

MATRICULATION AND SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS BOARD

ADVANCED MATRICULATION LEVEL 2022 SECOND SESSION

SUBJECT:	Philosophy
PAPER NUMBER:	Ι
DATE:	29 th August 2022
TIME:	9:00 a.m. to 12:05 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) Define the term 'fallacy' in the language of logic.	(2)
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b) Identify the logical fallacy committed in the following statement, and briefly explain the error in reasoning:

"If you don't let us win, we won't be your friends anymore." (4)

- c) Give another example of the logical fallacy identified in part (b). (2)
- d) Give the logical structure of the logical fallacy identified in part (b) (2)

(Total: 10 marks)

2. a) Translate symbolically the following, using the same letters for each proposition:

(4)

(1)

- i. If Lisa can play football and she can play tennis, then she will not pass her exams.
- ii. Either Lisa can play football, or she can play tennis this year
- iii. If Lisa can play football, then she will pass her exams
- iv. Lisa will pass her exams if and only if she can play tennis or football
- b) Explain what is meant by (i) an implication and (ii) an equivalence. State the conditions under which these are valid or invalid.
 (4)
- c) Fill-in the blanks:
 - i. In a \wedge b, the conclusion is only _____ when both a and b are true. (1)
 - ii. In a _____ b, if both a and b are true then the conclusion is false.

(Total: 10 marks)

Please turn the page.

3. a) Fill-in:

i. a⊔b><	(commutativity)	
іі. а л (b v c) ><	(distributivity)	
iii. a \leftrightarrow (b \leftrightarrow c) ><	(associativity)	(3)

- b) With the help of an example, explain what the disjunctor (□) is, and state the conditions under which it is true.
 (2)
- c) What conclusion, in symbols and in words, can be derived from the following when using modus ponens?

"If it's after 8pm, then the shop is closed. It's after 8pm." (2)

d) Translate the following and work out whether the implication involved is valid. Give reasons for your answer.

"If there is something good on TV then I will stay up. There is something good on TV. Therefore, I will stay up." (3)

(Total: 10 marks)

4.	a) What is meant by	saying that a proposition	n is a tautology?	(2)

- b) Work out the truth-table of the following proposition: $((a \land b) \rightarrow c) \leftrightarrow (a \rightarrow (b \rightarrow c))$ (4)
- c) Work out the truth-tables to find out whether the two propositions below are logically equivalent. Give reasons for your answer.
 - i. $a \rightarrow (b \land c)$ ii. $(b \land c) \rightarrow a$

(4)

(Total: 10 marks)

SECTION B: ETHICS AND SOCIETY

Answer question 5 and any other question from this section. Each question carries 35 marks.

- 5. Discuss Aristotle's views on the pursuit of virtue and the golden mean.
- 6. By making reference to Utilitarianism discuss the role of consequences in measuring the rightness or wrongness of an act.
- 7. Critically analyse what Nietzsche means by the crisis of morality.
- 8. Explain different forms of reproductive technology and discuss the different ethical theories that are utilised in this field.



MATRICULATION AND SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS BOARD

ADVANCED MATRICULATION LEVEL 2022 SECOND SESSION

SUBJECT:	Philosophy
PAPER NUMBER:	II
DATE:	30 th August 2022
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. "Suppose then that I am dreaming, and that these particulars—that my eyes are open, that I am moving my head and stretching out my hands—are not true. Perhaps, indeed, I do not even have such hands or such a body at all. Nonetheless, it must surely be admitted that the visions which come in sleep are like paintings, which must have been fashioned in the likeness of things that are real, and hence that at least these general kinds of things—eyes, head, hands and the body as a whole—are things which are not imaginary but are real and exist. For even when painters try to create sirens and satyrs with the most extraordinary bodies, they cannot give them natures which are new in all respects; they simply jumble up the limbs of different animals. Or if perhaps they manage to think up something so new that nothing remotely similar has ever been seen before—something which is therefore completely fictitious and unreal—at least the colors used in the composition must be real. By similar reasoning, although these general kinds of things—eyes, head, hands and so on— could be imaginary, it must at least be admitted that certain other even simpler and more universal things are real. These are as it were the real colors from which we form all the images of things, whether true or false, that occur in our thought."

(From: René Descartes, Meditations on First Philosophy, First Meditation)

- a. Explain the 'Dream Argument' described in the excerpt above, and its scope in Descartes' philosophy. (6)
- b. Was Descartes a rationalist or an empiricist? Discuss in relation to Descartes' epistemological views.
 (8)
- c. Why does Descartes invoke the notion of a "malicious demon of the utmost power and cunning" in his First Meditation? (6)
- d. How does Descartes eventually overcome skepticism in his *Meditations*?

(Total: 30 marks)

(10)

Please turn the page.

SECTION B

Choose any TWO questions. Each question carries 35 marks.

- 2. What did Plato mean when he referred to the state as man writ large? Discuss this in relation to his views on the soul and politics.
- 3. What are the philosophical implications of determinism on human action? Discuss in relation to different philosophical views on free will.
- 4. What is personhood? Do you think that personhood can only be applied to humans? Give reasons for your views.
- 5. Discuss the difference between the early and later ideas of Wittgenstein on the philosophy of language.
- 6. Discuss Leibniz's claim that we live in the best of all possible worlds in light of Voltaire's critique.