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Philosophy

Higher level and standard level

Paper 2

1 May 2024

Zone A morning | Zone B morning | Zone C morning

1 hour

Instructions to candidates

- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Answer both parts of one question. Candidates are advised to allocate their time accordingly. Each part will be distinctly assessed.
- The maximum mark for this examination paper is **[25 marks]**.

Answer **both parts** (a) and (b) of **one** question. Each question is worth [25 marks].

Simone de Beauvoir: *The Second Sex*, Vol. 1 part 1, Vol. 2 part 1 and Vol. 2 part 4

1. (a) Explain the claim that woman is a social construct. [10]
(b) Evaluate the claim that woman is a social construct. [15]
2. (a) Explain de Beauvoir’s claim that females occupy a subordinate position in society. [10]
(b) Evaluate de Beauvoir’s claim that females occupy a subordinate position in society. [15]

René Descartes: *Meditations*

3. (a) Explain the view that methodological doubt aims to eliminate reliance on the senses in order to arrive at indubitable truths. [10]
(b) Evaluate the view that methodological doubt aims to eliminate reliance on the senses in order to arrive at indubitable truths. [15]
4. (a) Explain how Descartes uses the wax example to demonstrate how the mind knows things with certainty. [10]
(b) Evaluate Descartes’s use of the wax example to demonstrate how the mind knows things with certainty. [15]

David Hume: *Dialogues Concerning Natural Religion*

5. (a) Explain Cleanthes’s view of theism. [10]
(b) Evaluate Cleanthes’s view of theism. [15]
6. (a) Explain how Hume’s dialogue deals with the issues of suffering and evil. [10]
(b) Evaluate how Hume’s dialogue deals with the issues of suffering and evil. [15]

John Stuart Mill: *On Liberty*

7. (a) Explain what Mill means by “the tyranny of the majority”. [10]
(b) Evaluate Mill’s use of “the tyranny of the majority”. [15]
8. (a) Explain Mill’s views on the importance of genius. [10]
(b) Evaluate Mill’s views on the importance of genius. [15]

Friedrich Nietzsche: *The Genealogy of Morals*

9. (a) Explain the relationship between Christianity and slave morality. [10]
(b) Evaluate the relationship between Christianity and slave morality. [15]
10. (a) Explain Nietzsche’s assertion that “a moral genealogy seems to me a fundamental insight”. [10]
(b) Evaluate Nietzsche’s assertion that “a moral genealogy seems to me a fundamental insight”. [15]

Martha Nussbaum: *Creating Capabilities: The Human Development Approach*

11. (a) Explain the claim that the real wealth of a nation is its people. [10]
(b) Evaluate the claim that the real wealth of a nation is its people. [15]
12. (a) Explain the claim that “the quality of the environment clearly plays a role in the Capabilities Approach”. [10]
(b) Evaluate the claim that “the quality of the environment clearly plays a role in the Capabilities Approach”. [15]

José Ortega y Gasset: *The Origin of Philosophy*

13. (a) Explain the importance of the philosophical past according to Ortega y Gasset. [10]
(b) Evaluate the importance of the philosophical past according to Ortega y Gasset. [15]
14. (a) Explain Ortega y Gasset's view that knowledge is perspective. [10]
(b) Evaluate Ortega y Gasset's view that knowledge is perspective. [15]

Plato: *The Republic*, Books IV–IX

15. (a) Explain Plato's view of dialectic. [10]
(b) Evaluate Plato's view of dialectic. [15]
16. (a) Explain Socrates's claim that philosophers are lovers of truth. [10]
(b) Evaluate Socrates's claim that philosophers are lovers of truth. [15]

Peter Singer: *The Life You Can Save*

17. (a) Explain Singer's attitude towards wealth. [10]
(b) Evaluate Singer's attitude towards wealth. [15]
18. (a) Explain Singer's account of traditional views on helping the poor. [10]
(b) Evaluate Singer's account of traditional views on helping the poor. [15]

Charles Taylor: *The Ethics of Authenticity*

19. (a) Explain Taylor’s account of the origins of the ideal of authenticity. [10]
(b) Evaluate Taylor’s account of the origins of the ideal of authenticity. [15]
20. (a) Explain Taylor’s discussion of the claim that “the future appears to promise only ever-increasing levels of narcissism”. [10]
(b) Evaluate Taylor’s discussion of the claim that “the future appears to promise only ever-increasing levels of narcissism”. [15]

Lao Tzu: *Tao Te Ching*

21. (a) Explain Lao Tzu’s claim that the *Tao* may be regarded as the mother of all things. [10]
(b) Evaluate Lao Tzu’s claim that the *Tao* may be regarded as the mother of all things. [15]
22. (a) Explain Lao Tzu’s claim that weapons are instruments of ill omen, not the instruments of the gentleman. [10]
(b) Evaluate Lao Tzu’s claim that weapons are instruments of ill omen, not the instruments of the gentleman. [15]

Zhuangzi: *Zhuangzi*

23. (a) Explain Zhuangzi’s views on friendship. [10]
(b) Evaluate Zhuangzi’s views on friendship. [15]
24. (a) Explain Zhuangzi’s views on the nature of government. [10]
(b) Evaluate Zhuangzi’s views on the nature of government. [15]
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