 Explain in your own words what is meant by the phrase "too demanding".
- 10 What does BH suggest is the shortfall of *act* utilitarianism? Do you find his point convincing?

Questions on **Philosophy Bites** for Higher Philosophy – **Utilitarianism**

- 1 What are the two components of Utilitarianism described here?
- 2 What does hedonistic mean (look this up, a precise definition is important)?
- 3 How does Bentham understand happiness & unhappiness? Where does Roger Crisp suggest this idea comes from?
- 4 How did Bentham calculate pleasure?
- 5 What does RC say is different about Mill and how does this affect his philosophy? Mention Wordsworth.
- 6 Try and come up with a contemporary analogy to replace Socrates and the pig.
 - i. What is this analogy a reaction against in Mill?
 - ii. Think carefully about the notion Mill is suggesting. Do you agree? Give (real life) reasons.
- 7 What are *Higher* and *Lower Order Pleasures*? What's the difference?
- 8 Do you agree with NW that human sexual pleasures should be classed as lower order? Keywords: rape, kissing, procreation, animal +.
- 9 Is Mill still a hedonist?
- 10 Think about what is meant by the phrase 'partiality to the self'. Can you think of any traditions you have studied previously that this sits particularly well with/sits in direct contrasts to?
- 11 Why is utilitarianism so hard to criticise?
- 12 How does Peter Singer develop the utilitarian principle? Find out a little about him (when, what, where etc.).