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Philosophy

Higher level

Paper 1

26 April 2024

Zone A afternoon | Zone B afternoon | Zone C afternoon

2 hours 30 minutes

Instructions to candidates

- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Section A: answer one question.
- Section B: answer two questions, each chosen from a different optional theme.
- The maximum mark for this examination paper is **[75 marks]**.

Section A

Answer **one** question from this section. Each question in this section is worth [25 marks].

Core theme: Being human

1. Read the following excerpt and develop your response as indicated below.

Article 1

All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood.

Article 2

Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.

(Article 1 and 2 of the UN Declaration of Human Rights)

With explicit reference to the stimulus and your own knowledge, discuss a philosophical issue related to the question of what it means to be human.

2. Look at the following image and develop your response as indicated below.



With explicit reference to the stimulus and your own knowledge, discuss a philosophical issue related to the question of what it means to be human.

Section B

Answer **two** questions from this section, each chosen from a different optional theme. Each question in this section is worth [25 marks].

Optional theme 1: Aesthetics

3. Evaluate the claim that artists belong to their works, not the works to the artists.
4. Evaluate the claim that all art is but imitation of nature.

Optional theme 2: Epistemology

5. Evaluate the claim that “the limits of my language are the limits of my world”.
6. To what extent does knowledge come from the senses?

Optional theme 3: Ethics

7. Evaluate the claim that the rightness of moral action comes from living a good life.
8. To what extent should ethics be more about self-interest than about the interests of others?

Optional theme 4: Philosophy and contemporary society

9. Evaluate the claim that technology will change how humans interact for the better.
10. Explain and discuss the view that the only rights we have are our legal rights, prescribed by the nation state.

Optional theme 5: Philosophy of religion

11. Explain and discuss the problems in defending omnibenevolence as a characteristic of God/god(s).
12. Evaluate the view that religious belief and experience arise because of human need.

Optional theme 6: Philosophy of science

13. Evaluate the claim that all science is based on observation.
14. Evaluate the claim that scientific research should be guided by ethics.

Optional theme 7: Political philosophy

15. Explain and discuss the origin of the state.
 16. Evaluate the view that human rights should be universal.
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References:

1. United Nations General Assembly, 1948. *Universal declaration of human rights*. New York: United Nations. Source adapted.
2. Michael Jung, n.d. *Middle aged woman preparing for plastic surgery*. [image online] Available at: <https://www.gettyimages.co.uk/detail/photo/middle-aged-woman-preparing-for-plastic-surgery-royalty-free-image/178827963?phrase=plastic+surgery+marking+up&adppopup=true> [Accessed 12 April 2023]. Source adapted.