

Aristotle's *Categories* and the Doctrine of Characteristic Traits of Being
Handout

1. *Cat.* 5 – substance → **D** 8
Cat. 6 – quantity → **D** 13
Cat. 7 – relatives → **D** 15
Cat. 8 – quality → **D** 14 (8b27-9a13 → **D** 19 state and **D** 20 disposition; 9a28-10a10 → **D** 21 affection)
Cat. 9 – doing and being affected
Cat. 10 – opposed things → **D** 10 1018a20-25 (12a26-b25 → **D** 22 privation)
Cat. 11 – contrariety → **D** 10 1018a25-38
Cat. 12 – priority → **D** 11
Cat. 13 – simultaneity
Cat. 14 – change → **D** 12 (capacity)
Cat. 15 – having → **D** 23

2. *Cat.* 5 – substance : items (2a11-3a6) ; characteristic traits (3a7-4b19)
Cat. 6 – quantity : items (4b20-5b10) ; characteristic traits (5b11-6a35)
Cat. 7 – relatives : items (6a36-b14; 8a13-b21) ; characteristic traits (6b15-8a12)
Cat. 8 – quality : items (8b25-10a29) ; characteristic traits (10a29-11a19)
Cat. 9 – doing and being affected : items (?); characteristic traits (11b1-8)
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[*Cat.* 15 – having : items (15b17-33) ; characteristic traits (?)]

3.

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(11b.) Ἐπιδέχεται δὲ καὶ τὸ ποιεῖν καὶ πάσχειν ἐναντιότητα καὶ τὸ μᾶλλον καὶ τὸ ἥττον· τὸ γὰρ θερμαίνειν τῷ ψύχειν ἐναντίον καὶ τὸ θερμαίνεσθαι τῷ ψύχεσθαι καὶ τὸ ἥδεσθαι τῷ λυπεῖσθαι· ὥστε ἐπιδέχεται ἐναντιότητα. καὶ τὸ μᾶλλον δὲ καὶ τὸ ἥττον· θερμαίνειν γὰρ μᾶλλον καὶ ἥττον ἔστι, καὶ θερμαίνεσθαι μᾶλλον καὶ ἥττον, καὶ λυπεῖσθαι μᾶλλον καὶ ἥττον· ἐπιδέχεται οὖν τὸ μᾶλλον καὶ τὸ ἥττον τὸ ποιεῖν καὶ τὸ πάσχειν.

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[Ἐπὲρ μὲν οὖν τούτων τοσαῦτα λέγεται· εἴρηται δὲ καὶ ὑπὲρ τοῦ κείσθαι (10) ἐν τοῖς πρὸς τι, ὅτι παρωνύμως ἀπὸ τῶν θέσεων λέγεται. ὑπὲρ δὲ τῶν λοιπῶν, τοῦ τε ποτὲ καὶ τοῦ ποῦ καὶ τοῦ ἔχειν, διὰ τὸ προφανῆ εἶναι οὐδὲν ὑπὲρ αὐτῶν ἄλλο λέγεται ἢ ὅσα ἐν ἀρχῇ ἐρρήθη, ὅτι τὸ ἔχειν μὲν σημαίνει τὸ ὑποδεδέσθαι, τὸ ὀπλίσθαι, τὸ δὲ ποῦ οἶον ἐν Λυκείῳ, καὶ τὰ ἄλλα δὲ ὅσα ὑπὲρ αὐτῶν ἐρρήθη. —ὑπὲρ μὲν οὖν τῶν προτεθέντων γενῶν ἰκανὰ τὰ εἴρη- (15) μένα· περὶ δὲ τῶν ἀντικειμένων, ποσαχῶς εἶωθε ἀντιτίθεσθαι, ῥητέον.]

4. (a) substance:
 (i) is not in a subject (3a7-32)
 (ii) things called from them are called synonymously after them (3a33-b8)
 (iii) is a “this” (3b10-23)
 (iv) has no contrary (3b24-27)
 (v) do not admit degrees (3b33-4a9)
- (b) quantity:
 (i) has no contrary (5b11-6a18; 3b28-32) [?]
 (ii) do not admit degrees (6a19-25)
- (c) relatives:
 (i) have contraries (6b15-19) [*]
 (ii) admit degrees (6b19-27) [*]
- (d) quality:
 (i) things having them are called paronymously after them (10a27-b11)
 (ii) has contraries (10b12—25) [*]
 (iii) admits degrees (10b26-11a14) [*]
- (e) doing and being affected:
 (i) have contraries (11b1-4)
 (ii) admit degrees (11b4-8)
5. (a) substance: to be able to receive contraries while remaining numerically one and the same (4a10-b19)
 (b) quantity: to be equal or unequal (6a26-35)
 (c) relatives: to reciprocate (6b28-7b14)
 (d) quality: to be similar and dissimilar (11a15-19)
 (e) doing and being affected: <lacuna?>
 (f) having: <lacuna?>
6. (a) part (i): list of cases (meanings and items corresponding to them);
 (b) part (iia): characteristic traits collectively taken;
 (c) part (iib): the **i[dion]** trait;
 (d) alleged failure of the **i[dion]**-trait to distinguish one category from the others;
 (e) alleged conflation of items belonging to different categories.