L-Università ta' Malta

MATRICULATION AND SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE
EXAMINATIONS BOARD

**INTERMEDIATE MATRICULATION LEVEL
2021 FIRST SESSION**

SUBJECT:	**Philosophy**
DATE:	18th June 2021
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 instructions given in each Section.

SECTION A: LOGIC AND REASONING

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

1. a) Define the term "fallacy" in the language of logic. (2)

   b) Explain the difference between the error in reasoning of the logical fallacies "Irrelevant Conclusion" and "Argument from Ignorance". (4)

   c) Give the logical structures of each of the logical fallacies mentioned in 1(b). (4)

   (Total: 10 marks)

2. a) Explain what a truth-table is in the language of logic. (2)

   b) With reference to the following statement:
   "Claire will either go to the party with Thomas or she will go with her sister Mary. Therefore, if Claire goes to the party with Thomas, then Mary will remain at home or she will go out with her friend."

   i. Identify a subjunctor by writing the complex proposition it is forming. (2)
   ii. Identify an disjunctor by writing the complex proposition it is forming. (2)
   iii. Identify an adjunctor by writing the complex proposition it is forming. (2)

   c) Work out whether the following implication is valid. Give reasons for your answer.
   $(a \sqcup b) \leftrightarrow (b \sqcup c) < a \sqcup (b \leftrightarrow c)$ (2)

   (Total: 10 marks)

Please turn the page

3. a) With the help of an example, explain briefly what the conjunctor (∧) is and state the conditions under which it is false. (2)

b) Given that:
a stands for "Maria wins the lottery"
b stands for "Maria goes on a world tour"
c stands for "Maria buys a villa"

Translate the following into words:
i. ¬ a → (¬ b ∧ ¬ c)
ii. ¬ (a → (b ∧ c))
iii. a → (b ⊔ c)
iv. (b ∨ c) → a
v. (b ∧ c) ↔ a (5)

c) Fill-in the blanks:
a _____ b is the only instance where a truth-table gives only **ONE** True, exactly when a is _____ and b is _____. (3)

(Total: 10 marks)

4. a) With the help of an example, explain whether the equivalence relation is reflexive. (2)

b) Translate symbolically, using the same letter for each proposition:
i. It is not the case that Kate is at work and Mary is at work.
ii. Either Kate is at work or Mary is at work.
iii. If Mary is at work then Kate is not at work.
iv. Mary is at work if and only if Kate is at work.
v. If Kate is at work then Mary is at work. (5)

c) Work out whether the following equivalence is valid. Give reasons for your answer.
a ∨ (b ↔ c) >< ¬ (a ∧ (b ∧ c)) (3)

(Total: 10 marks)

SECTION B: ETHICS AND SOCIETY

Answer any TWO questions from this Section. Each question carries 35 marks.

5. Discuss why Socrates is a moral optimist in light of the relationship between knowledge of the Truth and doing the right action.

6. What role does the 'Golden Mean' play in Aristotle's pursuit of virtue?

7. Utilitarianism offers the Greatest Happiness Principle as a means to attain the best possible moral outcome. Discuss how this principle represents Utilitarian ethical thought.

8. Elaborate on and discuss what Kant means by the 'good will'.