

Sept. 25/2018

Plato's Republic Notes

- S&P are arguing about what is "just". When being justful is helpful or unneeded in favour of something else
- **Socratic Irony**
 - Not simply saying one thing while meaning another, but trying to deceive those present
- S&P cannot reach an agreement on what is "just" or what makes a person "just". They find no conclusion
- T becomes angry at S. He believes all his questions are pointless and distracting from finding a "real" answer. Calls S a liar essentially, he's trying to deceive others on the matter
- 2 pages of T calling S a false witness
- No kind of knowledge seeks or orders what is disadvantageous to itself, then, but what is advantageous to the weaker, which is subject to it
- T dropped a knowledge bomb (you gain more by being unjust than just) and tried to leave so others couldn't argue with him

CLASS TIME

- If socrates represents true philosophy then what's the point of the Sophists?
- C is described as an old, wealthy man. He is a baby boomer to the max, but kind
- "If people are moderate and contented in their character, old age is only moderately difficult, but if they are neither, any age is hard to bear."
 - The virtue of being moderate is the ethics of greek thinking. Don't be greedy but don't starve. Just enjoy life
- Percy Jackson was more accurate on the greek myths for the afterlife than her
- If you have money, you do not need to worry about dying while owing a sacrifice to a god or money to a person
- Justice is telling the truth and paying your debts (331c).
 - Symbolize this proposition as p
- Reductio Ad Absurdity is when Leonard makes Sheldon look like an idiot by blowing up his argument to absurdity

Sept. 27/2018

- Three types of questions on the test
 - Text questions, about the text
 - Applying the concepts of critical thinking to republic, questions about critical thinking and republic
 - Critical thinking about the republic
 - All of units one and two
- Given a passage from republic, who said it, explain context and its contribution to the phil disc to that section
- Take a position and argue for it, it should be logical and well expressed. Defend your position by defending ONE premise (offering an argument that demonstrates that it is true or constructing and refuting an argument that seriously challenges that truth).

A statement is an argument made by someone or premise that can either be true or false

A statement is a sentence used to make a claim. Statements are capable of being either true or false. Also called assertions or propositions.

If a set is being used in an argument, then it must both be true on all fronts of its components and consistent with each proposition.

A proposition in a set can be false, so long as it is still consistent with the rest of the set/argument

An argument is a or multiple sets bound together. It can be either true or false but it must be consistent

An argument has logical strength when the premises are true, they support the truth of the conclusion or make it reasonable to believe the conclusion is true.

Inductive arguments- All their parts add up to the conclusion

Deductive- By separating all the parts of the argument and breaking them down, if they are all true the conclusion will be too

A statement cannot have true premises and a false conclusion.

October 4/2018

Sense and Reference

Sense

- The sense of a word is what we understand when we understand its meaning
- What is specified by a dictionary definition

Reference

- The reference of a term is the class of things to which the words refers- the things to which the concept points. It is sometimes called the **reference class**
- Things that belong to the class of things to which the word refers (the reference class) are known as the **referents** of the words

The Purposes of Definition; the Types of Definitions

- Reportive definition
 - Reports a word in its standard usage
 - **Standard usage:** how the word is, in fact, used by those who make regular use if it; how the word is used by competent speakers of the language
 - Colloquialism of language (nom nom nom; trash panda; All you can nom buffet, is always bizzy)
 - MEMES (lolcatz)
- Stipulative definition
 - Sometimes we need to fix a particular meaning of a word
 - In doing this, we are not attempting to report standard usage, but to go beyond it

- We might stipulate a meaning for a word if standard usage is not precise enough or as yet, has no term for a phenomenon
- Example
 - Argument: in standard usage: a verbal dispute
 - In logic: An argument is a set of statements that claims that one or more of those statements, called the premises, support another of them, the conclusion
 - Spam! Used to mean canned meat, now is unsolicited bulk messages in electronic messaging systems such as email
 - Pluto, to be 'plutoed'. The new definition of a planet in 2006 ruled out Pluto by Criteria 3
- Essentialist Definitions
 - The overarching question of the Republic: what is justice?
 - Various characters in the dialogue give a definition which Socrates discusses and evaluates
 - When Socrates discusses and evaluates their answers, he is not measuring them against standard usage. Why not? Standard usage could be wrong
- Ways in which a Reportive definition can fail to be a good definition
 - Too broad
 - Too narrow
 - Too broad and too narrow
- Ways a Reportive definition can be good
 - If it accurately reports standard usage
 - Accurately describes the actual standard usage of the term

October 9/2018

Plato's Republic. Thrasymachus Definition

- Cephalus definition was refuted by *Reductio ad Absurdum*
- ENTER THRASYMACHUS
 - He accuses Socrates a sophist, which means he cares more about winning the argument than finding out the truth (Socratic Irony)
 - Why are you asking all these questions when you just keep refuting the answers? You're only satisfying your competitiveness for love of honour
 - **Thrasymachus's Definition of Justice**
 - **Justice is the advantage of the stronger**
 - **Might makes right**
 - Socrates wants to know what specifically means "stronger" because physical strength doesn't make sense
 - Thrasymachus is like "bro you trying to fight? Are you calling me a liar?"
 - His logic follows
 - Strong rule the cities, they make the laws, which are to their own advantage. Those laws are now 'just' and those who follow the laws, like the leaders, are just. Those who don't are called unjust and are punished rightfully

Applying Concepts of Critical Thinking

T. argument through Standard Form

- P.1 The stronger are the rulers
- P.2 The rulers make the laws
- P.3 The rulers make the laws to their own advantage
- P.4 The laws constitute what is just
- C Justice is the advantage of the stronger

Is this argument logically sound? Is the argument sound?

- He could say that T. argument is not **logically sound**. (I think it is, while not especially **right**)
- He could say that T argument is not **sound**. He might say that one or more of the premises are false
- Socrates asks about the truth of the premises, so he probes #3 (The rulers make the laws to their own advantage)
- Is it true? **READ THE BOOK TO FIND OUT**
- At this point, T gets angry and resorts to name calling Socrates
- "Do you have a wet nurse? She's letting you run around with a snotty nose, and doesn't wipe it when she need to!" (343) He accuses Socrates of being naive

In book one, we don't really get a good definition of the nature or essence of justice in Book 1, so Socrates will return to it later. Thus, book one ends inconclusively. Like asking my dad for a concrete answer the first time you ask him about something

Deductively Valid Argument Forms: Modus Ponens

Modus means The Way

Ponens means Of Placing

"The rule of logic stating that if a conditional statement ("if p then q ") is accepted, and the antecedent (p) holds, then the consequent (q) may be inferred."

Either

P or Q

-P

Q

Sometimes called *Affirming the Antecedent*

If p then q , Statements of this form are called **conditional statements** or **conditionals**.

If p (antecedent) then q (consequent)

October 11/2018

The Principle of Charity

- Adopt the most charitable interpretation of your opponent's words
 - The most charitable interpretation is the one that makes the opponent's views as reasonable, plausible, or defensible as possible.
- According to the POC
 - Whenever two interpretations are possible, one should always adopt the more reasonable one, unless something in the **context** suggests that another interpretation is what the person means
- Why do this?
 - To discover the truth and develop a position that is as reasonable and defensible as possible
 - This applies to more than single statements, long passages and entire books

Ambiguity and Vagueness

- NOT the same thing
- Vagueness
 - Lacks a precise meaning, nothing specifiable
 - Nice, rather, much, long, lots, fine
- Ambiguity
 - Two or more meanings in words or sentences
 - Each meaning is usually quite precise
 - Justice is in the interest of the stronger
 - Politically powerful OR physically stronger
 - Two main types of ambiguity
 - Semantic and grammatical
 - The book distinguishes between referential and grammatical. WE will say semantic and grammatical

Semantic ambiguity

- comes from possible multiple meanings of terms used
 - Small children make tasty snacks
- The term can use these to represent the meanings
 - Persons, things, properties, actions, states of being, etc
- The textbook says it's either properties or things. This is a less powerful category

Grammatical ambiguity

- Comes from confusing grammatical construction rather than the actual meaning of the words
- Happens when the grammar allows more than one interpretation, and each having a different meaning
 - Last night I shot a burglar in my pants

Semantic

- Arises from possible **multiple meanings** of terms used

Grammatical

- Arises from a **confusing grammatical construction** rather than the meaning of words

Two different types of semantic ambiguity

- Type one involves the distinction between the collective and distributive use of a term

- Distributive
 - Refers to each and every member of a class
- Collective
 - Refers to the whole class rather than each and every member

Athenians are philosophical

- Distributively this is not true
- Aristophanes mistrusted philosophy
- Cephalus did not recognize the authority of reason
- Thrasymachus and the Sophists were interested in tricky rhetoric than philosophy

More semantic ambiguity

Use and Mention

- Use
 - To use w word is to use it in its normal function to refer to something else
 - The word is a sign or a symbol of something else
- Mention
 - To mention a word is to draw attention to the **word itself**
- Clarifying Meaning
 - Plato is Greek (He was born there)
 - "Plato" is Greek (The name originated there)

A Note about Questions Involving the Use/Mention Distinction

- English grammar requires that when a word is mentioned rather than used, it should be italicized or placed in quotation marks. Tests, examinations, self-test, and practice questions in this course, however, will not follow this convention in order not to give the answer away.

Analytic, Synthetic and Contradictory Statements

Synthetic

- Statements whose truth or falsity does **not** depend merely on the meaning of the terms
- Statements whose truth or falsity is not simply a function of their meaning
- Example
 - Some students are married men

Analytic and Contradictory Statements

- These are statements whose truth or falsity is simply a function of the meaning of the terms
- **Analytic statements** are true by definition
 - All bachelors are unmarried men
 - The triangle has three sides
- **Contradictory statements** are false by definition
 - Bachelors are married men
 - Triangles have four sides
- **Necessary and Sufficient Conditions**
 - Sometimes we want to talk about the conditions that have to be met for a claim to be true or for something to occur
- **Antecedent Conditions and Consequences**

- **Antecedent Condition (or, simply Antecedent):** The condition that has to be met for a claim to be true or for something to occur
- **Consequent:** The outcome or resultant state
- Examples
 - What do I have to do (AC) to pass the course(C)?
 - What are the criteria (AC) for being a citizen of Athens(C)?
 - What temperature must it be (AC) for snow to fall(C)?
- **Necessary Condition**
 - Let's call the antecedent condition and the consequent Y
 - X is a necessary condition for Y if, and only if, when X is false Y must also be false
 - OR
 - When X is absent, Y cannot occur
 - Examples
 - You must be a male to be a citizen in ancient Athens
 - If you are not a male, you are not a citizen

How to Show a Necessary Condition Statement is False

- Look for an instance of Y (the consequent) that is not also an instance X (antecedent)
- If that happens, you will know X was not necessary for Y

How to Show a Sufficient Condition Statement is False

- Look for an instance of X that is not also an instance of Y
- This would be a case where X did not guarantee Y
- Is it true or false?
 - Being alive is a sufficient condition of passing this course.
 - Testing
 - Being alive is not a sufficient condition of passing this course as there are live students who did not pass

October 16/2018

Glaucon thinks the term good is semantically ambiguous because it can refer to three different types of properties

- **Instrumentally**
 - If something is good only because of its consequences, it is instrumentally good.
 - Its result is good, not the thing itself
 - His example: medical treatment when sick, bad tasting medicine
- **Intrinsically**
 - If something is good in itself apart from its consequences, so that we welcome it for its own sake, then it is intrinsically good
 - Joy and pleasures that have no results beyond the joy of having them
 - Being a Brownie
 - The thing in itself is good, and the thing it produces
- **Both together**

- If something is good both because of its consequences and for its own sake, then it is both **Instrumentally and intrinsically good**
- Example, being healthy

Glaucon's challenge is to show that justice is intrinsically good. He tells Socrates to give a definition of justice and demonstrate that justice is intrinsically good.

Socrates says that he will show that justice fits into the highest category. He says that justice is both **intrinsically** and **instrumentally good**.

The origin of justice

- Most people believe that injustice is intrinsically good and only care for/use it when they have suffered from injustice and want to avoid having it happen to them again.
- Justice is useful because of its consequences: if everyone agrees to be just, you get the desirable consequences of never having to suffer injustice

Glaucon says that those who lack the power both to do injustice and to avoid suffering it come to an agreement with each other neither to do injustice nor to suffer it. This just means that justice is merely **instrumentally** good.

Everyone prefers injustice and thinks injustice is intrinsically good. This is human nature.

Others suffering is our conquest. Why?

Pleonexia

- The desire to outdo others and get more and more. This is what people nature pursue as good, It's someone that always wants more and to be the best (Premengar from Princess and a Pauper)

Justice is Unnatural

- Pleonexia is natural
- Justice is unnatural
- Justice is an artificial creation which is created by agreement and backed by law (Those who are strong are just? Thrasymachus)
- Furthermore, it is a perversion
- Treating fairness with respect is a perversion of our pleonexic human nature

Other Useful Distinctions in Statements

- Synthetic Statements
 - You can't tell if they're true or false just by the meaning of the words
 - Some students are married men
- Analytic Statements
 - These are statements whose truth or falsity is simply a function of the meaning of the terms
 - True by definition. Triangles have three sides
- Contradictory statements
 - False by definition
 - Triangles have four sides
- Necessary and Sufficient Conditions
 - Sometimes we want to talk about the conditions that have to be met for a claim to be true or for something to happen
- Antecedent Conditions and Consequents

- **Antecedent Condition**
 - The condition that has to be met for a claim to be true or for something to occur.
- **Consequent**
 - The outcome or resultant
- Examples of those two together
 - What do I have to do (the antecedent conditions) to pass the course (the consequent).
 - What temperature must it be (antecedent) for snow to fall (consequent)?
- Necessary Condition
 - Let's call the antecedent X and the consequent Y
 - X is a necessary condition for Y if, and only if, when X is false Y must also be false
 - Orrrrr
 - When X is absent, Y cannot occur
 - You must be a male to be a citizen in ancient Athens. If you are not a male, you are not a citizen.
- How to show a Necessary condition statement is false
 - Is it true or false?
 - Writing the tests and examination is a necessary condition of passing PHI 1101.
 - Testing this
 - Is there a student who passed without writing the tests and exams? No. So writing these is necessary.

November 1/2018

The City and the Soul

- Socrates will ask what justice is in the city, and then see if this definition can be applied to the soul
- He will construct the ideal or completely good city

The Kallipolis

- He will make a city that lets people become their best to thrive
- It will be called **Kallipolis**
- To make such a great place, he must recognize the essential aspects of human nature
- The ideal city is one that allows human being to flourish
- Try to keep in mind his version of a city is a large town, who all live amongst each other and interact differently than we do today
- We are more like wolves than bears back then in relation to living as a city
- Why is this? Why do we come together in cities?
- It's because we are vulnerable. Working together makes life easier. No one is self-sufficient. We need food, shelter, clothing. The city is a **necessary condition** of a flourishing human life

- A city that meets our basic human needs might be a **necessary condition** of a flourishing human life, but is it a **sufficient condition**?

Glaucon: The city of Pigs Objection

- G: "It seems that you make your people feast without any delicacies."
- "If you were founding a city for pigs, Socrates, wouldn't you fatten them on the same diet?"
- Glaucon has asserted *pleonexia* is the essence of human nature
 - Pleonexia: extreme greed for wealth or material possessions; avarice
- It is human nature to want more than to have our basic needs met, we want luxuries
- If a city is going to permit a flourishing *human* life, it must also make possible the production of luxuries. Socrates agrees with this
- What will happen once we have overstepped the limits of necessity and surrendered selves to endless acquisition?
 - Crime
 - War
 - Empire
- We will need a police/warrior class
 - They are, initially, to be called the Guardians

TEST INFO

All material of units 1-4, especially last two. Republic book 2 and three, all but the Ideal City since we started that today

November 8/2019

Test was last class so half the people didn't show up today

Socrates argues that to have it be a good city, you need the right people to match their job. Good farmers farming, kind but fair judges, musicians in the arts etc

Thymos is the name in Greek for bravery, courageousness, soul, spirit, resilient, tenacious, proud, honour loving, Anger, aggressive, 'MURICA!

The Guardians are PROBLEMATIC ASF like American Cops, or what's his name in Year One

Dogo Argentinos (almost pit bull, kinda horse) were breed to hunt wild animals. They should be socialized and trained to live with other animals though.

The issue with them? They might be savage to the citizens and to each other.

Therefor, don't pair stupid dudebros with big-ass dogs

Now, we have a complex city with two distinct classes

- The workers
 - The producer class: they meet our necessary and unnecessary desires
- The Guardians
 - The warrior class
 - Wage wars and deal with crimes that are the inevitable result of pleonexia and the unnecessary desires

- They need a careful education so that they don't turn on the citizens and enslave them
- Are only two classes sufficient for a flourishing human life?
 - NO!
 - We need a ruling class because cities are so complex
 - The three classes are individually necessary and jointly sufficient
 - Workers
 - Warriors
 - Rulers
 - Who should rule?
 - They should be chosen from the Warrior class
 - Older than the ruled
 - The best of the warrior class: they must be knowledgeable and capable of handling it all
 - Are those conditions sufficient?
 - NO!
 - The rulers must also care for the city
 - What does Socrates mean by this?
 - Caring for the city
 - The rulers must believe that
 - If the city does badly, they will do badly
 - If the city does well, they will do well
 - That is, they must identify the good of the city with their own good
 - Are these conditions sufficient?
 - NO!
 - They must preserve this belief
 - Neither time, argument, pain, suffering nor fear can make them change their mind
 - They are bound worse than marriage
 - To be a good ruler, the following conditions must be met
 - Chosen from the warrior class
 - Older than the ruled
 - The best of the warrior class; they must be knowledgeable and capable
 - Identify the good of the city with their own good
 - Preserve these beliefs

Division of the Guardian Class

- Guardians (Warriors)
- True Guardians (Rulers)

To mark this decision, the Warriors are to be called the Auxiliaries, and the Rulers are to be called the Guardians

November 13/2018

Melanie isn't here, she's walking her cat

Unit five

Hypothetical Syllogism

If this, then that. If that, then Next. Therefore this equals next.

If p then q. If q then r. Therefore, if p then r

Sometimes called **Chain Argument**

Modus Ponens

If p then q

P

Therefore, q

Modus Tollens

If p then q

-q

Therefore, -p

Chain argument

If p then q

If q then r

Therefore, if p then r

If it rains, we stay inside. If we stay inside, then we watch a movie. Therefore, if it rains, then we watch a movie.

Reconstruction Arguments

Chpt 4. Omit 4.4 and 4.5

Premises and conclusions are not usually labeled, signaled by premise and conclusion indicators, and arguments are often embedded in extraneous material.

Reconstruct the argument. You don't need the same specific words. Revise the words used to clarify the meaning or remove ambiguity. Do NOT violate the author's intent or the Principle of Charity.

P1: The stronger are the rulers

P2: The rulers make the law

P3: The rulers make the laws to their own advantage

P4: The laws constitute what is just

Conclusion: Justice is the advantage of the stronger

Try to find the conclusion first. Underline it and label /# it. Then find the premises, enclose them in brackets and label P1 etc. If you have a missing premise represent it in your logs by MP#. If you're missing a conclusion represent it by writing MC

Why add a premise or conclusion if it's unstated?

The Principle of Charity is why. You always have to assume the best. Adopt the most reasonable, plausible or defensible explanation.

(I don't really understand this part)

What if a premise is missing?

Look at context, add premises that increase the argument's logical strength and add premises that are as plausible as possible.

Example:

P1: Justice is telling the truth and paying your debts (Cephalus' definition)

P2(unstated): Justice is not harmful (implied)(unstated premise: the argument is an enthymeme)

P3: Telling the truth and paying your debt is harmful (in the case of the insane man and his weapons).

C: Therefore, justice is not harmful and justice is harmful (CONTRADICTION)

Types of Missing Premises

1: Supplies info the speaker presumably knows or believes

2: Contains an assumption or presumption which explains why the speaker believes the premises support the conclusion

The Structure of Arguments

The structure of an argument reveals how the premises are intended to support the conclusion and allows us to assess it critically

FUCKING TREES

Draw a tree to lay it all out

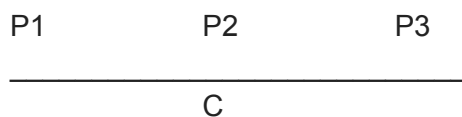
Types of Arguments

Simple arguments

One premise, one conclusion

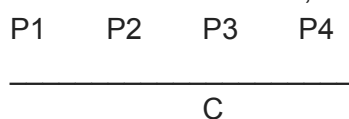
T Arguments

- All the premises have to work together to provide support for the conclusion
- Both must be true
- If either is false, the other would nearly be useless



V Arguments

- The premises work independently of each other
- If either is false, it don't matter



Complex Arguments or the Sorites

P1: All men are mortal

P2: Socrates is a man

P1: We should give the A&G the greatest happiness (so they don't kill us)

P2: The A&G will have the greatest happiness if they may acquire private property and live in their own private homes

C: Therefore, the A&G should acquire private property and live in their own private homes

Since P1&2 go together to support the same claim in their line of thought, it makes a T diagram

So what's Socrates gonna say to this?

"... we aren't aiming to make any one group outstandingly happy but to make the whole city so, as far as possible. We thought that we'd find justice most easily in such a city and injustice, by contrast, in the one that is governed worst... We take ourselves, then, to be fashioning the happy city, not picking out a few happy people and putting them in it, but making the whole city happy." (Rep. IV 420b-d)

P1: We should give the A&G the greatest happiness

P2: The A&G will have the greatest happiness if they may acquire private property and live in their own private homes.

This is a T argument because only if the premises put together really make its point.

Socrates only needs to show that one premise is false

So he denies the first one.

"We are not aiming to give just one class in the city the greatest happiness. We are aiming to see that the city as a whole has the greatest happiness."

He says statues eyes must be painted appropriately, not too flashy. We must deal with each part appropriately in order to make the whole statue beautiful.

So then he denies P2. He says that he wouldn't be surprised if the Auxiliaries were happiest this way because they are doing the activity for which they are naturally suited.

Assessing Arguments: Truth Claims: Acceptability

Chpt. 5-6. Omit 6.1, defer until unit 7: 6.7.3. And self-test 12, Questions 2,7,9

The three Criteria of a Sound Argument

But what makes a sound argument?

- It is logically strong: its premises, if true, support the conclusion
- It has true premises
- (are connected to this definition)

The Three Criteria:

- The premises must be acceptable
- Each individual premise should be relevant to the conclusion
- The premises, considered collectively, must provide adequate support for the conclusion
- Acceptable, relevant, and adequate

Watch out for fallacies

- A fallacy is an error or weakness that detracts from the soundness of an argument

How to assess if something is truthful

- Verification
 - Process of determining whether or not a truth-claim is true
 - If we can show it is false, it has been falsified
 - If we can do neither, the truth of the claim remains undetermined

Well how can we verify if its the truth? Well that depends on the type of claim

- Empirical or A Posteriori
 - Can be checked using one of the five sense
 - Translate to after the use of the senses
 - Statements about the past and future
- Non-Empirical or A Priori
 - Not observable in principle
 - Cannot be checked using one of the five senses
 - Translates to before the use of the senses
 - Aesthetic, Ethical, About the Divine

Fallacies

- Fallacies concerning the acceptability of premises
- These fallacies violate the criterion of acceptability
- An argument begs the question when its premises presuppose, directly or indirectly, the truth of the conclusion
- **Petitio principii**
 - Latin for begging the question
- **Circular reasoning**
 - Just as water cannot flow from the bottom to the top in a tower
 - Truth cannot flow from conclusion to premises in an argument

November 20/2018

Getting tests back next class

NO CLASS NOVEMBER 27

Continuing from last classes lecture

False Dichotomy

- Two kinds of cake are available on the menu. If you don't like either you've exhausted all your options for cake

Dichotomies

- **Exhaustive**
 - Exhaustive alternatives cover all the possibilities
- **Exclusive Dichotomy**
 - The choice of one alternative rules out the other
- When it comes to SIZE
 - Big or small: exclusive, but not exhaustive of each other
 - You can't be a big dog and a small dog, but you can be a medium size
- Exhaustive and Exclusive
 - Only alternative
 - Choice of one out rules the other

- Dead or alive

First Fallacy of False Dichotomy

- Premises of an argument present us with a choice between alternatives and assumes they are exhaustive when they are not
 - Example
 - In the war, you're on one side or the other
 - FALSE
 - Be Switzerland

Second Fallacy of False Dichotomy

- Premises of an argument present us with a choice between alternatives and assumes they are exclusive when they are not
 - Example
 - Socrates Smith is an excellent athlete. Therefore, he is not a good student
 - FALSE
 - He could be both

QUESTION PRACTICE

Fallacies

- Begging the question
 - This is wrong because the bible says so, the bible is never wrong
- Inconsistency
 - Duh
- False dichotomy
 - Child having a tantrum. If it's not this it must be that! This or that!

Function and Virtue

Republic, Book 1

352e-354a

- Function (Ergon)
 - The function of something is what it does best or uniquely
 - The function of a knife is to cut something
- Virtue (Arete)
 - The virtue of a thing is the property or characteristic that enables it to fulfill its function well
 - The virtue of a knife is sharpness! A knife can fulfill its function of cutting well if it has the virtue of sharpness

Justice in the Kallipolis

Book four, 427d-434d Virtues of the City

We will apply these concepts to the discussion of the definition of justice in RB4

- Reportive definition
- Essentialist definition

Essentialist Definitions

- Socrates is seeking a definition of justice that reveals its essential nature or essence
- He is seeking an essentialist definition of justice

Essentialist and Reportive Definitions

- Reportive definition
 - Reports standard usage
- Essentialist definition
 - Usually rooted in standard usage, but then revises it to correctly convey the essential nature of the term being defined

Cephalus' Definition

- On one level this is a reportive definition
- Cephalus reports what most people think. His definition is close to standard usage
- When Socrates assesses this definition, however, he does not assess it simply as a reportive definition
- He does not simply ask if it accurately reports standard usage
- Instead, Socrates wants to know if this definition reveals the true nature or essence of justice
- He asks if it is a good essentialist definition
- **Justice is telling the truth and paying your debts**
- Giving people and the gods what they are owed or deserved

Socrates takes this notion of giving people what they are owed and sharpens it in the light of what he knows about the functions of the respective classes of the Kallipolis

What are the functions of the Citizens?

- Working (meeting necessary and unnecessary desires)
- Policing and soldiering
- Ruling

Socrates says:

“Justice, I think, is exactly what we said must be established throughout the city when we were founding it- either this or some form of it. We stated, and often repeated, if you remember, that everyone must practice one of the occupations in the city for which he is naturally suited.” B4 433a-b

In other words, all of the citizens will fill the roles they're best suited for and it will help the community. This is a virtue in which all the citizens share. This virtue is the virtue of justice. WHHAHAAA??

Definition of Justice as a Virtue

“For the money-making, auxiliary, and guardian classes each to do its own work in the city...That's justice.” B4 434c-d

The city is just if its citizens can know their natures and can cultivate and express them fully.

“Virtue seems, then, to be a kind of health, fine condition, and well being of the soul, which vice is a disease, shameful condition, and weakness.” B4 444d-e

Think of the Just City as its own ecosystem. Everything and everyone has basic needs, and can do certain things to fill others needs. Everyone working in balance and harmony with each other is what makes the city work, and just.

But that doesn't work! Because of pleonexia. People will want to do and be better all the time. Like zebra mussels. They will eventually take over everything. Just because we have many slots to fill, doesn't mean they will all be filled up. It will always be under threat.

November 22/2018

NO CLASS NEXT TUESDAY

Tests given back at end of the class

Cont. from last powerpoint

Nature: a standard of how things work or is it manipulable?

What about free will?

- Assertion of power over restraints or limits
- Possibilities of self-creation
- Should our lives be determined by qualities we did not choose or that do not reflect individual efforts?
- Is identity a matter of choice or is it innate?

Relevance

Chapter 7

The three criteria of a sound argument

- Acceptable
- Relevant
- Adequate

Relevance

- If the premises of an argument are relevant to the conclusion, they must make it more likely, if they are true, that the conclusion is true
- Example
- Socrates is not guilty of corrupting the youth because
 - Relevant
 - He demonstrates that injustice is intrinsically good
 - Irrelevant
 - He is my best friend

Non sequitur

- The traditional term for arguments with irrelevant premises
- In latin: it does not follow

Fallacies of Relevance

- Appeal to Pity
 - The speaker or writer appeals to our emotions of pity or sympathy when they are logically irrelevant to the truth of the proposition in question
 - Example
 - Socrates is not guilty. Think of how Xanthippe will suffer if he is convicted!
 - Xanthippe's suffering is not logically relevant to whether Socrates is, in fact, guilty
- Appeal to Pity
 - The speaker or writer threatens the use of force as a reason for accepting that a proposition is true
 - Like everything with Ghomeshi, the Saudi government threatened him to shut up or else. Else happened.
- Appeal to Popularity
 - The speaker or writer argues that a proposition is true because it is popular or widely held
 - Example
 - Jesus
- Appeals to Authority
 - So and so says X, therefore, X is true (or probably true)
 - Example
 - Jesus

When are Appeals to Authority relevant?

- It is difficult or impossible in the matter in question to obtain the information we lack
- The authority is entitled to an authoritative status on the matter in question
- Example
 - A medical diagnosis

Ad Hominem

Argumentum ad Hominem

Argument against the Man

- Rejecting a proposition on the grounds of the personal characteristics of the person when they are logically irrelevant to the truth of that proposition
- Example
 - I do not but the Ontological Argument because Anselm was obviously very religious. He was, after all, the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Appeal to Personal Qualities: When are they Logically Relevant?

- In some situations it is legitimate to argue that a person's statements should not be relied upon
 - Because they are untrustworthy
 - Or
 - Because they have a strong interest (material, political, etc) in convincing you
 - Of course that dress doesn't make you look fat! Says the sales associate

Fallacy of Equivocation

- This fallacy arises when a premise has two interpretations (it is ambiguous) and the sense in which the premise is true is not the sense required by the conclusion
- Example
 - I don't have to fear the lion. He is a man eater, but I am a woman

Grace_greer3

Unit 8 Assessing Adequacy

The Criterion of Adequacy

- The third criteria of a sound argument
- The premises should be adequate to support the conclusion
 - Jumping to conclusion
- Criteria of Adequacy
 - When a deductive argument meets the criterion of adequacy it is deductive valid
 - Or
 - When an inductive argument meets the criterion adequacy it is inductively strong

Unit 9??

An argument is a set of claims that one or more of those statements, classed the premises, support or justify, or make it reasonable to believe its conclusion

Deductive arguments

- The truth of its premises guarantees the truth of its conclusion
- These types of arguments require strict proof

November 29/2018

Exam is coming up, READ THE TEXTBOOK

Fallacy of Affirming the Consequent

- If you like star trek, you'll like the walking dead
- You like the walking dead
- Therefore, you like star trek

Counterexample to see why that's wrong

- If it is raining, then the streets are wet
- The streets are wet
- Therefore, it is raining

P1 and P2 might be true while C is false. The streets might be wet for another reason

Fallacy of Denying the Antecedent

- If you like star trek, you like the walking dead
- You do not like star trek

- Therefore, you do not like the walking dead

Counterexample to see why that's wrong

- If it is raining, then the streets are wet
- It is not raining
- Therefore, the streets are not wet

P1 and P2 might be true while C is false. The street might be wet for another reason

Modus Tollens, Denying the Consequent

If p then q

-q

Therefore, -p

Fallacy of Denying the Antecedent

If p then q

-p

Therefore, -q

Adequacy and Inductive Arguments

One type of inductive argument: analogical argument by properties

- Inductive argument
- The truth of the premises make it probable that the conclusion is true

X has properties A, B, C

Y has properties A and B

Therefore, it is probable that Y has property C

The strength of the argument depends on the relevance and number of observed similarities

Geese vs ducks

- I am a goose
 - I am a water bird
 - I nest in Canada in the early spring
 - I migrate south in the winter
- I am a duck
 - I am a water bird
 - I nest in Canada in the early spring
 - Therefore, we probably migrate south in the winter, too

Adequacy and Inductive Arguments

The fallacy of post hoc ergo propter hoc

Deductive validity

- Chapter 9
- When a deductive argument meets the criterion of adequacy it is deductive valid

Inductive strength

- Chapter 10
- When an inductive argument meets the criterion of adequacy it is inductively strong

Post Hoc ergo Propter Hoc

- Latin: after this, so because of this
- This fallacy occurs when it is argued that something that occurs before some event must be the cause of that effect
- Explanation
 - Causes always precede their effects
 - But, this doesn't mean that everything that precedes some event must be its cause
 - Just because a rooster crows before the sun comes up, doesn't mean he controls it