

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Period: \_\_\_\_\_

**Classical Moral Model—Elements of a Moral Act**

**1. Intention**

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Circumstances**

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Action/means**

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

**4. Consequences**

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

**Utilitarian Theory**

Utilitarianism: The utilitarian doctrine is that happiness is desirable, and the only thing desirable, as an end; all other things being desirable as means to that end.

John Stuart Mill, *Utilitarianism* (1861)

Principle of Utility: \_\_\_\_\_

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

“...the ultimate end, with reference to and for the sake of which all other things are desirable, is an existence exempt as far as possible from pain, and as rich as possible in enjoyments.”

Strengths of the Theory:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

Problems with the Theory:

- Two Scenarios:
  1. Race Riot: \_\_\_\_\_

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What important moral feature is threatened here? \_\_\_\_\_

2. Peeping Tom: \_\_\_\_\_

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What important moral feature is threatened here? \_\_\_\_\_

- Hedonism: \_\_\_\_\_
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Discussion Questions:

1. What examples can you give of the use of the Utilitarian Doctrine?
2. Are certain actions always wrong despite the consequences?
3. Can we justify anything with this model of morality? Does that help us to know how to live?

### **The Categorical Imperative**

**Hypothetical Imperatives:** \_\_\_\_\_

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I want to be a good chess player. I should study the games of Bobby Fisher.  
I want to go to law school. I should take the LSAT.

**Categorical Imperatives:** \_\_\_\_\_

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I should tell the truth.  
I should not murder.

Act only according to that maxim by which you can at the same time will that it become a universal law.

Case of the Inquiring Murderer: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

“To be truthful (honest) in all deliberations, therefore, is a sacred and absolutely demanding decree of reason, limited by no expediency.”

Moral Absolutes: \_\_\_\_\_

Can these absolutes conflict? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Can we adjust the maxim? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What is the value of the Theory? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What religious idea does this remind you of? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_