BIRZEIT UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Engineering and Technology

ENCS521: Computer Engineering Ethics

Sample questions

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Question 1:

- 1. True or False Ethical dilemmas arise when a person knows exactly what the right action is but does not have the ethical will-power to do it.
- 2. True or False Utilitarianism differs from typical Cost-Benefit Analysis in that Utilitarianism gives equal consideration to everyone affected.
- 3. True or False According to the principle of 'Respect for Persons', deceiving a person is wrong because it is a transgression against that person's moral autonomy.
- 4. True or False In social experimentation, just like in laboratory experimentation, the engineer takes informed consent from the public who will use his product.
- 5. True or False The principle of holding paramount the public's health, safety and welfare *always* supersedes the principles of loyalty and collegiality.
- 6. True or False It is unethical for engineers to buy stocks (أسهم) of the company they work for, since that's considered a conflict of interest.

Question 2:

Engineer A, an environmental engineer, is employed by a major industrial owner to examine certain lands adjacent to an abandoned industrial facility. If no problems are found, the land would be used to build residential neighborhoods. The owner's attorney requests that, as a condition of employment, the engineer should sign a secrecy provision, whereby Engineer A would agree not to disclose any data, findings, conclusions or any other information relating to his examination of the owner's land to any other party unless ordered by a court.

- 1- Is there an ethical problem with this secrecy provision?
- 2- Suppose the engineer signs the secrecy provision, what ethical dilemma could arise in the future?

Assessment	
Moral awareness	
Moral reasoning	
Moral coherence	
Moral imagination	
Moral communication	
Total	

Question 3:

يواجه المهندس في مجتمعنا عقبات كثيرة قد تقف في طريق الأداء المهني السليم لمهنة الهندسة، وقد تدفع ببعض المهندسين إلى إهمال أخلاقيات المهنة. أذكر خمسة من أهم هذه العقبات، واقترح أساليب لتفاديها أو التصرف تجاهها.

يمكنك التطرق في إجابتك لبعض المبادئ الأخلاقية المتعلقة بالتالي: سلامة الجمهور، الأمانة، الزمالة، العمل في الدوائر الحكومية وتعارض المصالح، مراقبة العاملين في الشركات الخاصة، المكاتب الاستشارية والتنافس على العقود، الملكية الفكرية، ضمان الجودة.