

35/50

NAME

Matthew Leung

NO 5651591

PHI 1101 R: Reasoning and Critical Thinking: test 2

A) Three main theories of meaning are:

(3/50)

- 1. The meaning of the word
- 2. The meaning of a phrase
- 3. The meaning before the line

B) Are the following sentences performative utterances? (Explain very briefly your verdict)

(3/50)

- 1. "I am going to resign tomorrow" (Said by the Prime Minister to his wife)

Yes, because a prime minister usually have a high reputation, and would not jok about things like that

- 2. "I must do something for him" (Said by woman about her husband)

No, because she is just talking or thinking to herself and no one knows about this.

- 3. "I declared this building officially open yesterday" (Said by politician to his daughter)

No, because the politician are just talking to his daughter

C Identify the problem of vagueness and ambiguity (if any) in the following sentences. If ambiguous, state at least two alternative meanings.

(6/50)

- 1. In his will, Uncle Henry left his diamond watch and his Rolls-Royce to his nephews Peter and John

Vagueness X

- 2) Always do the loving thing

Vagueness ✓

3. Staying out of trouble is my end.

Ambiguity. 1. Staying out of trouble is the end of him  
2. His end is staying out of trouble.

4. I love philosophy more than my wife.

Ambiguity. 1. I love philosophy more than my wife do.  
2. I love philosophy more than my wife as a person.

5. **Headline:** Elderly Often Burn Victims.

Ambiguity 1. Elderly often burn their victims.  
2. Elderly are often the victims of burning.

6. The patient has been depressed since she began seeing me in 1993.

Ambiguity 1. The patient is depressed before she see me in 1993  
2. The patient began to depressed after seeing me in 1993.

**D Words may be defined by these methods: synonym, genus and species, enumeration, ostention, and example. Examine the definitions below and identify the method used.**

3/50

1. If a guy who can meet the legal requirements goes into a gun store and buys a pistol for somebody with a criminal record who can't meet the requirements, that's called a straw purchase.

Example

2 A perfect number is a number that is the sum of its divisors.

ostention x

3 Man is a rational animal..

Genus and species

**E There are two main types of Definitions:**

2/50

1. Extensional  
2. Intensional

**F Consider the definitions below and explain on what (if any) grounds they might be criticized.**

18/50

1. A Hungarian is someone from Hungary

Too narrow, circular. Used Hungary when try to define Hungarian. Hungarian doesn't have to be from Hungary, those that are born in other countries, but parent a Hungarian are still

2. Phenomenology emphasizes the intentionality of consciousness.

Unclear: Too hard to understand.

3. Opera is merciless shrieking that appeals to those who confuse pain for pleasure.

Loaded, narrow, board: loaded the definition used too many emotive words, narrow because people who don't confuse pain for pleasure still like opera, board there are things other than opera for those people who confuse pain for pleasure.

4. A chair is a wooden piece of furniture designed for sitting.

Too narrow and board. Narrow: chairs are not always made by wood. Board: There are items that are designed for sitting other than chairs.

5. Man is a rational animal

Too narrow. There are other animals that are rational. ? There are?

6. Religion is the opiate of the masses. (Karl Marx)

Loaded. This is an opinion of Karl Marx

7. A "curette" is a spoon-shaped surgical instrument used to remove tissue from a body cavity.

Too board and narrow. Too narrow: curette can be used for other purposes. Too board: There are other things that are used to remove tissue from a body cavity.

8. Hockey is a game played on ice in Canada

Too board and narrow. Too narrow is not only played in Canada. Too board there are other games played in Canada on ice.

9. A lesbian is a woman who wants to have sex with any other woman.

Too narrow. Woman doesn't always want to have sex with any other woman to be lesbian.

2  
G For the each of emotive words below, first determine which reaction (positive or negative) the emotive language would produce in a reader or listener. Then supply a word (or a phrase) that is more neutral than the underlined language or a word (or a phrase) that would evoke a reaction opposite to the intended one.

(3/50)

1. My sister is skinny

negative + slim

2. My opponent always wraps himself in the flag on issues concerning veterans.

positive, try to cover himself in the flag. 0.5

3. My uncle has decided to take a chance on the stock market

negative, try his luck 0.5

H) Check for bias and slanting in the following arguments and reports. (12\50)

10  
1. Arguably, the reason people are in favor of euthanasia is because of their still strong desires toward ethnic cleansing. After all, the Nazis were in favor of euthanasia.

2  
People who are favor in euthanasia do not necessarily favour ethnic cleansing and Nazis. favor in euthanasia for many reason ethnic is just one of the.

3  
2. Populated by deer, alligators, wild turkeys, and a tribe of Indians who annually perform a rite known as the Green Corn Dance, the track of land could surely accommodate a super jetport twice the size of Kennedy International in New York and still have a one mile buffer on every side to minimize intrusion in the lives of any eventual resident.

Bias toward Indians. The writer think the land that is taken up by Indian is a waste since the writer think Indian made no contribution to the world. And with the land Indian have, it should be used in some other good way

3  
3. Throughout history, crimes of ignorance and greed have been beset upon us by government, and now corporations are jumping on the gravy train. The recent use of Franken-Foods, foods genetically altered, may well cause unnamed defects in us or our children, and yet these unnatural mutations are being crammed down our throats without our consent. Put a stop to genetically altered foods!

3  
Bias toward government, corporation and genetically. A lot of crimes of ignorance have nothing to do with the government, also not all corporation have their foods genetically altered. As well as the assumption of all genetically altered food are bad.

2  
4. The Sierra clubs of Canada, the World Wildlife Fund and Toronto Environmental Alliance have succeeded in steering this issue from the path of sound science to a political terror campaign. Their strategy of hijacking municipal councils into adopting bans (on pesticides for cosmetics purpose) has been well-orchestrated and successful.

Bias toward those organization. Used a lot of emotive word to describe the organization. Also bias toward the way these organization do things. 4 and action