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PHIL 101

Reading Questions: Susan Wolf’s “Happiness and Meaning”

1. What are the three sorts of theories about self-interest. Describe each.
2. What does Wolf say is wrong with preference theories of self-interest?
3. What is Susan Wolf’s “rough” characterization of a meaningful life? (Hint: it’s somewhere in the section called “Meaning in Life”)
4. Susan Wolf says, “Roughly, then, according to my proposal, a meaningful life must satisfy two criteria, suitably linked.” What are the two criteria? What example does she give of a life that lacks the first criterion? What example does she give of a life that lacks the second criterion?