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Quiz Richard Joyce: The Evolution of Morality, Introduction

○ one correct answer · ▢ one or more correct answers

1. Joyce attempts to investigate the hypothesis that morality is “innate”. According to his understanding of innateness, this means that morality…

- ○ a. is a product of genetic drift that happened around 1,000,000 years ago
- ○ b. invariably develops in the course of human ontogenetic development
- ○ c. cannot possibly be avoided by human beings, i.e., is fixed
- ○ d. has evolved because it was selected for, i.e., has increased the biological fitness of our ancestors
- ○ e. has a distinct genetic basis that codes for it (“genes for morality”)

2. Which of these hypothesis is Joyce interested in?

- ○ a. Morality is innate in the sense that humans make moral judgements by nature.
- ○ b. Morality is innate in the sense that humans are bad by nature.
- ○ c. Morality is innate in the sense that humans are good by nature.

3. Which claims about evolutionary psychology, as Joyce introduces it in his Introduction, are correct?

- ▢ a. If a psychological mechanism is not present in all individuals of a species then it cannot be an adaptation.
- ▢ b. All of the behavior that organisms exhibit is adaptive.
- ▢ c. In contrast to sociobiology, evolutionary psychology explanations refer to behavior, not to the psychological mechanisms that cause behavior.
- ▢ d. In contrast to sociobiology, evolutionary psychology explanations refer to psychological mechanisms that cause behavior, not to the behavior itself.

4. What does it mean for a trait to be “genetically determined”, in the sense in which Joyce uses this term?

- ○ a. the trait has been caused by genetic engineering
- ○ b. the trait is had by all member of a species
- ○ c. the phenotypic manifestation of the trait cannot be prevented
- ○ d. the trait is a product of natural selection, i.e., hereditation, variation and differential reproductive success

5. True or false? If we find that people in Austria morally disagree with people in Japan about the moral permissibility of hunting whales this, according to Joyce, disproves that morality is innate.

- ○ a. True
- ○ b. False