

Due electronically by 9:15am on Monday 8 February 2010

Grading: 25 points for social & ethical content

1. What factors led to the successful transition of computers from research machines to commercial products?
2. What do Subjective Relativism, Cultural Relativism, and Divine Command Theory have in common that distinguishes them from the moral systems examined later?
3. Kantianism is based on good will, but also assumes that everyone is a rational human being. Explain.
4. In the book's Scenario 4 (startup company with handheld application for nurses), would it be right or wrong for the senior engineer to release the product to the market, under Kantianism? Explain your answer.
5. In the book's Scenario 4, would it be right or wrong for the senior engineer to release the product to the market, under Act Utilitarianism? Explain your answer.

These homework assignments are intended to test your knowledge of some of the material presented in my lectures and in the textbook, and to prepare you for upcoming exams. On these assignments, I want clear, well-focused answers to the questions asked, answers that balance brevity and detail. While brevity is desirable, one-sentence "answers" will probably not suffice. While detail is desirable, half-page answers to each question are unnecessary. Think in terms of answers four or five sentences long.

You must also answer the question in **your own words** to convince me that you understand the material. Unattributed "quoting" of sentences from the class textbook, other textbooks, the Internet, or anywhere else will be considered plagiarism and is totally unacceptable.

Submit your answers to me to me electronically, via email to walker@cs.kent.edu or rawalke1@kent.edu with "**Homework 2**" as the subject of the email. You are welcome to either type your answers as the body of the email, or type your answers into a word processor such as Microsoft Word, Open Office, or Google Docs and email the file to me in .DOC, .DOCX, or .PDF format. In the latter case, use **your last name** and "**Homework2**" as the name of the file.

As before, I will reply to your email to confirm the receipt of your assignment.