Guidance on the use of past paper questions for National 5 Philosophy

The new Courses at National 5 draw on the strengths of popular areas of study from Standard Grade and Intermediate 2 with the introduction of some new content. The purpose of this support document is to help centres and departments to identify suitable past paper questions/items that could be used, or possibly amended, to support learners in their preparation for sitting question papers (exams) as part of the National 5 Course assessment. The advice in this document reflects questions selected from 2011 to 2013 past papers. (If you click on the highlighted links in the columns below, this will take you to the relevant past paper.)

When utilising any past paper questions, you need to take into account the following:

- You must select questions that provide the learners with the same level of challenge as those in the National 5 Specimen Question Paper.
- You may be able to use questions as published or with amendments as suggested in the columns below for Standard Grade and Intermediate 2.
- You must use questions that adhere to the National 5 General Marking Principles and reflect the form of detailed Marking Instructions as published in the National 5 Specimen Question Paper.

If any change to a Standard Grade/Intermediate 2 question is necessary, you must ensure that:

- The style and structure matches the Specimen Question Paper for National 5.
- Marking of the learner's response to the question adheres to the General Marking Principles in the National 5 Specimen Question Paper.
- Marking Instructions are amended to reflect the style of the National 5 detailed Marking Instructions.

The details below for National 5 should be read in conjunction with the relevant:

Mandatory documentation:

- Course Specification
- Unit Specifications
- Course Assessment Specification

Advice and guidance:

- Course and Unit Support Notes

Assessment:

- Question Paper Component:
  - general assessment information
  - general marking principles and detailed marking instructions

Related Information as provided in the relevant N3–N5 Course Comparison Document.

Key for the section below:

C — amend context as required
S — amend source as required
St — amend question style
Str — amend structure of the question

Not all topics/areas of study will appear every year due to the sampling techniques used in producing question papers.

Information from the Course Assessment Specification Each Section of the question paper will be made up of restricted/extended response questions. Questions will **sample** the knowledge and understanding and apply skills described in the **Further mandatory information on Course coverage section**.	**The columns below identify additional support questions from Intermediate 2 Past Papers 2011 to 2013.**	
	Intermediate 2	
	Use question as published	**Amend question style/structure**
Arguments in Action		
Understand, identify and explain the following: statement; argument; premise; hidden premise; deductive argument; conclusion; true and false; valid and invalid; soundness This will include the ability to recognise and be able to generate examples to show understanding.	2012 Q1 (b) (i) 2011 Q1 (b) (ii) 2011 Q1 (b) (iii)	
Distinguish statements from questions, commands, exclamations and arguments	2013 Q1 (a) 2012 Q1 (a) 2011 Q1 (a)	
Identify premises, hidden premises and conclusions in an argument	2011 Q1 (b) (i)	
Describe how conclusions are arrived at in terms of reasoning	2012 Q1 (b) (iii)	
Analyse and evaluate simple arguments	2011 Q1 (b) (i) 2011 Q1 (b) (ii) 2011 Q1 (b) (iii)	
Recognise and generate examples of the following common fallacies: attacking the person; false dilemma; illegitimate appeal to authority; slippery slope	2013 Q1 (c) 2012 Q1 (c) 2011 Q1 (c)	

	Intermediate 2	
	Use question as published	**Amend question style/structure**
Knowledge and Doubt		
Explain philosophical views on: ♦ knowledge ♦ belief ♦ certainty ♦ scepticism	2013 Q4 (a)	2013 Q4 (b) — St
Explain common sceptical arguments including: reliability of the senses; arguments from dreaming; and evil genius		2011 Q5 (a) — Str
Explain and evaluate rationalism, empiricism and scepticism, making reference to appropriate sources in epistemology It is not expected that candidates will engage with original texts, but that they will know the source of information.	2011 Q4 (a) 2011 Q4 (b) 2011 Q4 (c)	
Know the key aspects and criticisms of Descartes and Hume and be able to evaluate arguments by commenting on their strengths and weaknesses	This is a general requirement for N5. Some past paper questions that fit with this requirement are listed against more specific items below.	
For Descartes, candidates must be able to comment on: ♦ sceptical arguments ♦ method of doubt: senses, dreaming and evil genius arguments ♦ the Cogito		2013 Q5 (a) — Str 2013 Q5 (b) — Str 2013 Q5 (c) — Str 2011 Q5 (a) — Str 2011 Q5 (b) — Str 2011 Q5 (c) — Str 2011 Q5 (d) — Str 2011 Q5 (e) — Str
♦ the clear and distinct rule	2011 Q5 (d)	2013 Q5 (a) — Str 2013 Q5 (b) — Str
♦ the role of God in providing a secure foundation for knowledge	2012 Q5 (c)	

	Intermediate 2	
	Use question as published	**Use question as published**
For Hume, candidates must be able to comment on: ♦ rejection of innate ideas		2012 Q6 (c) — St
♦ arguments concerning the origin of ideas		2012 Q6 (c) — St
♦ impressions and ideas	2013 Q6 (a) 2013 Q6 (b) 2011 Q6 (a) 2011 Q6 (b) 2011 Q6 (d)	
♦ missing shade of blue	2013 Q6 (c) 2013 Q6 (d) 2011 Q6 (c)	
♦ how we arrive at knowledge of cause and effect	This is an option in the Intermediate 2 Course. Past paper questions do not specifically fit with this item.	
Moral Philosophy		
Candidates must know and understand moral theories. Candidates must be able to apply these theories to give a moral response for a range of situations. Appropriate sources should be used when explaining theories. Candidates must be able to explain two moral theories, Utilitarianism and one other.	This is a general requirement for National 5. Some past paper questions that fit with this requirement are listed against more specific items below.	
For Utilitarianism: ♦ Act and Rule Utilitarianism	2012 Q7 (d)	2013 Q7 — Str
♦ Normative ethics		2013 Q7— Str
♦ Greatest Happiness Principle — consequentialism; equity; hedonism	2012 Q7 (a)	
♦ Bentham's hedonic calculus	2012 Q7 (b)	
♦ Mill's higher and lower pleasures	2012 Q7 (c)	
♦ Common criticisms of Utilitarianism: evil pleasures; difficulty of predicting consequences; tyranny of the majority	These are features of both Intermediate 2 and National 5 Courses. Past paper questions do not specifically fit with this item.	
***For the other moral theory*:** ♦ the main features ♦ at least three common criticisms	There is a free choice for the second moral theory. There may be some suitable questions from past papers depending on the topic chosen, eg Kant.	

Resources	
SQA past papers www.sqa.org.uk/pastpapers/findpastpaper.htm	Additional National 5 assessment support material is available here: Education Scotland www.educationscotland.gov.uk/ Glow www.educationscotland.gov.uk/usingglowandict/ Glow Log-in https://secure.glowscotland.org.uk/login/login.htm