

Test Bank

The following assessment has been created for in-class use. This assessment is available through Pearson's MyTest website—allowing for easy access for creating your own tests. Please contact your local Pearson sales representative to learn about the options available. Visit <http://www.pearsonhighered.com/relocator>.

Multiple Choice Questions

Difficulty: 1 = Easy; 2 = Medium; 3 = Challenging

Choose the best possible answer for each of the following.

1. Frederick Streng thought that studies of religion are impoverished if they _____.
 - A. compare apples and oranges
 - B. are restricted to academic concerns
 - C. neglect people's actual beliefs
 - D. neglect the variety of religious beliefs

Answer: D

Difficulty: 1

Bloom's Taxonomy: Understanding

2. What does it mean to say that a religion may not be *theistic*?
 - A. it may not posit any gods
 - B. it may be restricted to one culture
 - C. it may not be attractive to all people
 - D. it may have no one set of rules

Answer: A

Difficulty: 1

Bloom's Taxonomy: Understanding

3. Ludwig Feuerbach thought that we "create" God because we _____.
 - A. cannot explain many things that we observe
 - B. have an idealized sense of self that we project
 - C. have the power to realize anything in our imagination
 - D. need to have something be the center of our religion

Answer: B

Difficulty: 1

Bloom's Taxonomy: Understanding

4. Feuerbach's overall project was to _____.
 - A. undermine religious belief
 - B. create a secular basis for religion
 - C. study religions comparatively
 - D. argue against the existence of God

Answer: B

Difficulty: 1

Bloom's Taxonomy: Understanding

5. Keiji Nishitani thought that the main function of religion is to _____.
A. help people overcome deficiencies
B. provide a set of ethical rules
C. provide meaning to life
D. give people a sense of belonging

Answer: C

Difficulty: 1

Bloom's Taxonomy: Understanding

6. Hinduism considers ultimate reality to be _____.
A. always changing
B. the gods
C. the self
D. unknowable

Answer: D

Difficulty: 1

Bloom's Taxonomy: Understanding

7. Buddhism is focused on the goal of _____.
A. being free of one's desires
B. knowing ultimate reality
C. relieving other people's suffering
D. disbelieving in God

Answer: A

Difficulty: 1

Bloom's Taxonomy: Understanding

8. Daoism is focused on the goal of _____.
A. being free of one's desires
B. coming into harmony with reality
C. relieving one's suffering
D. seeking after truth

Answer: B

Difficulty: 1

Bloom's Taxonomy: Understanding

9. Judaism is based primarily on _____.
A. the holy scriptures
B. following tradition
C. being free of suffering
D. monotheism

Answer: D

Difficulty: 1

Bloom's Taxonomy: Understanding

10. The key assumption of Anselm's ontological argument for God's existence is that _____.
- A. if God exists, he exists necessarily
 - B. if God exists, we would know it
 - C. we can conceive of God existing
 - D. God must exist

Answer: A

Difficulty: 2

Bloom's Taxonomy: Understanding

11. Aquinas' argument from gradations of goodness concludes that _____.
- A. there must be a designer of the universe
 - B. there must be a God that we can know
 - C. there must be a most perfect being
 - D. the Christian God must exist

Answer: C

Difficulty: 1

Bloom's Taxonomy: Understanding

12. The argument from evil against God's existence says that _____.
- A. there can be no evil being
 - B. evil must be an illusion
 - C. a perfect being cannot exist
 - D. a perfect being would not allow evil

Answer: D

Difficulty: 1

Bloom's Taxonomy: Understanding

13. The main source of resistance to the argument from evil is to say that _____.
- A. God is omnipotent so he is free to allow some evil
 - B. free beings are allowed to do evil
 - C. evil has to exist in order for God to exist
 - D. God must exist in order for evil to exist

Answer: B

Difficulty: 1

Bloom's Taxonomy: Understanding

14. Pascal's "wager" is based mainly on the supposition that _____.
- A. it is always wise to wager on whatever is the best outcome
 - B. it is best to wager on the eventuality of evil being overcome
 - C. one cannot lose anything of value by wagering on God's existence
 - D. God's existence is necessary since he is the greatest possible being

Answer: C

Difficulty: 1

Bloom's Taxonomy: Understanding

15. In "The Ethics of Belief," W.K. Clifford argues that _____.
- A. God does not exist
 - B. religious beliefs are unethical
 - C. thinking critically about one's beliefs is not always necessary
 - D. it is always wrong to believe anything under insufficient evidence

Answer: D

Difficulty: 1

Bloom's Taxonomy: Understanding

Essay Questions

1. Describe some Eastern religions, and compare and contrast them.

Difficulty: 2

Bloom's Taxonomy: Knowledge, Analysis

2. Describe the three major monotheistic religions, and compare and contrast them.

Difficulty: 1

Bloom's Taxonomy: Knowledge, Analysis

3. What are some of the major characteristics of religion? Discuss whether all specific religions have some features in common.

Difficulty: 1

Bloom's Taxonomy: Knowledge, Analysis

4. Explain Anselm's ontological argument for the existence of God.

Difficulty: 1

Bloom's Taxonomy: Knowledge, Understanding

5. What is the main idea of Aquinas' cosmological argument for the existence of God from contingency?

Difficulty: 1

Bloom's Taxonomy: Knowledge, Understand

6. Summarize Aquinas' argument from a first cause for the existence of God.

Difficulty: 1

Bloom's Taxonomy: Knowledge, Understanding

7. Explain Aquinas' argument from gradations of perfection to the existence of God.

Difficulty: 1

Bloom's Taxonomy: Knowledge, Understanding

8. Explain the argument from design for God's existence, as introduced by Aquinas and refined by William Paley.

Difficulty: 2

Bloom's Taxonomy: Knowledge, Understanding

9. Explain Kant's argument from morality for the existence of God.

Difficulty: 1

Bloom's Taxonomy: Knowledge, Understanding