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39	A	B	C	D	E

PRACTICE QUESTIONS

DANTES Eligible Military Service Member (DSST)

SN302

Ethics in Technology

EDITION

Demo

QUESTIONS

9

FORMAT

Limited Edition PDF

Before you begin

What this is

9 practice questions for DANTES Eligible Military Service Member (DSST) SN302 , each with its answer key and an explanation. Answer a question before you read its key — the explanation is worth more once you have committed.

If something looks wrong

Send us three things and we will check it:

- the exam code, SN302
- the question number
- the email address on your order

Write to **support@mometrix.net**. We reply within one business day.

QUESTION 1

SINGLE CHOICE

A software developer discovers that a colleague has altered code so the application secretly collects users' personal data without their knowledge or consent. When evaluating this situation, which ethical framework specifically judges the action by whether it would be acceptable if everyone in society performed it?

- ☐ A Utilitarianism
- ☐ B Cultural relativism
- ☒ C Kant's categorical imperative
- ☐ D Ethical egoism

ANSWER C

WHY Kant's categorical imperative is the deontological principle that an action is morally right only if the maxim behind it could be willed as a universal law applied to everyone. Stealth data collection clearly fails this test, because universalizing it would destroy the principle of informed consent. Utilitarianism judges by overall consequences, cultural relativism by cultural norms, and ethical egoism by self-interest.

QUESTION 2

SINGLE CHOICE

Which term refers to the gap between populations that have ready access to modern information and communications technology and those that do not?

- ☐ A Net neutrality
- ☒ B Digital divide
- ☐ C Moore's gap
- ☐ D Technological singularity

ANSWER B

WHY The 'digital divide' specifically describes the socioeconomic, geographic, and demographic gap between people who have effective access to digital technology and those who do not. Net neutrality concerns equal treatment of internet traffic, Moore's gap is not a recognized concept, and the technological singularity refers to a hypothetical future point of runaway AI growth.

QUESTION 3

SINGLE CHOICE

Under the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), what right do data subjects have regarding their personal information held by a controller?

- ☐ A A right to be compensated financially for every data item collected
- ☒ B A right to the deletion, or 'erasure,' of their personal data under certain conditions
- ☐ C A right to anonymously transfer data to any third party worldwide
- ☐ D A right to demand the controller release its source code

ANSWER B

WHY GDPR Article 17 establishes the 'right to erasure' (also called the 'right to be forgotten'), allowing data subjects to require controllers to delete their personal data under defined conditions, such as when the data is no longer necessary for the purpose it was collected for. Compensation for every collected item and source-code disclosure are not GDPR rights, and the right to data portability (Article 20) is distinct from erasure.

QUESTION 4

SINGLE CHOICE

A help-desk employee receives a phone call from someone claiming to be a senior executive, urgently requesting a password reset and sounding flustered and authoritative. Which category of attack is this an example of?

- ☐ A Brute-force credential cracking
- ☐ B Distributed denial-of-service (DDoS) attack
- ☐ C SQL injection
- ☒ D Social-engineering pretexting

ANSWER D

WHY Pretexting is a social-engineering technique in which an attacker invents a fabricated scenario (here, impersonating a senior executive under time pressure) to manipulate a target into revealing information or performing an action such as a password reset. Brute force, DDoS, and SQL injection are technical attacks that do not rely on impersonating a trusted person through direct human interaction.

QUESTION 5

SINGLE CHOICE

A startup files a patent with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office covering a novel method for compressing streaming video. Which category of intellectual property protection grants this exclusive right?

- ☐ A Copyright
- ☐ B Trademark
- ☒ C Patent
- ☐ D Trade secret

ANSWER C

WHY Patents protect novel, useful, and non-obvious inventions or methods, granting the holder exclusive rights to make, use, and sell the invention for a limited period. Copyright protects original works of authorship such as software source code, trademarks protect brand identifiers, and trade secrets protect confidential business information that is not publicly disclosed. A novel compression method is a classic patentable invention.

QUESTION 6

SINGLE CHOICE

According to most established professional codes of IT conduct (such as those of ACM and IEEE-CS), which of the following is a core ethical principle?

- ☐ A Maximize personal profit from the user's data
- ☒ B Act in the best interests of the public and honor the public trust placed in the profession
- ☐ C Disclose all client information to colleagues regardless of confidentiality
- ☐ D Avoid involvement in any project involving public infrastructure

ANSWER B

WHY Both the ACM Code of Ethics and the IEEE-CS Software Engineering Code of Ethics require professionals to act in the public interest and honor the trust placed in the profession. Exploiting user data, breaching confidentiality, and avoiding public-sector work are not ethical principles—they directly violate duties of honesty, confidentiality, and public responsibility.

QUESTION 7

SINGLE CHOICE

An autonomous vehicle's decision-making software causes a fatal collision. Which concept raises the difficult ethical and legal question of how responsibility should be allocated among the vehicle owner, the manufacturer, the software developer, and other parties?

- ☒ **A** Algorithmic accountability
- ☐ B Open-source licensing
- ☐ C Net neutrality
- ☐ D Quis custodiet ipsos custodes in a software-only context

ANSWER A

WHY Algorithmic accountability addresses how responsibility and liability are determined when an algorithm's outputs cause harm, particularly when multiple parties (users, vendors, developers, data providers) contribute to the system. It focuses on transparency, auditability, and assigning blame or remediation. The other options concern unrelated topics in ethics and technology.

QUESTION 8

SINGLE CHOICE

A retailer collects detailed purchase histories and web-browsing data from millions of customers and shares that information with third-party advertisers without informing customers. Which core principle of data ethics is most directly violated?

- ☐ A Data minimization
- ☒ **B** Informed consent and transparency
- ☐ C Open-source compliance
- ☐ D Green computing

ANSWER B

WHY Sharing personal data with third parties without informing customers violates informed-consent and transparency principles, foundational to data ethics frameworks such as GDPR and the ACM's 'respect for privacy.' Data minimization concerns collecting only what is necessary; open-source compliance and green computing are unrelated ethical domains.

QUESTION 9

MULTIPLE CHOICE

A high-school student repeatedly receives threatening and humiliating messages from anonymous classmates through social media. Which of the following are ethical and effective responses? (Choose two.)

- ☒ **A** Document the messages with screenshots and report them to the platform and to a trusted adult
- ☐ **B** Avoid telling anyone in order to handle the situation independently and not 'make a big deal'
- ☐ **C** Respond with reciprocal insults to defend the student's reputation
- ☒ **D** Report the behavior to school administrators and, if illegal, to law enforcement

ANSWER **A • D**

WHY Ethical, effective responses to cyberbullying include preserving evidence (screenshots) and reporting the conduct through appropriate channels such as the platform, a trusted adult, school administrators, or law enforcement when threats or law-breaking are involved. Silence allows abuse to continue; retaliatory insults often escalate conflict and can expose the victim to additional claims of harassment.