

Your name: _____

Your section day/time: _____

Metaphysics Exercise 11

Phil. 93, Winter 2009. Due Thurs., Feb. 26.

1. About which of the following would Descartes and Spinoza disagree?
 - a. The human soul is simple and indivisible, whereas the human body is divisible.
 - b. The human soul perceives individual external bodies because of their actions on its own body (in particular, on its sense organs).
 - c. The human soul can be conceived without the human body, and vice versa.
 - d. The human soul is not extended.
 - e. All of the above.
 - f. None of the above.

2. According to Spinoza, of which of the following do we have adequate ideas?
 - a. The divine attribute of extension.
 - b. The divine attribute of thought.
 - c. Our own bodies.
 - d. Our own minds.
 - e. (b) and (d).
 - f. (c) and (d).

3. Which of the following is an explanation for error put forward by Descartes but rejected by Spinoza?
 - a. Whatever is positive in my opinions derives from God and is true; all error is privation.
 - b. The human will is infinite, whereas the human intellect is finite.
 - c. The human body has many parts, but the soul only perceives one part directly.
 - d. An evil demon is deceiving us.
 - e. (b) and (c).
 - f. (b), (c) and (d).

4. Why is Descartes's method of doubt not workable, according to Spinoza?
 - a. The human mind is a mode of the divine attribute of thought. But God does not doubt. Therefore, the human mind cannot doubt.
 - b. Human ideas have merely formal being. Therefore, thinking for us does not

imply existence.

c. We are not free to withhold our consent from judgments, because our will is not a free cause.

d. Descartes put too much trust in the authority of the Bible, and therefore failed to realize that the existence of God should also be doubted.

e. Doubting is an inadequate mode of extensional predicates.

f. None of the above.