Chapter 32 - Assignment 6: Aristotle's *Eudemian Ethics*, Book 1, Chapters 6—7

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To answer the following questions, read pages 5—6 in Chapter 32.

1. According to Aristotle, knowing how to be virtuous is better than knowing what virtue is. Yet also according to Aristotle, he needed rational arguments to convince people that his theory was true, and his rational arguments themselves would need to be supported. According to Aristotle, what would support his rational arguments for his theory? State both.

2. Consider what Aristotle has to say about *eudaemonia*.

   (i) According to Aristotle, what is *eudaemonia*?

   (ii) According to Aristotle, is *eudaemonia* possible only for human beings? Why or why not? Explain.

   (iii) According to Aristotle, *eudaemonia* is impossible for which kinds of beings?

   (iv) According to Aristotle, *eudaemonia* is the final good for whom? Select all that apply.

   - gods
   - humans
   - horses, birds, and fish

   (v) According to Aristotle, *eudaemonia* is the final good for whom? Select all that apply.

   - gods
   - humans
   - horses, birds, and fish

3. According to Aristotle, is everything good within human reach? Why or why not? Explain.

4. According to Aristotle, what is true about the naturally best things of all?

5. Aristotle noted how “human reach” is ambiguous. On the one hand, it can refer to ends. On the other hand, it can refer to means.

   (i) According to Aristotle, if “wealth is within human reach” refers to a *means* to an end, then what does the statement really mean?

   (ii) According to Aristotle, if “wealth is within human reach” refers to an *end* (rather than a *means* to an end), then what does the statement really mean?

   (iii) According to Aristotle, if “happiness is within human reach” refers to a *means* to an end, then what does the statement really mean?

   (iv) According to Aristotle, if “happiness is within human reach” refers to an *end* (rather than a *means* to an end), then what does the statement really mean?

   (v) According to Aristotle, is happiness within human reach? Why or why not? <u>Explain</u>.