

CHAPTER 5: THE IMPACT OF CULTURE & TIME IN BUSINESS ETHICS (ANSWER KEY)

The University of St. Francis

PHIL 330 – JUST ETHICS, CHAPTER 5

Chapter 5 discusses the concept of business ethics as a reflection of the underlying values of a society, influenced by culture, language, religious traditions, and modes of thinking. It suggests that ethics have existed throughout history and have varied geographically, which raises questions about whether there are universal values that transcend time and place. For instance, the respect seen in business protocols across different cultures might suggest a universal value.

1. Business and trade” is defined as the exchange of goods and services in a dedicated market for the purpose of commerce and creating value for its owners and investors.
 - a. *True*
 - b. False

2. Religion’s role in business is less certain today; we are perhaps more likely to see a universal, secular code of ethics develop than to see religion serve as common ground for different cultures to come together.
 - a. *True*
 - b. False

3. Which of the following terms refers to the process by which humans learn the rules, customs, skills, and values to participate in a society?
 - a. Acculturation
 - b. Enculturation**
 - c. Culture
 - d. Norms & Values

4. Businesses that wish to achieve the dual goal of human flourishing and responsible profits should model which ethical behavior?
 - a. Humanity in Ethics
 - b. Code of Ethics
 - c. Humanistic Business Model**
 - d. Business Values

5. Which intellectual, emotional, and social human trait affects all decision-making, including ethical decisions?
 - a. Self-Awareness
 - b. Values
 - c. Bias**
 - d. Attitude

6. Most business organizations hold three different kinds of beliefs about themselves. Which of the following is NOT a belief that businesses hold?
 - a. The belief that identifies the purpose of business itself.
 - b. The belief that defines the organization's mission, within its purpose.
 - c. The beliefs about themselves, drawn from their customs, language, history, religion and ethics.
 - d. The belief that business is not culturally neutral.**

7. Which of the following definitions BEST describes consumerism?
- A. *The lifestyle characterized by the acquisition of goods and services.*
 - B. The challenges of outsourcing production to lower costs and increase profits.
 - C. The theory that global wealth is static and prosperity comes from wealth through extraction.
 - D. The resistance to a culture or way of life emphasizing consumer goods.
8. Besides culture, what is another major influence in the development of business ethics? Select the BEST answer.
- a. Universal Values
 - b. *The Passage of Time*
 - c. Cultural Norms
 - d. Code of Ethics
9. When corruption takes place, at which basic level is it a matter of conscience?
- a. *Individual*
 - b. Organizational
 - c. Managerial
 - d. Societal
10. If normative business ethics is to recognize and, ultimately, be based on individual ethics rather than company ethical standards, it must address which other human trait?
- a. Individual Standards
 - b. Cultural Behavior
 - c. *Bias*
 - d. Values

| KEY TERMS | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Acculturation | The cultural transmission and socialization process that stems from cultural exchange. |
| Business & Trade | The exchange of goods and services in a dedicated market for the purpose of commerce and creating value for its owners and investors. |
| Consumerism | A lifestyle characterized by the acquisition of goods and services. |
| Enculturation | The process by which humans learn the rules, customs, skills, and values to participate in a society. |
| Globalization | The growth in international exchange of goods, services, and capital, and the increasing levels of integration that characterize economic activity. |
| Humanistic Business Model | A business model for balancing profitability and responsibility fairly, especially with regard to stakeholders. |
| Localization | The process of adapting a product for non-native environments and languages, especially in other nations and cultures. |
| Mercantilism | The economic theory that global wealth is static and prosperity comes from the accumulation of wealth through extraction of resources or trade. |
| Moral Agency | The self-awareness, freedom, and ability to make choices based on one's perception of right and wrong. |
| Universal Values | Ethical principles that apply everywhere despite differences in time, geography, and culture. |