

UTILITARIANISM

30
mark
essay

part 1 - describe

part 2 - apply

part 3 - a & e

intro

normative
in this essay....

general -> Bentham

greatest happiness principle

hedonism consequentialist equity

"2 sovereigns"

Bentham's Hedonic Calculus
- quantity of pleasure
- 7 criteria

J.S. Mill - quality of p

reforming political sys/policy
personal history (Wordsworth)
Higher/Lower Order Pleasure Distinction
Competent Judges

act/rule distinction

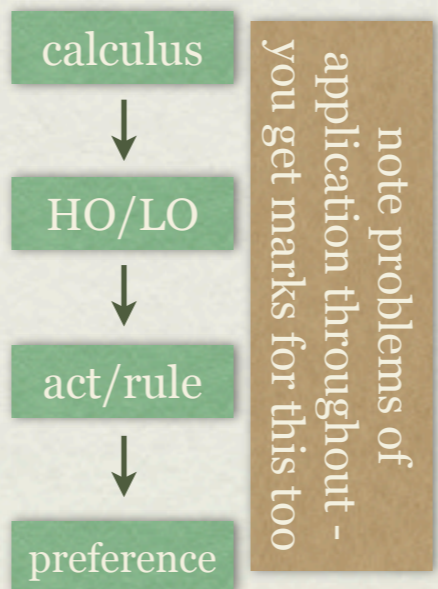
explanation
strong/weak and problem with weak

P Singer

'preference' utilitarianism (misleading?)
views on animals
personhood
responding to Nozick's machine

This is the only bit you can't know by heart before
you go in... but you can practice it **often** if you do it
will become much **easier and quicker**

'think
out-loud'
through
each



remember if you don't know what one of these people
would do it is probably because there is an omission in their
work [or you haven't revised enough ;)] highlight this

strengths

great for policy making
not naive/idealistic

problems with:

hedonism

'swine' criticism of Bentham
question of 'bad' pleasures
CJ's as elitist (at best subjective)
Nozick's machine

consequences

impossibility of knowing them
matter of balancing local/global
matter of balancing future/present
Justice?

equity

special obligations/family etc.
'tyranny of the majority'

A MacIntyre

"U is the ethics of Auschwitz"

logically consistent as philosophy
but is in no sense moral

moral luck

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