Aesthetics (PHL 340)  
Spring semester 2007  
Dialogue questions # 6  
Due: Friday, March 30, 2007

Name _______________________________

1. Hegel opens with some very ambiguous statements about the “ideal of art.” What is your interpretation of what this ideal is? Check Hegel’s comments on portraits and Raphael’s madonnas for perhaps the clearest statement on this (77).

2. Beginning on page 82, Hegel presents three stages (or are they types?) of art. The first stage is the symbolic. What does he mean by this and what historical age best represents this stage?

3. The second stage is the classical. What does he mean by this and what historical age best represents this stage?

4. The third stage is the romantic. What does he mean by this and what historical age best represents this stage?

5. Comment on these closing sentences of the selection in Wartenberg. “Art itself is the most beautiful side of that history [world-history] and it is the best compensation for hard work in the world and the better labour for knowledge. For this reason my treatment of the subject could not consist in a mere criticism of works of art or an instruction for producing them. My one aim has been to seize in thought and to prove the fundamental nature of the beautiful and art, and to follow it through all the stages it has gone through in the course of its realization. . . .”