FOURTH PAPER

Write an essay in answer to one of the following questions:

1. How is self related to other according to the object relations theory of Mahler and Winnicott? (For Mahler’s views, utilize Hamilton. Be sure to refer to all three of our readings--one by Hamilton, two by Winnicott--in your essay. Come up with a strong answer to the question and utilize it as your thesis.)

2. Both Sartre and Levinas believe that self results from relation to other--but Sartre sees that fact as negative, even a threat, and Levinas sees it as positive, even a marvel or surplus. Who is right about this? (As a part of your answer, be sure to discuss how self results from relation to other for each of them and explain why Sartre sees that fact as negative and Levinas as positive.)

3. In Totality and Infinity, Levinas connects ethics with a metaphysical, not ontological, relation to the other. Why is that relation ethical for him? (Be sure to explain the metaphysical relation in some detail in your answer.)

4. What does Levinas mean by metaphysical desire and fecundity, and how are these two ideas ethical? (Support your beliefs.)

5. For Levinas, there is a relation to an other that is not knowledge or power. What is that relation? (Describe it in detail and in a number of different ways, not just one.)

6. Whose views are closer to the truth on relations between self and other, Levinas or Sartre? (Give reasons for your beliefs. Explore a number of their views, not just one.)

As usual, be sure to quote the texts to support your claims and, where appropriate, to explain the text you have quoted. Be sure to give reasons for your main claims. Start out with a strong thesis statement that answers the essay question. Think of having three or four main points in support of your thesis, and of developing and supporting each in detail.

LENGTH: three or four pages

DUE DATE: Tuesday, May 3, 2016