Metaphysics Exercise 1/2


1. According to our reading, which of the following statements is correct?
   a. Socrates is an individual; the whiteness in Socrates is an abstract species.
   b. Socrates is a primary substance; the whiteness in Socrates is an accident.
   c. Socrates is a being; the whiteness in Socrates is an essence.
   d. Socrates is a primary substance; the whiteness in Socrates is a secondary substance.
   e. None of the above.

2. Socrates' arm is in Socrates. Why is it not “in a subject”?
   a. Socrates is a subject, but he is not an essential subject.
   b. It is part of an essence, not part of a subject.
   c. It is in Socrates as a part.
   d. (b) and (c).
   e. None of the above.

3. Next to each of the items in the right column below, write the letter of the description in the left column which applies. (Note: you will obviously have to use some letters more than once.)

   orange: ___
   rock: ___
   heat: ___
   the height of Mt. Everest: ___
   useful for: ___
   lizard: ___
   my pet rat, Hempel ___
   Britney Spears: ___
   fire: ___
   justice: ___

4. According to Porphyry, a genus is “predicated in the what-is-it of many things which differ in species.” Which of the following do not meet this definition (according to Porphyry/Aristotle), and why?
   a. animal, because animals do not differ in species
   d. black, because it is not a rational essence and therefore is not “predicated”
   c. black, because it is not predicated in the what-is-it
d. *banana slug*, because banana slugs do not differ in species

5. According to reading (U), the four elements are defined by qualities which have contraries. This is a problem because:

a. It seems to imply that differentiae are accidents, whereas (according to reading (X)) they are not accidents.

b. It seems to imply that the differentiae are qualities of substance, whereas (according to reading (W)) only secondary substances are qualities of substance.

c. It seems to imply that the elements are accidents, whereas (according to reading (F) from last time) they are substances.

d. It seems to imply that there are four elements in nature, all of which have contraries, whereas (according to reading (T)) there are three elements: two which are contraries and a third which has no contrary.

e. (a) and (d).