

Chapter 2

Subjectivism, Relativism, and Emotivism

MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. The doctrine that some moral norms are valid for everyone (in other words, *universal*) is:
- a. moral absolutism
 - b. moral chauvinism
 - c. moral objectivism
 - d. moral normativism

ANS: C PTS: 1

2. Cultural relativism is the view that an action is morally right if:
- a. one approves of it
 - b. one's culture approves of it
 - c. it conforms to universal moral laws
 - d. it conforms to considered moral judgments

ANS: B PTS: 1

3. According to subjective relativism, an action is right if:
- a. a person cannot offer an argument against it
 - b. it does not conflict with legal requirements
 - c. society sanctions it
 - d. a person approves of it

ANS: D PTS: 1

4. Subjective relativism implies that each person is:
- a. morally infallible
 - b. morally fallible
 - c. incapable of immoral acts
 - d. perfect

ANS: A PTS: 1

5. Subjective relativism:
- a. makes moral disagreements possible
 - b. implies that all moral disagreements can be resolved
 - c. implies that moral disagreements cannot happen

d. implies an attitude of tolerance toward others

ANS: C PTS: 1

6. Cultural relativism implies that:

- a. all cultures are morally fallible
- b. some cultures are morally infallible
- c. there are no universal moral standards
- d. there are at least some universal moral standards

ANS: C PTS: 1

7. The view that moral statements are neither true nor false but are instead expressions of emotions or attitudes is called:

- a. perspectivism
- b. emotivism
- c. subjective relativism
- d. cultural relativism

ANS: B PTS: 1

8. People often differ in their moral judgments because they:

- a. have the same nonmoral beliefs
- b. accept the same moral principles
- c. adopt the same moral theory
- d. have divergent nonmoral beliefs

ANS: D PTS: 1

9. Some argue that a core set of moral values must be universal, otherwise cultures:

- a. would not survive
- b. would thrive
- c. would be immoral
- d. would be technologically backward

ANS: A PTS: 1

10. The view that moral judgments can be judged true or false is called:

- a. universalism
- b. common sense
- c. cognitivism
- d. noncognitivism

ANS: C PTS: 1

TRUE/FALSE

1. Moral objectivism necessarily implies that moral rules and principles have no exceptions.

ANS: F PTS: 1

2. There is a necessary connection between tolerance and cultural relativism.

ANS: F PTS: 1

3. Cultural relativism implies that social reformers of every sort would always be wrong.

ANS: T PTS: 1

4. To reject cultural relativism is to admit that one's own culture's norms may be fallible.

ANS: T PTS: 1

5. Embracing moral objectivism entails intolerance.

ANS: F PTS: 1

6. Noncognitivism denies that moral judgments are statements that can be true or false.

ANS: T PTS: 1

7. Emotivists assert that moral disagreements are not conflicts of beliefs but are disagreements in attitude.

ANS: T PTS: 1

8. Many critics reject emotivism because it offers an implausible view of moral reasons.

ANS: T PTS: 1

9. Emotivism says that people can disagree about moral facts but not about moral attitudes.

ANS: F PTS: 1

10. Objectivism is the doctrine that some moral norms are rigid rules that have no exceptions.

ANS: F PTS: 1