MATRICULATION AND SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS BOARD

UNIVERSITY OF MALTA, MSIDA

MATRICULATION EXAMINATION
ADVANCED LEVEL
SEPTEMBER 2013

SUBJECT:	PHILOSOPHY
PAPER NUMBER:	I
DATE:	3rd September 2013
TIME:	9.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon

Directions to Candidates

Answer **THREE** questions in all, **ONE** from **EACH** section. Questions carry equal marks.

Section A: Logic

1. (a) Describe, in **not more than ten lines**, a situation in which one may assert a proposition $\neg(\neg a \wedge \neg b)$, where a and b are elementary propositions, even though one is not able to choose one of a and b and assert it.

(b) Express the following propositions using only elementary propositions, $\neg$, $\wedge$ and $\vee$, and brackets. *('Numbers' here means the natural numbers 1,2,3,...)*
(i) All numbers from 1 to 3 are even.
(ii) No number from 1 to 3 is even.
(iii) It is not the case that every number from 1 to 3 is even.
(iv) At least one number from 1 to 3 is even.

(c) (i) Write down two propositions A and B constructed out of the elementary propositions a, b, and c and the logical particles $\neg$ and $\wedge$ and such that the first A is true precisely when a and b are true and c is false, and the second B is true precisely when b and c are true and a is false (see truth-tables underneath).

(ii) Write down a proposition C constructed out of the elementary propositions a, b and c, the logical particles $\neg$, $\wedge$ and $\vee$, and brackets, and whose truth-table is as underneath:

a	b	c	A	B	C
T	T	T	F	F	F
T	T	F	T	F	T
T	F	T	F	F	F
T	F	F	F	F	F
F	T	T	F	T	T
F	T	F	F	F	F
F	F	T	F	F	F
F	F	F	F	F	F

(d) X and Y are formulae containing precisely a and b as primary formulae, such that X and X∧Y have the following truth-tables:

a	b	X	X∧Y
T	T	T	T
T	F	T	F
F	T	F	F
F	F	T	F

Y has then one of two truth-tables. Write down these two truth-tables.

(e) (i) What is meant by an **interpretation** of a formula?
(ii) What is meant by a **model** of a formula?

(f) The following proposition is known to be true:
'If Mark entered the stadium, he had a complementary ticket or paid at the gate.'

(i) Translate the proposition symbolically.
(ii) Write down **in words** a proposition which may be concluded from the original proposition by using **Contraposition**.
(iii) Write down **in words** a proposition which may be concluded from the original proposition by using **Transportation**.

(g) (i) Work out by means of truth-tables whether the implication $a\wedge(b\vee c) < (a\wedge b) \vee (a\wedge c)$ is valid.
(ii) Dualise the implication above.
(iii) State the Duality Principle.
(iv) Use the Duality Principle to find out whether the answer to (g) (ii) is valid.

2. (a) Explain in **not more than ten lines** and with the help of an example what is meant by *virtual bi-location.*

(b) Express the following propositions using only elementary propositions, the junctors $\neg$, $\wedge$ and $\vee$, and brackets. (*'Numbers' here means the natural numbers 1, 2, 3 ...).*

(i) At least one number from 1 to 4 is fractive.
(ii) One and only one number from 1 to 4 is fractive.
(iii) Every number from 1 to 4 is fractive.
(iv) It is not the case that each number from 1 to 4 is fractive.
(v) No number from 1 to 4 is fractive.

(c) The following proposition is known to be true:
'If it is Wednesday, then we have a Maths lesson or a Philosophy lesson.'

(i) Translate this proposition **symbolically.**
(ii) **Contraposition** states that the implication $A \rightarrow (B \vee C) < \neg B \rightarrow (\neg A \vee C)$ is valid.

Write down **in words** a proposition which may be concluded from the original proposition by using **Contraposition**.

(iii) Write down **in words** a proposition which may be concluded from the original proposition by using **Transportation**.

(d) Find out whether:
(i) $\rightarrow$ is associative
(ii) $\rightarrow$ is commutative

(e) (i) Without using truth-tables, show that $\neg(\neg a \wedge b) \wedge \neg a < \neg b$ is valid.
(ii) State the Duality Principle.
(iii) Dualise the implication above.
(iv) Without using truth-tables, show that the answer to (iii) is valid.

(f) X and Y are formulae (containing precisely a and b as primary formulae) such that X and $X \rightarrow Y$ have the following truth-tables:

a	b	X	$X \rightarrow Y$
T	T	T	F
T	F	F	T
F	T	F	T
F	F	T	T

Y has one of four truth-tables. Write down these truth-tables.

(g) Fill in the banks:
(i) For $\neg a$ to be True, the truth-value of a must be _____.
(ii) For $a \rightarrow b$ to be False, the truth-value of a must be _____ and that of b _____.
(iii) Thus, it cannot be the case that $\neg a$ is True and $a \rightarrow b$ is False, because_____.
(iv) That is, there can be no counter-interpretation to the implication _____ < _____, which is therefore valid.

Please turn the page.

Section B: Philosophy of Language

3. What is the philosophy of language? Answer with reference to *two* main areas of the subject.

4. Discuss David Cooper's views on the relation between knowledge, meaning and the world. Show how scepticism, mentalism and community arise out of this relation and explain the main characteristics of each.

Section C: History of Philosophy

5. Outline briefly Descartes' arguments to explain the nature of the mind-body relationship.

   Fisser fil-qosor l-argumenti li juża Descartes biex jispjega n-natura tar-relazzjoni bejn ir-ruħ u l-ġisem.

6. Discuss Spinoza's views on (i) substance and (ii) the relation between mind and body (or thought and matter).

   Iddiskuti l-ħsieb ta' Spinoza fuq (i) is-sustanza u (ii) ir-relazzjoni bejn ir-ruħ u l-ġisem (jew il-ħsieb u l-materja).

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MATRICULATION EXAMINATION
ADVANCED LEVEL
SEPTEMBER 2013

SUBJECT:	PHILOSOPHY
PAPER NUMBER:	II
DATE:	4th September 2013
TIME:	9.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon

Directions to Candidates

Answer **THREE** questions in all, **ONE** from **EACH** section. Questions carry equal marks.

Section A - Ethics

1. Briefly discuss John Finnis's views on 'Kantian Principles' in *Fundamentals of Ethics*.

2. Outline Gordon Graham's discussion of Contractualism.

Section B - Selected Texts I (Classical and Modern)

3. How does Socrates argue for the inferiority of the written to the spoken word in the *Phaedrus*?

4. Outline the major points raised by Aristotle in his *Nicomachean Ethics* with regard to moral responsibility.

5. J.S. Mill states: "...the only unfailing and permanent source of improvement is liberty, since by it there are as many possible independent centres of improvement as there are individuals." Outline the arguments put forward by Mill in the discussion of individuality as one of the elements of well-being.

Section C - Selected Texts II (Contemporary Texts)

6. Discuss Gilbert Ryle's critique of Descartes' philosophy.

7. Highlight the main arguments of J.L. Austin's theory of speech acts.

8. Give a brief account of the main problems of modernity and their suggested remedy as described by Charles Taylor in *The Ethics of Authenticity*.

9. Outline the main arguments in Gadamer's essay on the relation between philosophy and poetry.