

MATRICULATION AND SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS BOARD

ADVANCED MATRICULATION LEVEL 2018 FIRST SESSION

SUBJECT: Philosophy

PAPER NUMBER:

DATE: 15th May 2018

TIME: 4:00 p.m. to 7:05 p.m.

This examination paper has two Sections. Answer **BOTH** Section A and Section B. Section A carries 30 marks and Section B carries 70 marks. Follow the instructions given in each Section.

SECTION A: LOGIC AND REASONING

Answer any THREE questions from Section A. Each question carries 10 marks.

- 1. (a) Explain what is meant by i) Virtual Bi-Location and ii) Virtual Bi-Temporation. (4)
 - (b) Identify the logical fallacy in the following passage and explain briefly the error in reasoning involved in the passage.

'All children should have a lot of attention from their parents. Parents who work full-time cannot give a lot of attention to their children. Therefore mothers should not work full-time.'

(c) Write down the logical structure of the fallacy. (2)

(Total: 10 marks)

(4)

- 2. (a) With the help of an example, explain briefly what the adjunctor (a v b) is, and state the conditions under which it is false. (2)
 - (b) i. What conclusion (in symbols) can be derived when applying the symmetry of the subjunctor to the following:

If John is out with his friends then he is not at home. (1)

- ii. Work out whether the implication derived in (i) is valid and therefore whether the subjunctor is symmetrical. Give reasons for your answer. (3)
- (c) Using truth-tables and giving reasons for your answer, work out whether:
 - i. \rightarrow and V are mutually distributive
 - ii. Λ is associative (4)

(Total: 10 marks)

- 3. (a) Explain what is meant by (i) an implication and (ii) an equivalence. State the conditions under which these are valid or invalid. (4)
 - (b) Work out whether the Partial Replacement Rule (substituting part of the formula by an equivalent one and resulting in a formula which is equivalent to the original one) is applicable to the following equivalence. Give reasons for your answer.

$$\neg(A \land \neg B) > < \neg(\neg \neg A \land \neg B) \tag{4}$$

(c) State whether the implication relation is reflexive. (2)

(Total: 10 marks)

- 4. (a) Explain what is meant by a valid and sound deductive argument. Give **ONE** example of such an argument. (4)
 - (b) Translate the following:

(c) By following the translation in (b), write the following into words:

$$\begin{array}{lll} i) & \neg a \leftrightarrow (b \land c) & (1) \\ ii) & \neg (\neg a \land \neg b \land \neg c) & (1) \\ iii) & a \sqcup (b \land c) & (1) \\ iv) & \neg a \rightarrow (b \lor c) & (1) \\ v) & b \leftrightarrow (\neg a \land c) & (1) \\ \end{array}$$

SECTION B: ETHICS AND SOCIETY

Answer Question 5 and any other question from this Section. Each question carries 35 marks.

- 5. "One has privacy if and only if one has control over information about oneself." Give a philosophical account on whether you agree or not with this statement by making reference to the theory of privacy and personal information in Cyberspace.
- 6. Outline the Sophists' notion of Truth by making reference to both Protagoras and Gorgias.
- 7. Elaborate on the moral issues brought about by Utilitarianism's greatest happiness principle and explain the difference between Act and Rule Utilitarianism.
- 8. Discuss the moral and ethical implications that the reproductive technology IVF-ET gives rise to.

(Total: 70 marks)



MATRICULATION AND SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS BOARD

ADVANCED MATRICULATION LEVEL 2018 FIRST SESSION

SUBJECT: Philosophy

PAPER NUMBER: I

DATE: 17th May 2018

TIME: 9:00 a.m. to 12:05 p.m.

The examination has two Sections. Answer both Section A and Section B. Section A carries 30 marks and Section B carries 70 marks. Follow the instructions given in each Section.

SECTION A: KEY QUESTIONS IN EUROPEAN THOUGHT

Compulsory Question

Answer Question 1. The question carries 30 marks.

1. "Man is born free, and everywhere he is in chains. Here's one who thinks he is the master of others, yet he is more enslaved than they are. How did this change come about? I don't know. What can make it legitimate? [...] The social order isn't to be understood in terms of force; it is a sacred right on which all other rights are based. But it doesn't come from nature, so it must be based on agreements. [...]

The reasoning of Caligula agrees with that of Hobbes and Grotius. Aristotle, before any of them, had said that men are not naturally equal because some are born for slavery and others for command. Aristotle was right; but he mistook the effect for the cause. Every man born in slavery is born for slavery — nothing is more certain than that. Slaves lose everything in their chains, even the desire to escape from them: they love their servitude [...]. So if there are slaves by nature, that's because there have been slaves against nature. Force made the first slaves, and their cowardice kept them as slaves.

Then let us agree that force doesn't create right, and that legitimate powers are the only ones we are obliged to obey. Which brings us back to my original question.

Since no man has a natural authority over his fellow, and force creates no right, we are left with agreements as the basis for all legitimate authority among men."

(From: J.J. Rousseau, The Social Contract, bk I, ch. 1-4)

- a. Identify a phrase in the passage above that captures the idea of a social contract. (3)
- b. Briefly explain what Rousseau is referring to when he writes that man is everywhere "in chains". (6)
- c. Illustrate Rousseau's idea of man in the state of nature. (8)
- d. Rousseau links the social contract to the 'general will'. What does this mean? (7)
- e. Compare Rousseau's idea of the social contract with that of either Hobbes or Locke. (6)

SECTION B

Choose any TWO questions. Each question carries 35 marks.

- 2. Give a detailed overview of Aristotle's metaphysics with reference to the concepts of 'being', 'becoming', 'potentiality' and 'actuality'.
- 3. What are speech-acts? Discuss with reference to the philosophy of J.L. Austin and John Searle.
- 4. Write an essay on the importance of language and dialogue for the functioning of democracy.
- 5. "Rationalism and empiricism are the two main theories of knowledge in modern philosophy." Discuss.
- 6. Discuss Albert Camus' views on the meaning of human existence in *The Myth of Sisyphus*.