

True/False Questions:

1. The social responsibilities of engineers are laid down accurately in the law.
2. In a deontological approach, whether effectiveness and efficiencies of a certain technology are morally worth pursuing depends on the ends for which they are employed.
3. In a technocracy, the technological insights of an engineer would be decisive in governing the society.
4. Milton Friedman argues that corporations do not have any responsibilities towards the environment or the society at large, because they should not enforce their particular view on morality upon other people.
5. 'External auditing' means that a company chooses to be assessed by the governments in terms of its own corporate codes.
6. Values prescribe a specific human characteristic or quality.
7. Utilitarianism evaluates the rightness of action based on the maximization of pleasure and minimization of pain.
8. 'Reciprocity principle' as the second formulation of Kant's categorical imperative states that one should always treat the rational, free and intelligent human-beings as a mean and never as an end.
9. Prima facie norms are moral norms that apply unless they are overruled by more important norms.
10. The technocratic fallacy says that the engineers rather than politicians should assess the acceptability of technological risk, since they have competence in determining the nature and the magnitude of that risk.
11. 'Contingent validation' is a method used for expressing values such as safety and sustainability in monetary units by asking people how much they are willing to pay for that value.
12. When two values are incommensurable it means that they contradict each other
13. Redundant systems are primarily integrated into a technological design for the purpose of safety.
14. The 'Precautionary principle' states that when there is no scientific evidence to prove that a new technology can cause harm to the environment, we may continue developing that technology.
15. A 'Problem of many hands' is a situation in which the collective can reasonably be held responsible while none of the individuals can be held responsible for the outcome.
16. Strict liability says that one can only be held liable when the person has been negligent with respect to his or her duties.
17. 'Collective responsibility' is a model in which only those individuals in a collective (i.e. an organization) could be held responsible that have contributed to a wrong-doing.
18. Rule utilitarianism says that when a rule manages to promote happiness it can be referred to as a moral rule.
19. 'Inherent safety' is an approach to safe design that copes with hazards instead of avoiding those hazards.
20. Science works based on 'inductive argumentation', because scientists continuously try to support the truth of an empirical law by means of measurements.

21. Professional codes for engineers merely address the legal rights and duties of an engineer.
22. When something is legally allowed, it will always be morally right.
23. Virtue ethics is concerned with people's intention when acting.
24. Quantitative risk assessments do not assess the acceptability of risk.
25. To conclude from the undesirability of something that it will therefore not happen is called the fallacy of wishful thinking.
26. When those who may be affected by some technological project or action have been fully and honestly informed about the possible undesired consequences of that intervention, we speak of "informed consent".
27. The conclusion of an inductive argument is not logically contained in the premises.
28. Two equal risks – in terms of probability times effect – are equally acceptable from a moral point of view.
29. The company's codes of conduct may impose more restriction on the company than legal requirements.
30. A categorical imperative is a conditional duty.
31. According to the precautionary principle, measures to cut the emissions of CO₂ are only to be taken if the greenhouse effect it is scientifically proven.
32. The fact that cultures have different moral values implies that moral relativism must be true.
33. Defenders of the classical view on the social responsibility of companies hold that companies, in addition to respecting the law, must limit their activities in such ways as to avoid doing social harm.
34. In an inductive argument, a general conclusion is drawn on the basis of a number of specific cases.
35. In cases of uncertainty, reliable knowledge to calculate the risks of a certain technology is available.
36. When a person involved in a wrong-doing (e.g. in an accident) does not have freedom of action, it is unfair to hold that person morally responsible for the wrong-doing.
37. Product liability could apply even if there is no proof that the manufacturer acted negligently.
38. The collective model for assigning responsibility in organizations implies that only persons high in the organization could be held responsible.
39. Being an employee is a potential threat to an engineer's professional autonomy.
40. In the case of a valid argument it is impossible that all the premises are true and the conclusion false.
41. The classical view of the responsibility of engineers holds that they have to execute their assignments, and fulfil the demands of their company and of its customers, as well as possible within the limits of existing law.
42. The members of a profession make use of particular knowledge which is not generally available and which is not understandable by laypersons.
43. Whistleblowing always involves informing a judge about a wrong situation in the company where one works.
44. To conclude from the undesirability of something that it will therefore not happen is called the naturalistic fallacy.
45. The conclusion of an inductive argument is logically contained in the premises.
46. In the case of a valid argument it is impossible that all the premises are true and the conclusion false.
47. According to the reader, ethical relativism makes it impossible to criticize someone else's moral views and behaviour.
48. To reject ethical relativism is to be committed to one's moral views being the only right ones.
49. Utilitarianism is a form of deontology.
50. Claim rights always imply that some other people have specific duties.
51. The statement "The moon is made of cheese" is normative.

52. Dutch regulation of risks is based on the premise that the acceptability of risks is linear to their magnitude expressed in terms of probability of an undesirable event times the number of fatalities in the case of such an undesirable event.
53. The precautionary principle implies that the government has to be cautious in issuing measures against technological risks in order not to slow down economic growth.
54. The principle that the technical experts (i.e. those who are technically informed) are to decide about the ethical acceptability of risks is known as the principle of 'informed consent'.
55. Collective accountability implies that all members of an organization are each personally accountable for the activities of the organization.
56. Actions of organizations can have effects that have not been intended by any of the individuals who are part of the organization.
57. A company code of conduct is a set of restrictions upon the activities of a company which are imposed by the company.
58. Limited liability of corporations means that only the managers of a corporation can be held liable for the activities of the corporation.
59. The principle of fault liability holds that a person is liable for his/her activities irrespective of whether he/she is at fault.
60. The following argument is valid: All cats are dogs, Sarah is a cat, So Sarah is a dog

Answers:

1. F
2. T
3. T
4. T
5. F
6. F
7. T
8. F
9. T
10. T
11. T
12. F
13. T
14. F
15. T
16. F
17. F
18. T
19. F
20. T
21. F
22. F
23. F
24. T
25. T
26. F
27. T
28. F
29. T
30. F
31. F
32. F
33. F
34. T
35. T
36. T
37. T
38. F
39. T
40. T
41. T
42. T
43. F

44. F
45. F
46. T
47. T
48. F
49. F
50. T
51. F
52. F
53. F
54. F
55. T
56. T
57. T
58. F
59. F
60. T