INTERMEDIATE LEVEL SAMPLE PAPER SYLLABUS 2016

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

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 fallacy in the following passage and explain briefly the error in reasoning involved in the passage:
   'The Inquisition must have been justified and beneficial, if whole peoples invoked and defended it, if men of the loftiest souls founded and created it severally and impartially, and its very adversaries applied it on their own account.' (2 marks)
   (Benedetto Croce, *Philosophy of the Practical*)

   (b)   Translate symbolically the following propositions:
   i. David or Rebecca went to the cinema.
   ii. Either David or Rebecca went to the cinema.
   iii. If David did not go to the cinema, Rebecca did.
   iv. David went to the cinema, unless Rebecca did. (4 marks)

   (c)   Translate the following argument and check whether the implication involved is valid. Give a reason for your answer.
   Today is Wednesday or Thursday. If today is Thursday, we have an ethics lecture. We do have an ethics lecture today. Therefore, today is Thursday. (4 marks)

2. (a)   In not more than 5 lines and with the help of an example, explain what is meant by the term *virtual bi-location*. (1 mark)

   (b)   Using an example, explain what is meant by saying that:
   i. < is reflexive
   ii. < is transitive
   iii < is not symmetric (3 marks)

(c) Check whether the following implications are valid:
   i.   ¬(a→b) < a
   ii. (a∧¬b) < ¬(a→b) (6 marks)

3. (a) For each of the following formulae, write down ONE interpretation which is a model.
   i.   (a∧¬b)vc
   ii.   ¬(avb)∧ c
   iii. (avb)∧¬c (3 marks)

   (b) i.   Write down the truth-table of the formula 'Either a or b (but not both)'. (1 mark)
       ii. A formula which implies 'Either a or b (but not both)' has one of four truth-tables. Write down these four truth-tables. (3 marks)

   (c) The truth-tables of A, B, C, D and E are given below:

a	b	c	A	B	C	D	E
T	T	T	T	F	T	T	T
T	T	F	T	F	F	F	F
T	F	T	T	F	F	T	F
T	F	F	T	F	T	T	F
F	T	T	T	F	T	T	T
F	T	F	T	F	F	F	F
F	F	T	T	F	F	T	F
F	F	F	T	F	T	T	F

   Arrange the five formulae in a sequence such that every formula implies any formula on its left. (3 marks)

4. (a) A*B is defined as (A→B) ∧ (B→A). Work out its truth-table. (1 mark)

   (b) Write down the truth-table which corresponds to:
   'a is true while one and only one of b and c is true' where a, b and c are propositions.
   (1 mark)

   (c) What conclusion can be derived by applying the Modus Ponens implication to the following two premisses:
       If Kevin finished reading his book then he played an Xbox game. Kevin finished reading his book. (2 marks)

   (d) Using truth-tables, check whether the following equivalences are valid:
       i. a→¬b >< b→¬a
       ii. a→(bvc) >< (a→b)v(a→c) (6 marks)

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

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

5. 'The distinction between active and passive euthanasia is thought to be crucial for medical ethics. The idea is that it is permissible, at least in some cases, to withhold treatment and allow a patient to die, but it is never permissible to take any direct action designed to kill the patient.'   Discuss.

6. Describe and discuss the key features of Kantian ethics.

7. Discuss Nietzsche's proposal of a new morality built on the 'will to power' and the 'overman' that goes beyond the traditional notions of 'good' and 'evil.'

8. Outline (i) the Socratic Method as a process for arriving at knowledge of the Truth and (ii) the philosophical difficulties involved in the Socratic notion of 'moral optimism.'