

X237/201

NATIONAL
QUALIFICATIONS
2007

MONDAY, 28 MAY
1.00 PM – 3.00 PM

PHILOSOPHY
INTERMEDIATE 2

Candidates should answer:

Section 1—all parts of Question 1

Section 2—**Either** all parts of Question 2
OR all parts of Question 3

Section 3—Question 4 and
Either all parts of Question 5
OR all parts of Question 6

Section 4—all parts of Question 7



SECTION 1—CRITICAL THINKING IN PHILOSOPHY

Marks Code

Candidates must answer all parts of this question.

1. (a) The following list contains both arguments and statements. Write down the **three** numbers that identify the **arguments**.

- (1) If you go down to the woods today you are sure of a big surprise.
- (2) My love is like a red, red rose.
- (3) If you don't want to injure yourself when playing sport you will need to warm up properly before the game.
- (4) PE is a waste of time because you can't get a good job by studying it so we shouldn't have to do it in school.
- (5) People who listen to rock music are happier than people who listen to classical music because it helps them get rid of all their anger.
- (6) You can't step into the same river twice.
- (7) When all the snow has melted and the sun is shining higher in the sky then the birds will return and it will be Spring once more.
- (8) Birds have wings therefore they can fly.

3 KU

- (b) Read the following argument.

Because the planet is warming up and the ice caps are melting the polar bears are in danger.

- (i) State the **two** premises in this argument.
- (ii) State the conclusion of this argument.

3 AE

- (c) Why is "attacking the person" an unreliable type of argument? Give an example to support your answer.

4 KU

(10)

SECTION 2—METAPHYSICS

Marks Code

Candidates must answer EITHER all parts of Question 2 OR all parts of Question 3.

EITHER

2. Is there rational basis for belief in God?

- | | | |
|--|----------|-----------|
| (a) Describe the cosmological argument for the existence of God. | 6 | KU |
| (b) Discuss two objections to this argument. | 4 | AE |

OR

(10)

3. Do we have free will?

- | | | |
|--|----------|-----------|
| (a) What do philosophers mean when they say that we are totally determined? Give two examples to support your answer. | 6 | KU |
| (b) Discuss two objections to the claim that we are totally determined. | 4 | AE |
- (10)**

[Turn over

SECTION 3—EPISTEMOLOGY

Marks Code

Candidates must answer Question 4 and EITHER all parts of Question 5
OR all parts of Question 6.

4. Epistemology

Describe what is meant by “Rationalism”.

5 KU
(5)

EITHER

5. Descartes

“ . . . after everything has been most carefully weighed, it must finally be established that this pronouncement “I am, I exist” is necessarily true every time I utter it or conceive it in my mind.”

This argument is sometimes called “*The Cogito*”.

(a) What sceptical arguments has Descartes “*carefully weighed*” to arrive at *The Cogito*?

7 KU

(b) Why does Descartes believe *The Cogito* is beyond doubt?

2 AE

(c) What problems are there with *The Cogito*?

6 AE
(15)

OR

6. Hume

“Every one will readily allow, that there is a considerable difference between the perceptions of the mind, when a man feels the pain of excessive heat, or the pleasure of moderate warmth, and when he afterwards recalls to his memory this sensation, or anticipates it by his imagination.”

In this extract Hume is explaining the difference between “Impressions” and “Ideas”.

(a) Explain the difference between “Impressions” and “Ideas”. Use appropriate examples in your answer.

7 KU

(b) What problems have some philosophers found with Hume’s epistemology?

8 AE
(15)

SECTION 4—MORAL PHILOSOPHY

Marks Code

Candidates must answer all parts of this question.

7. Normative Ethics

- | | | |
|--|------|----|
| (a) Explain the main features of Kant's Categorical Imperative. Use appropriate examples in your answer. | 12 | KU |
| (b) What difficulties are there in applying the Categorical Imperative? | 8 | AE |
| | (20) | |

[END OF QUESTION PAPER]

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