L-Università ta' Malta

SUBJECT:	**Philosophy**
PAPER NUMBER:	I
DATE:	27th April 2023
TIME:	9:00 a.m. to 12:05 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) What makes an argument deductive? Give an example. (4)

   b) Identify the following fallacy and explain the error in reasoning:

   "There is no such thing as knowledge which cannot be carried into practice, for such knowledge is really no knowledge at all." (3)

   c) What does it mean to say that an argument appeals to force? Give an example to support your answer. (3)

   (Total: 10 marks)

2. a) Translate the following symbolically. Identify **each** variable clearly:
      i. There is a mountain and a valley. (1)
      ii. There is either a mountain or a valley. (1)
      iii. If there is a mountain then there is a valley. (1)
      iv. If there is no valley then there is no mountain. (1)
      v. It is not the case that there is neither a mountain nor a valley. (1)

   b) When would an argument be called sound? (2)

   c) Translate the following and check whether the implication involved is valid using truth-tables:

   "If the dream is true, then the hidden door is above us. The hidden door is not above us, therefore the dream is not true." (3)

   (Total: 10 marks)

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3. a) Check whether the following implications are valid. Give a reason for your answer.
    i. $\neg (a \wedge b) < \neg a \rightarrow b$ (2)
    ii. $\neg a < \neg a \vee \neg b$ (2)

  b) i.   What is an equivalence and when is one valid?   (2)
    ii. Examine whether the following equivalence is valid: $a \wedge \neg b >< \neg (a \rightarrow b)$ (2)

  c) Fill in the blanks:
    i. $><$ is transitive: _____ is admissible.   (1)
    ii. Modus Ponens: _____ is valid.   (1)

(Total: 10 marks)

4. a) What is a logically true proposition?   (3)

  b) i.   Translate symbolically: (1)

       "If I have the key, I will return. I have the key."

    ii. What conclusion, in symbols and in words, can be derived from the translation above when using modus ponens?   (2)

  c) Prove that the subjunctor is transitive.   (4)

(Total: 10 marks)

SECTION B: ETHICS AND SOCIETY

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

5.   Critically examine Sartre's concept of bad faith, and discuss his alternative to it.

6.   According to Epicurus, how is happiness attained? In your discussion include his views on death and superstition.

7.   Discuss Socrates' moral optimism in light of his views on knowledge and right actions.

8.   Evaluate the different forms of euthanasia, and discuss their ethical implications.

(Total: 70 marks)

SUBJECT:	**Philosophy**
PAPER NUMBER:	II
DATE:	28th April 2023
TIME:	4:00 p.m. to 7:05 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.   Pangloss was professor of metaphysico-theologico-cosmolo-nigology. He proved admirably that there is no effect without a cause, and that, in this best of all possible worlds, the Baron's castle was the most magnificent of castles, and his lady the best of all possible Baronesses.

"It is demonstrable," said he, "that things cannot be otherwise than they are; for all being created for an end, all is necessarily for the best end.

One day Cunegonde, while walking near the castle, in a little wood which they called a park, saw between the bushes, Dr. Pangloss giving a lesson in experimental natural philosophy to her mother's chamber-maid .... As Miss Cunegonde had a great disposition for the sciences, she breathlessly observed the repeated experiments of which she was a witness; she clearly perceived the force of the Doctor's reasons, the effects, and the causes; she turned back greatly flurried, quite pensive, and filled with the desire to be learned; dreaming that she might well be a *sufficient reason* for young Candide, and he for her.

(From: Voltaire, Candide, Chapter 1)

a.   Who is the philosopher represented by the character of Pangloss in *Candide*?   (2)

b.   Explain Voltaire's critique of this philosopher (1a) in *Candide*.   (9)

c.   Contextualise the expression, we live in "the best of all possible worlds", in light of the debate on the problem of evil.   (9)

d.   How did ancient and medieval philosophers account for the existence of evil? Discuss this question in relation to **TWO** philosophers of your choice.   (10)

(Total: 30 marks)

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SECTION B

Choose any TWO questions. Each question carries 35 marks.

2. How does Plato's allegory of the cave explain his views on reality and knowledge?

3. Discuss Descartes' epistemological project within the context of the scientific revolution.

4. What is 'the state of nature'? Discuss how Hobbes and Locke make use of this idea in their thinking about society and the social contract.

5. Could a machine think? Critically discuss this question in relation to the Turing test and the Chinese Room Argument.

6. What is the relation between language and action? Discuss in relation to speech act theory.

(Total: 70 marks)