

ADVANCED LEVEL SAMPLE PAPER SYLLABUS 2016

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SUBJECT: PHILOSOPHY  
PAPER : 1  
DATE:  
TIME: 3 hours

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**This examination paper has two Sections. Answer both Section A and Section B. Follow instructions given in each Section.**

**Section A: LOGIC and REASONING (30 marks)**

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

1. (a) Identify the logical fallacy in the following passage and explain briefly the error in reasoning involved in the passage.  
'There is no such thing as knowledge which cannot be carried into practice, for such knowledge is really no knowledge at all.' (2 marks)  
(Wang Shou-Jen, *Record of Instructions*)
  - (b) Express the following propositions using only elementary propositions,  $\neg$ ,  $\wedge$ ,  $\vee$  and brackets.
    - i. Every number from 1 to 3 is even.
    - ii. At least one number from 1 to 3 is even.
    - iii. One and only one number from 1 to 3 is even.
    - iv. It is not the case that every number from 1 to 3 is even. (8 marks)
  - (c) Using truth-tables, work out whether:
    - i.  $\wedge$  is commutative. (2 marks)
    - ii.  $\rightarrow$  is associative. (2 marks)
2. (a) Show that  $A \rightarrow B \not\equiv B \rightarrow A$  is not valid (i.e., that  $\rightarrow$  is not symmetric). State the reason clearly. (2 marks)
  - (b)
    - i. Write down 2 propositions (X and Y) constructed out of the elementary propositions a, b and c and the logical particles  $\neg$  and  $\wedge$  and such that the first (X) is true precisely when a, b and c are true, and the second (Y) is true precisely when a, b and c are false. See the truth-table below.
    - ii. Write down a proposition Z constructed out of the elementary propositions

a, b and c and the logical particles  $\neg$ ,  $\wedge$  and  $\vee$  and brackets and whose truth-table is as underneath:

a	b	c	X	Y	Z
T	T	T	T	F	T
T	T	F	F	F	F
T	F	T	F	F	F
T	F	F	F	F	F
F	T	T	F	F	F
F	T	F	F	F	F
F	F	T	F	F	F
F	F	F	F	T	T

(2 marks)

(c) Find out whether the following implications are valid:

i.  $\neg(avb) < \neg av \neg b$

ii.  $a \rightarrow b, b \rightarrow c < a \rightarrow c$  (6 marks)

3. (a) How are junctor-complex propositions composed? Answer in not more than five lines. (2 marks)

(b) The following two premisses are known to be true:  
 ‘If John entered the football ground, he paid at the gate.’  
 ‘John did not paid at the gate.’

i. Translate each of them symbolically. (2 mark)

ii. State the standard valid implication *Modus Tollens*. (1 mark)

iii. Which proposition do you conclude when you apply Modus Tollens to the above two premisses? (1 mark)

(c) X and Y are formulae (containing precisely a and b as primary formulae) such that X and  $X \vee Y$  have the following truth-tables:

A	B	X	$X \vee Y$
T	T	T	T
T	F	F	T
F	T	F	F
F	F	T	F

Y has then one of four truth-tables. Write down these four truth-tables. (4 marks)

4. (a) i. What is meant by saying that an argument is valid and sound.  
 ii. What is meant by saying that a proposition is tautological (or a tautology)?  
 (2 marks)

(b) By translating symbolically and working out the truth-tables find out whether the two propositions below are logically equivalent:

- i. If it is Saturday and it is a holiday then we can sleep late.
- ii. If it is Saturday then we can sleep late or it is not a holiday. (4 marks)

(c) Translate symbolically the following argument and check whether the implication involved is valid. Give a reason for your answer.

Matthew will work in the library or in the study-room. If it is too noisy in the study-room, he will work in the library. The study-room is too noisy. Therefore, he will work in the library. (4 marks)

**Section B: ETHICS AND SOCIETY (70 marks)**

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

5. Outline the essential features of Sartre's Existentialism and discuss two of the following aspects of the Existentialist philosophy:
  - i. Radical freedom.
  - ii. Anguish and bad faith.
  - iii. The creation of value.
6. Describe and discuss the key features of Utilitarianism as an ethical theory.
7. Illustrate the merits of Aristotle's practical ethics as a way for achieving self-fulfilment.
8. Discuss some of the privacy concerns raised by the Internet.