

MATRICULATION AND SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS BOARD
UNIVERSITY OF MALTA, MSIDA
MATRICULATION EXAMINATION
INTERMEDIATE LEVEL
MAY 2014

SUBJECT:	PHILOSOPHY
DATE:	27 th May 2014
TIME:	4.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.

Directions to Candidates

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

Section A: Logic

1. (a) (i) What is meant by saying that the implication $A \rightarrow B$ is valid?
(ii) What is meant by saying that the equivalence $A \leftrightarrow B$ is valid?

- (b) (i) How many interpretations of the following formula are models of it: $\neg(B \wedge \neg B)$?
(ii) What is the name given to this kind of formula?

- (c) Express the following propositions symbolically:
 - (i) If Theresa went roller-skating, then she had booked.
 - (ii) Theresa went roller-skating only if she had booked.
 - (iii) Theresa did not go roller-skating unless she had booked.
 - (iv) Theresa neither went karting nor roller-skating.

- (d) Translate symbolically the following argument and, by using truth-tables, check whether the implication involved is valid. Give a reason for your answer.
If it is spring time then the tulips are in bloom.
The tulips are not in bloom. Therefore it is not spring time.

- (e) (i) Write down the truth-table of the formula “Either A or B”.
(ii) A formula which is implied by “Either A or B” has one of four truth-tables.
Write down these four truth-tables.

- (f) Fill in the blanks:
 - (i) $\neg(A \wedge B) \leftrightarrow$ _____ is valid (de Morgan’s)
 - (ii) $\neg(A \wedge B) \leftrightarrow \neg A \vee \neg B \Leftrightarrow$ _____ is admissible (duality principle)
 - (iii) $A \rightarrow (B \vee C) \leftrightarrow$ _____ is valid (contraposition)
 - (iv) $A \rightarrow (B \vee C) \Leftrightarrow$ _____ is admissible (transportation)

Please turn the page.

2. (a) By means of an example explain in **not more than 10 lines** how it is possible for one to assert $\neg(a \wedge b)$ without being able to assert one of $\neg a$ and $\neg b$.
- (b) How would you introduce the conjunctive (\wedge) ?
- (c) Translate symbolically the following argument and, using truth-tables, check whether the implication involved is valid. Give a reason for your answer.
If Christina is hungry then she cooks a meal or buys a take-away. Therefore if Christina is hungry and does not buy a take-away then she cooks a meal.
- (d) Which, if any, of the following implications are valid?
 (i) $A \rightarrow B, A < B$
 (ii) $A \rightarrow B, B < A$
 (iii) $A \rightarrow B, \neg A < \neg B$
 (iv) $A \rightarrow B, \neg B < \neg A$
- (e) What conclusion, in words, can be derived when the transitivity of *if...then* (\rightarrow) is applied to the following two premises:
If there is no electricity then the fridge does not work. If the fridge does not work, the food goes bad.
- (f) (i) Fill in the blanks:
 $A \wedge (B \wedge C) \gg \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$ (\wedge is associative)
 $A \wedge (B \wedge C) \gg \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$ (\wedge is self distributive)
 (ii) Use one of the above equivalences to simplify, in words, the proposition:
Karl and Mark are playing cards and Karl and Andrew are playing cards.

Section B: Ethics

3. 'Treat the Earth well. We do not inherit the Earth from our ancestors; we borrow it from our children.' Discuss.
4. Can war ever be justified? Give reasons for your answer.

Section C: History of Philosophy

5. How does Aristotle analyse the phenomenon of change?
Aristotle kif janalizza l-fenomeni tal-bidla?
6. A key component of the philosophy of Plotinus is his theory of emanation. Explain this theory.
Komponent fundamentali fil-filosofija ta' Plotinu hi t-teorija tal-emanazzjoni. Fisser din it-teorija.