

MATRICULATION AND SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS BOARD

ADVANCED MATRICULATION LEVEL 2020 FIRST SESSION

SUBJECT: Philosophy

PAPER NUMBER:

DATE: 18th September 2020 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 the difference between the error in reasoning of the logical fallacies:
 - (i) Appeal to Inappropriate Authority and (ii) Irrelevant Conclusion.
 - b) Give an example of each of the fallacies mentioned in (a). (2)
 - c) Give the logical structure of the fallacy 'Begging the Question' and explain the error in reasoning.(4)

(Total: 10 marks)

(4)

- 2. a) With the help of an example, explain the difference between an inductive and a deductive argument. (4)
 - b) Given that:

a stands for "Holly has enough money"

b stands for "Holly goes to Brasil"

c stands for "Holly goes to Rome"

Translate the following into words:

i.
$$\neg a \rightarrow (\neg b \land c)$$

ii.
$$\neg(\neg a \rightarrow c)$$

iii.
$$(b \land \neg c) \leftrightarrow a$$

iv.
$$a \rightarrow (b \sqcup c)$$
 (4)

c) Work out whether the following implication is valid. Give reasons for your answer.

$$(a \sqcup b) \leftrightarrow \neg c < \neg ((a \lor b) \lor \neg c)$$

(Total: 10 marks)

(2)

With the help of ONE example, explain briefly what the negator (\neg) is.	(2)
Translate the following propositions and, by working out their truth-tables, find out wh they are logically equivalent: "If Mary is not well, then she is not at work and she is at home." "If Mary is well, then she is at work and she is not at home."	ether (5)
 i. Reflexive, meaning A < ii. Transitive, meaning A < B,, B > < C ⇔ iii. Symmetric, meaning A < B ⇔ 	(3) r ks)
Explain with the help of ONE example what an equivalence is and state the conditions which it is valid or invalid.	nder (2)
) Work out whether the disjunctor ($\mbox{$\sqcup$}$) is associative. Give reasons for your answer.	(2)
A truth-table gives only one False in the following cases: i. A B, where it is False when A is and B is	_ (6)
	"If Mary is not well, then she is not at work and she is at home." "If Mary is well, then she is at work and she is not at home." State whether the implication relation is valid or admissible in the following cases: i. Reflexive, meaning A < ii. Transitive, meaning A < B,, B >< C \(\Display \) iii. Symmetric, meaning A < B \(\Display \) (Total: 10 ma) Explain with the help of ONE example what an equivalence is and state the conditions u which it is valid or invalid. Work out whether the disjunctor (\(\Display\)) is associative. Give reasons for your answer. Fill-in: A truth-table gives only one False in the following cases: i. A B, where it is False when A is and B is ii. A B, where it is False when A is and B is

SECTION B: ETHICS AND SOCIETY

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

- 5. Discuss the contrasting views of Socrates and Protagoras.
- 6. Discuss Epicurus' philosophy with regards to his views on death and superstition, and his pleasure-seeking principle.
- 7. With reference to Jean-Paul Sartre's Existentialist philosophy, explain what he means by avoiding bad faith and acting in good faith.
- 8. Explain in detail the different forms of euthanasia and discuss the major moral and ethical implications that these bring about.



MATRICULATION AND SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS BOARD

ADVANCED MATRICULATION LEVEL 2020 FIRST SESSION

SUBJECT: Philosophy

PAPER NUMBER: I

DATE: 23rd September 2020 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. "It is an established opinion amongst some men, that there are in the understanding certain innate principles; some primary notions, [...] stamped upon the mind of man, which the soul receives in its very first being; and brings into the world with it. It would be sufficient to convince unprejudiced readers of the falseness of this supposition, if I should only shew [...] how men, barely by the use of their natural faculties, may attain to all the knowledge they have, without the help of any innate impressions; and may arrive at certainty, without any such original notions or principles. [...]

Let us then suppose the mind to be, as we say, white paper, void of all characters, without any ideas: how comes it to be furnished? [...] Whence has it all the materials of reason and knowledge? To this I answer, in one word, from experience; in all that our knowledge is founded, and from that it ultimately derives itself. [...]

First, our senses, conversant about particular sensible objects, do convey into the mind several distinct perceptions of things [...]. This great source of most of the ideas we have, depending wholly upon our senses, and derived by them to the understanding, I call sensation.

Secondly, the other fountain, from which experience furnisheth the understanding with ideas, is the perception of the operations of our own mind within us, as it is employed about the ideas it has got; [...] But as I call the other sensation, so I call this reflection."

(From: John Locke, Essay Concerning Human Understanding)

- a) What is the theory of knowledge described by Locke in this passage known as?
 b) Outline the general principles of this theory of knowledge.
 c) Which phrase in this passage captures the meaning of the mind as a 'tabula rasa'?
 (2)
- d) Contrast Locke's views on innate ideas with Descartes'. (6)
- e) Explain the difference between sensation and reflection in Locke's epistemology. (6)
- f) What is the difference between 'simple ideas' and 'complex ideas' for Locke? (6)

(Total: 30 marks)

SECTION B

Choose any TWO questions. Each question carries 35 marks.

- 2. Explain Aristotle's metaphysics with reference to the concepts of 'being', 'becoming', 'potentiality' and 'actuality'.
- 3. Discuss the Stoics' views on nature, virtue and evil.
- 4. "Man is born free, and everywhere he is in chains." What did Rousseau mean by this phrase in his account of human innocence and the social contract?
- 5. Discuss Albert Camus' ideas on the 'Absurd Hero' in *The Myth of Sisyphus*.
- 6. In what way is language an action? Discuss in relation to the ideas of **TWO** speech act theorists.