

Groundwork Section II

1. The Basic Structure of GMS II

1. Preliminaries (406.5–412.25) ¶ Length

The concept of duty is not an empirical concept	1	<input type="text"/>
Moral value depends on an agent's maxims	2	<input type="text"/>
Moral scepticism is unfounded	3	<input type="text"/>
The moral law originates in pure practical reason	4	<input type="text"/>
Examples/models in morality have dubious value	5	<input type="text"/>
True and spurious popularity in moral philosophy	6	<input type="text"/>
	7	<input type="text"/>
	8	<input type="text"/> Note
The primacy of metaphysics	9	<input type="text"/> Note
	10	<input type="text"/>
	11	<input type="text"/>

2. Rational Agency and Imperatives (412.26–420.17)

The will: act according to a representation of the law	12	<input type="text"/>
Imperative defined	13	<input type="text"/>
Imperfect wills are necessitated by imperatives	14	<input type="text"/> Note
Perfect wills are not so necessitated	15	<input type="text"/>
Hypothetical and categorical imperatives	16	<input type="text"/>
	17	<input type="text"/>
	18	<input type="text"/>
Problematic, assertoric, apodictic imperatives	19	<input type="text"/>
Skill (<i>Geschicklichkeit</i>): problematic imperatives	20	<input type="text"/>
Prudence (<i>Klugheit</i>): assertoric imperatives	21	<input type="text"/> Note
Morality (<i>Sittlichkeit</i>): apodictic imperatives	22	<input type="text"/>
These types necessitate the will in different ways	23	<input type="text"/> Note
How are all these imperatives possible?	24	<input type="text"/>
	25	<input type="text"/>
	26	<input type="text"/>
	27	<input type="text"/>
	28	<input type="text"/> Note

3. The Categorical Imperative (420.18–424.37)

	29	<input type="checkbox"/>
	30	<input type="checkbox"/>
(i) The (general) formula of universal law (FUL)	31	<input type="checkbox"/>
	32	<input type="checkbox"/>
(ii) The law-of-nature formula (FLN)	33	<input type="checkbox"/>
Duties: to oneself and to others, perfect and imperfect	34	<input type="checkbox"/> Note
First example: suicide	35	<input type="checkbox"/>
Second example: false promises	36	<input type="checkbox"/>
Third example: developing one's talents	37	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fourth example: beneficence	38	<input type="checkbox"/>
The canon of moral judging	39	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transgressions of duty	40	<input type="checkbox"/>

4. Towards the Metaphysics of Morals (425.1–427.18)

Summary	41	<input type="checkbox"/>
Warning: morality does not derive from human facts	42	<input type="checkbox"/>
A precarious standpoint	43	<input type="checkbox"/>
Warning: avoid the empirical	44	<input type="checkbox"/> N.
The moral law relates to the rational will as such	45	<input type="checkbox"/>

5. The concept of an end in itself (427.19–430.27)

Ends (<i>Zwecke</i>) as objects of the rational will	46	<input type="checkbox"/>
	47	<input type="checkbox"/>
Humans (and rational beings) are ends in themselves	48	<input type="checkbox"/>
(iii) The formula of humanity as end in itself (FH)	49	<input type="checkbox"/> N.
The four examples reconsidered	50	<input type="checkbox"/>
	51	<input type="checkbox"/> N.
	52	<input type="checkbox"/>
	53	<input type="checkbox"/>

6. Autonomy (430.28–433.11)

From FUL and FH: the idea of self-legislation	54	<input type="checkbox"/>
	55	<input type="checkbox"/>
The universally legislating (<i>gesetzgebend</i>) will	56	<input type="checkbox"/>
Complete detachment from interests	57	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unconditional practical principles	58	<input type="checkbox"/> N.
The principle of the autonomy of the will	59	<input type="checkbox"/>

7. The Realm of Ends (*Reich der Zwecke*) (433.12–436.7)

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- Rational beings are connected through common laws 61
- FH and autonomy 62
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- Autonomy and freedom of the will 64
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- The dignity (*Würde*) of rational beings 66
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10. Transition to GMS III (444.35–445.15)

- But how is the good will possible? 89

2. The Various Formulations of the Moral Law

The First Formula

- FUL *Formula of the Universal Law*. ‘Act only in accordance with that maxim through which you at the same time can will that it become a universal law.’ 421.7–8, see 402.8–9 for the preliminary formula. Further formulations:¹ 426.22, 431.9, 434.10, 436.30, 437.6, 437.36, 438.21, 447.3, 447.10, 449.8, 458.13, 461.27
- Variant:*
- FLN *Formula of the Law of Nature*. ‘Act so as if the maxim of your action were to become by your will a universal law of nature.’ 421.18–20, see also 424.1, 431.9, 431.25, 436.16, 437.17, 462.36

The Second Formula

- FH *Formula of Humanity*. ‘So act that you use humanity, in your own person as well as in the person of any other, always at the same time as an end, never merely as a means.’ 429.10–2, see also 428.9, 433.26, 436.19, 437.28, 438.4

The Third Formula

- FA *Formula of Autonomy*. ‘... the idea of the will of every rational being as a universally legislating will’ 431.16–8, 432.3, 432.12, 432.20, 434.10, 437.36, 438.1, 438.21, 440.18, 444.30, 447.3, 447.10
- Variant:*
- FRE *Formula of the Realm of Ends*. ‘Act according to the maxims of a member universally legislating for a merely possible kingdom/realm of ends.’ 439.1–3, see also 436.24, 438.18

1 For these compilations, see Schönecker, D. and Wood, A. W. (2015). *Immanuel Kant’s Groundwork for the Metaphysics of Morals. A Commentary*. Cambridge MA: Harvard University Press.

