

# MATRICULATION AND SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS BOARD

#### ADVANCED MATRICULATION LEVEL 2021 FIRST SESSION

SUBJECT:	Philosophy	
PAPER NUMBER:	I	
DATE:	18 <sup>th</sup> 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 the instructions given in each section.

## SECTION A: LOGIC AND REASONING

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

1. a) Identify the following fallacy and explain the error in reasoning:

The manager told John: "You should work more overtime hours for the same pay rate. After all, you would not want to lose your job, would you?" (4)

- b) Give the logical structure of the fallacy identified in (a).
- c) Give the logical structure of the logical fallacy 'Begging the Question' and explain the error in reasoning.(4)

# (Total: 10 marks)

(2)

- 2. a) Explain the difference between a valid argument that is sound and a valid argument that is unsound. Use examples to sustain your answer. (4)
  - b) Translate symbolically. Use the same letter for each proposition:
    - i. If Jade owns an apartment, then she will either own a cat or a dog. (1)
    - ii. Jade owns a cat only if Jade owns an apartment and does not own a dog. (1)
    - iii. It is not the case that, if Jade owns a dog, then she does not own a cat and she owns an apartment. (1)
  - c) Work out whether the following proposition is logically equivalent. Give reasons for your answer.

¬ (a ⊔ b) >< a ↔ b

(3) (Total: 10 marks)

Please turn the page

- 3. a) Explain what is meant by (i) virtual bi-location and (ii) virtual bi-temporation. Provide an example for each.
  - b) Fill-in the blanks:
    - i. In a \_\_\_\_\_ b and a \_\_\_\_\_ b, when both a and b are False, the conclusion is True. (2)
    - ii. In a \_\_\_\_\_ b, the conclusion is only False when both a and b are False. (1)
  - c) Work out whether the sub-junctor  $(\rightarrow)$  is self-distributive. Give reasons for your answer. (3)

# (Total: 10 marks)

- 4. a) Explain what an implication and an equivalence are and state the conditions under which these are valid or invalid. Give the respective symbol of each. (4)
  - b) Translate the following argument and check whether the implication involved is valid. Give reasons for your answer.

If Luke is buying a Ferrari, then Mark and Matthew are buying a Ferrari too. Mark and Matthew are not buying a Ferrari. Therefore Luke is not buying one either. (3)

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i.	$a \rightarrow (b v c) > <$	(Distributivity)	(1)
ii.	a ⊔ (b ⊔ c) >< .	(Associativity)	(1)
iii.	$\neg a \rightarrow b$ ,,	(Modus Ponens)	(1)

# (Total: 10 marks)

## **SECTION B: ETHICS AND SOCIETY**

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

- 5. Could choosing when to die be philosophically justified? Discuss with reference to the different types of voluntary euthanasia.
- 6. Explain how Epicurus' practical ethics revolve around pleasure-seeking.
- 7. Discuss Socrates' moral optimism by referring to his understanding of knowledge of the truth and right actions.
- 8. With reference to Kant's philosophy, explain what is meant by the Universalisability test, and Pure Practical Reason.



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#### ADVANCED MATRICULATION LEVEL 2021 FIRST SESSION

SUBJECT:	Philosophy
PAPER NUMBER:	II
DATE:	21 <sup>st</sup> June 2021
TIME:	9:00 a.m. to 12:05 p.m.

The examination has **TWO** sections. Answer **BOTH** Section A and Section B. Section A carries 30 marks and Section B carries 70 marks. Follow the instructions given in each section.

# SECTION A: KEY QUESTIONS IN EUROPEAN THOUGHT

## **Compulsory Question**

## Answer Question 1. The question carries 30 marks.

1. "I make the assumption that there is a point in the development of mankind at which the obstacles to men's self-preservation in the state of nature are too great to be overcome by the strength that any one individual can exert in order to maintain himself in this state. The original state can then subsist no longer, and the human race would perish if it did not change its mode of existence. [...] This is the fundamental problem to which the social contract gives the answer. [...]

If therefore we set aside everything that is not essential to the social pact, we shall find that it may be reduced to the following terms. Each of us puts his person and all his power in common under the supreme direction of the general will; and we as a body receive each member as an indivisible part of the whole."

(From: Jean-Jacques Rousseau, The Social Contract, chapter 6)

a.	Define the phrase 'state of nature'.	(4)
b.	How does Rousseau describe the human condition within the state of nature?	(6)
с.	Compare and contrast Rousseau's and Locke's views on human nature.	(8)
d.	How does Rousseau explain the origins of social inequality?	(6)
e.	What did Rousseau mean by the 'general will'?	(6)

## (Total: 30 marks)

## **SECTION B**

## Choose any TWO questions. Each question carries 35 marks.

- 2. Discuss how Plato's views on the soul influence his political philosophy.
- 3. Compare and contrast René Descartes' and John Locke's epistemological views.
- 4. Discuss Thomas Hobbes' pessimistic view of human nature in relation to his political philosophy.
- 5. Critically discuss the concept of personhood and personal identity in relation to humans, nonhuman animals and machines.
- 6. 'In most cases, the meaning of a word is its use.' Evaluate this claim in light of Ludwig Wittgenstein's philosophy of language.

# (Total: 70 marks)