

Metaphysics Exercise 2

Phil. 100B, Winter 2011. Due Sun., Jan. 16.

Note this is to be done on-line via Question Cloud if possible. However, if this proves impossible for some reason, please hand this in as a hard copy or e-mail your answers to your TA.

1. One of Porphyry's definitions of "species" is: "a species is that which is predicated in the what-is-it of many things which differ [only] numerically." Which of the following do *not* meet this definition (according to Porphyry/Aristotle), and why?
 - a. *animal*, because animals do not differ only numerically (they differ in species)
 - b. *horse*, because it is not predicated in the what-is-it
 - c. *black*, because it is not a rational essence and therefore is not "predicated"
 - d. *Ethiopian*, because it is not predicated in the what-is-it
 - e. (b) and (c)
 - f. (a) and (d).

2. Which of the following is correct (according to Aristotle/Porphyry)?
 - a. *Animal* is a genus, but also a species, and therefore has a differentia.
 - b. *Living thing* (i.e., *animate body*) is not actually a genus, because *animal* and *plant* are genera, not species.
 - c. *Animal* is not actually a genus; it is only an essence of *horse*, *human*, etc.
 - d. *Animal* is a genus, but not a species, because it has no genus, and every species must have a genus.
 - e. None of the above.

3. Suppose that Digger is some individual wombat, and consider the use of the word "healthy" in the following sentences: (i) "Margaret is healthy"; (ii) "Digger is healthy"; (iii) "Margaret's obsession with Digger is not healthy." Which of the following is true?
 - a. "Healthy" is used equivocally in (i) and (iii), because "healthy" is an accident, and every accident is equivocal.
 - b. "Healthy" is used equivocally in (i) and (iii), because it would be defined differently in each case, but the two meanings are related and meaning (i) is primary.
 - c. "Healthy" is used univocally in (i), (ii) and (iii), because Margaret and Digger are both univocal.
 - d. "Healthy" is used univocally in (i) and (ii), because it would be defined the same way in each case.
 - e. (b) and (d).
 - f. (c) and (d).