

Philosophy 3334 Summer 2020
Reading questions #6
Due Wed, June 10

1) Read Chapter 10. The social interaction between two birds who have parasites on their heads can be characterized by Evolutionary Game Theory. Dawkins calls the two strategies 'sucker' and 'cheat' (here we imagine they just meet once and play – so 'grudger' is not a possible strategy). Is either strategy altruistic? Why? Which of these strategies, if either, is an ESS? Explain why.

2) Read chapter 12. Explain what the strategy 'tit for tat' is in a repeated or 'iterated' prisoner's dilemma. How is it different from 'grudger' which Dawkins mentions in chapter 10?

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.