

**MATRICULATION AND SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS BOARD**  
**UNIVERSITY OF MALTA, MSIDA**  
**MATRICULATION EXAMINATION**  
**INTERMEDIATE LEVEL**  
**MAY 2017**

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<b>SUBJECT:</b>	PHILOSOPHY
<b>DATE:</b>	18 <sup>th</sup> May 2017
<b>TIME:</b>	9:00 a.m. to 12:05 p.m.

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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 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 a deductive argument ‘sound’? (2)
- (b) Examine each of the following arguments and state whether it is an inductive or a deductive argument:
- i. Justice is what the strong desire. What the strong desire is what is good for the strong. Justice is what is good for the strong. (2)
- ii. The members of the Smith family are John, Lisa and Alexander. John wears glasses. Lisa wears glasses. Alexander wears glasses. Therefore, all members of the Smith family wear glasses. (2)
- iii. My Italian neighbours all work in a restaurant. All Italians who come to Malta work in restaurants. (2)
- (c) Explain why an inductive argument having a true premise cannot guarantee the truth of the conclusion. (2)
- (Total: 10 marks)**
2. (a) What is the definition of a ‘fallacy’ in logic? (2)
- (b) Identify the fallacy in the following passage and explain briefly the error in reasoning involved in this passage:  
 Peter: “Based on the arguments I have presented, it is evident that it is morally wrong to use animals for food or clothing.”  
 Bill: “But you are wearing a leather jacket and you have a roast beef sandwich in your hand! How can you say that using animals for food and clothing is wrong!” (4)
- (c) i. Explain the *ad populum* (appeal to emotion) fallacy. (2)  
 ii. Give an example of this fallacy. (2)
- (Total: 10 marks)**

3. (a) Translate symbolically the following propositions:
- i. Philip and Paul are abroad on holiday. (1)
  - ii. Either Philip or Paul is abroad on holiday. (1)
  - iii. If Philip is abroad on holiday, then Paul is in Malta. (1)
  - iv. If Philip and Paul are both abroad on holiday, then the shop is not open. (1)
- (b) By means of truth-tables, check whether the following implications are valid. Give a reason for your answer:
- i.  $\neg a \sqcup (\neg b \wedge c) < a \vee c$  (3)
  - ii.  $a \rightarrow b \,, b \rightarrow c < a \rightarrow c$  (3)

**(Total: 10 marks)**

4. (a) By means of truth-tables, check whether the following equivalences are valid. Give a reason for your answer.
- i.  $(a \wedge b) \rightarrow c >< \neg c \rightarrow \neg (a \wedge b)$  (3)
  - ii.  $(\neg a \vee b) \wedge (a \vee \neg b) >< (a \wedge b) \vee \neg (a \vee b)$  (3)
- (b) i. Complete the truth-tables of the following **valid** implications: (2)

$\neg A \rightarrow B \,, \neg A < B$

A	B	$\neg A \rightarrow B \,,$	$\neg A <$	B
T	T	T	F	T
T	F	T	F	F
F	T		T	T
F	F	F	T	F

$A \rightarrow \neg B \,, B < \neg A$

A	B	$A \rightarrow \neg B \,,$	B <	$\neg A$
T	T		T	F
T	F	T	F	F
F	T	T	T	T
F	F	T	F	T

- ii. State whether the above implications are a modus tollens implication and/or a modus ponens implication. (2)

**(Total: 10 marks)**

**SECTION B: ETHICS AND SOCIETY**

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

5. “All so-called moral interest consists simply in respect for the law.” Explain and discuss the concept of duty as a moral criterion in Kant’s philosophy of ethics.
6. With reference to Utilitarianism, show how ethical issues which the internet and cyberspace give rise to can be dealt with. Include one example in your answer.
7. Socrates holds that knowledge of the Truth is a prerequisite to right action. Discuss.
8. What are the qualities and characteristics of Nietzsche’s ideal human, which he defines as the *Übermensch* (Overman)?