Introduction to Philosophy Test 1 Study Guide

- 1. What is an argument? What is the intuitive difference between a deductive argument and an inductive argument?
- 2. What does it mean for a deductive argument to be valid? sound? Give two common valid argument forms discussed in class.
- 3. What is logical consistency?
- 4. Define the following: epistemology, JTB theory of knowledge, skepticism.
- 5. Summarize the Regress Argument in your own words.
- 6. What is pragmatism? What was the problem with this view? Explain.
- 7. What is foundationalism?
- 8. CRITICAL THINKING- What is the Method of Doubt? What is Descartes' goal in using this method? Explain in detail.
- 9. CRITICAL THINKING- Does Descartes believe the senses can yield foundational beliefs? State his arguments.
- 10. Give an example of a modern-day evil demon argument. Explain.
- 11. Define the following: empiricism, rationalism.
- 12. What are innate ideas? Why does Descartes need them for his theory? What is Locke's argument against innate ideas?
- 13. CRITICAL THINKING- What is indirect realism? What is Berkeley's objection to Locke's indirect realism? Does Locke feel we can be certain about everything? (See Locke's Essay, Book I, Ch 1, § 4)
- 14. What is scholasticism?
- 15. What is natural theology? In your own words, describe what Aquinas meant when he said that God is a "sustaining" First Cause.
- 16. What is "Hume's objection" to the Teleological Argument?
- 17. What is Ockham's Razor? How does Ockham use the Razor to undermine Aquinas' arguments? Explain in detail. Be sure to include Ockham's fideism.
- 18. CRITICAL THINKING- How do modern-day atheists (like G. H. Smith) use Ockham's Razor against theism?
- 19. Define the following: omniscience, omnipotence, omnibenevolence.
- 20. What is the Problem of Evil? Write it in standard form. Explain it in your own words.
- 21. Define the following: decision matrix, expected utility.
- 22. How do you calculate the expected utility in a decision matrix?
- 23. What is Pascal's Wager? State Pascal's third argument for why one ought to believe in God.
- 24. What is the Many Gods objection to Pascal's Wager? What is the Zero Probability Objection to Pascal's Wager?