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SUBJECT: **Ethics**  
 PAPER NUMBER: **IIB**  
 DATE:  
 TIME:

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This paper carries 40% of the global mark of the exam.

**SECTION A**

**Answer ALL questions.**

**Each question carries 20 marks.**

Question 1 Case study: Samuel on Happiness



Samuel lost his sight in one eye when he was five years old due to cancer. He then relapsed and lost his sight in his other eye.

"At first I panicked. I didn't know what to do. Then I started to get used to being blind and I realised that I can't solve the problem by crying and nor could my mum solve the problem with crying. So we just had to get on with life," he said.

"There are many people who are worse off than me. There are children who have nothing to eat, nothing to wear, and they're also blind and can't talk, boom, all at once. I'm comparatively lucky." The most inspiring part of it all is how he describes his

condition.

"I don't just see black like most people think. My imagination makes an image of what's around me. I have no limit. If someone says this room is one colour, I can imagine it in every colour I want. I call it mind modelling," he says, adding that he used to be a big fan of model building but he's now had to develop new talents.

"One door closes, a hundred others open," he added.

Adapted from <https://lovinmalta.com/news/>

- a) Do you consider Samuel to be a happy person? Why? Answer in about 20 words. (5)
- b) Give **ONE** example that shows how a positive attitude can make you happy in spite of difficult situations in life. Answer in about 20 words. (5)
- c) Give **TWO** examples of responsible life-choices you have made that have contributed to your happiness. Answer in about 80 words. (10)

Question 2 Case study: Lauren’s Story —Cyberbullying



‘Well, I was best friends with this girl called Susan. We had this huge fight and we stopped being friends. When I went to school the next day, I noticed that people were suddenly avoiding me, and even my group of friends wouldn’t talk to me. They just completely ignored me.

I started to notice other people in the school pointing at me and whispering things and laughing amongst themselves. When I arrived home I had a lot of new emails,

some from people I didn’t even know, saying all these things about my private life they couldn’t possibly know.

Then I started getting text messages saying things like, ‘I hate you’ or ‘Why don’t you just die?’ That’s when the police got involved. They traced the numbers from the threatening messages and visited the offenders and they eventually discovered that I had supposedly sent all my friends a message telling them all these secrets about my life, which was a complete lie.

Susan must have logged on with my username and password. You just can't tell what might happen if your details end up in the wrong hands.’

Adapted from: <http://permod.lamp2.cloudsites.net.au/>

- a) Describe what cyberbullying is by giving two examples. Discuss in about 20 words. (5)
- b) What lesson did Lauren learn from her cyberbullying experience? Discuss in about 20 words. (5)
- c) “What a lot of people never realise is that the internet is actually just another public place.” What does this statement mean? How should we behave responsibly online? Discuss in about 80 words. (10)

**SECTION B**

**Answer any TWO of the following four questions.**

**Write an essay of about 250 words on EACH question.**

**Each question carries 30 marks.**

1

- a) Religious groups are often considered to be closed communities. What do we understand by the term ‘closed community’? (10)
- b) Give an example of an ‘open community’. Show how an open community is different from a ‘closed community’. (10)
- c) Open communities are considered to be more tolerant of differences. Explain why this is so. (10)

2

- a) Explain what you understand by self-care by giving three examples. (10)
- b) To be able to care for oneself and for others one must have positive self-esteem. Explain why this is the case. (10)
- c) Explain why we have a moral obligation to care for others. (10)

3

- a) As the world's population grows, it looks like we will soon run out of the resources needed for so many people. Do we have a moral duty to limit our use of resources for the sake of future generations? Explain why. (10)
- b) Explain how you can limit the resources that you use in your everyday life. (10)
- c) Do we have a moral obligation towards future generations? Explain your answer. (10)

4

- a) What are the arguments in favour of capital punishment? (10)
- b) What are the arguments against capital punishment? (10)
- c) What is your opinion about capital punishment? Give reasons for your answer. (10)