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CS 33006

Midterm Exam

Social & Ethical Issues

Wednesday 10 March 2010

1. What factors led to the successful transition of computers from research machines to commercial products? (10 points)

- 2. One of the first ethical theories examined by Quinn is Cultural Realism.
 - a. What are the arguments <u>against</u> Cultural Realism? (10 points)

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b. What are the arguments in favor of Cultural Realism? (5 points)

3. Kantianism starts with one thing that is always good without qualification, and then uses that thing to derive moral laws, which we are then duty bound to follow. What is that one thing that Kant said was always good? (5 points)

4. Act Utilitarianism considers the total benefit or harm to "all affected beings". What are some of the challenges in computing this total? (10 points)

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5. Under Social Contract Theory, give an example of a Positive Right. (5 points)

6. Why does email spam have the potential to be much more profitable for the spammer than sending junk mail through the postal system? (5 points)

7. Give 2 examples of a country's government trying to control or limit information obtained via the Internet. (10 points)

8. Why did the U.S. Supreme Court rule against the broadcast of George Carlin's "Seven Words" instead of considering that broadcast to be free speech? (10 points)

9. Article I of the U.S. Constitution allows writings and discoveries to be protected for limited time to "promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts". How does protecting these things promote this progress? (10 points)

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10. Give several examples of a Trademark or Service Mark. (10 points)

11. Over the years, the length of time for copyright protection has grown from 28 years to 95 years. What are some of the reasons for this increase? (10 points)