

Philosophy 3334 Summer 2020  
Reading questions #8  
Due Friday, June 12

1) Read chapter 13. All animals, even multicellular ones like us, start out as a single cell at some point in the reproductive life cycle. This is called a “bottlenecked” life cycle. Dawkins gives three reasons why this might be beneficial. What are they?

2) Sexually transmitted infections often do not initially cause symptoms and very rarely cause severe health concerns in the short term. What is the basic explanation for why this is true? (Compare, say, chlamydia or gonorrhea to cholera or pneumonia – all of these are bacterial infections. HINT: Cholera gives you diarrhea and pneumonia makes you cough and sneeze. Why?)

3) After reading the chapters, come up with a question that you want answered or a topic that you would like to be discussed. This could be something that the chapters forced you think about or it could be something that you thought was particularly confusing in the chapters.