

INSTRUCTIONS

Questions to consider in writing your essay:

- What should be done and why?
- What criteria should/could be used to make a decision in a case like this?
- Would it matter if definite contact had been made with a single miner?
- How important is the monetary cost of the rescue efforts in deciding what ought to be done?
- How important is the precarious situation the company is in?

WRITING AN ETHICS ESSAY:

Since you're writing on an ethical question, your essay should concentrate on what *should* be done ethically rather than what is typical, practical, or consistent with a particular set of religious beliefs.

Ethical reasoning focuses on things like *consequences*, *fairness*, and *rights*. Your essay should address topics like the potential personal and societal effects (or consequences) involved, what would be fair, whether or not people's rights are being violated.

Keep in mind that there is no one definitive answer to the question. The success of your essay depends on how effectively you state your reasons for the position you take.

WRITING TIPS:

Start by identifying the most significant points to be addressed.

Read a variety of opinions on the subject to get an idea of the strengths and weaknesses of the various points of view.

Construct your own argument based upon the information you find most central, significant, and compelling.

Test your argument by discussing the question with people who disagree with you.

Revise several times, getting feedback after each new draft.

Utilize credible sources and cite all sources using an appropriate citation format (MLA, APA, or Chicago) in accordance with the university's undergraduate academic integrity policy: [Academic Integrity Policy Undergraduate Studies](#)

MECHANICS

Essays must be typed (double-spaced) using a twelve-point font. The title page should include the author's name and contact information, but the text of the paper should be suitable for blind review. Essays must not exceed 1,500 words (a word count should be included on the title page; references and citations should not be included in the word count).

Essays should be submitted in both hard copy and electronic form on a diskette or CD. The hard copy and the electronic copy should be delivered to the Department of Philosophy and Religion, 126 Hardin Hall. Early submissions are welcome.

The deadline for submissions 4:30 PM, Wednesday February 29, 2012. Winners will be notified at the end of March.