

FOR OFFICIAL USE



National  
Qualifications  
2023 MODIFIED

Mark

**X854/75/01**

**Philosophy**

TUESDAY, 23 MAY  
9:00 AM – 11:20 AM



\* X 8 5 4 7 5 0 1 \*

Fill in these boxes and read what is printed below.

Full name of centre

Town

Forename(s)

Surname

Number of seat

Date of birth

Day

Month

Year

Scottish candidate number

**Total marks — 80**

**SECTION 1 — ARGUMENTS IN ACTION – 20 marks**

Attempt ALL questions.

**SECTION 2 — KNOWLEDGE AND DOUBT – 30 marks**

Attempt questions 2(a) and 2(b) then answer EITHER questions 3(a) – 3(d) OR questions 4(a) – 4(d)

**SECTION 3 — MORAL PHILOSOPHY – 30 marks**

Attempt ALL questions.

Write your answers clearly in the spaces provided in this booklet. Additional space for answers is provided at the end of this booklet. If you use this space you must clearly identify the question number you are attempting.

Use **blue** or **black** ink.

Before leaving the examination room you must give this booklet to the Invigilator; if you do not, you may lose all the marks for this paper.



\* X 8 5 4 7 5 0 1 0 1 \*

## SECTION 1 — ARGUMENTS IN ACTION — 20 marks

Attempt ALL questions

1. (a) Which one of the following has a truth value?

Tick (✓) the correct box:

1

- A question
- A command
- A statement
- An exclamation

- (b) Read the following passage:

Do you really want to go to that concert? What a rubbish band! They don't play real music. Anyone can manufacture music on a computer. Think about it, for goodness' sake! Use your brain! You should only go to see bands who have genuine musical talent.

Tick (✓) the statements from the above passage:

3

- Do you really want to go to that concert?
- What a rubbish band!
- They don't play real music.
- Anyone can manufacture music on a computer.
- Think about it for goodness' sake!
- Use your brain!
- You should only go to see bands who have genuine musical talent.



1. (continued)

(c) Read the following conversation:



Does the above conversation contain an argument in the philosophical sense? Explain your answer.

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(d) What is the conclusion of each of the arguments below?

(i) I want to pass my driving test, therefore I have to work hard and practise every day. Practice will help me to pass.

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(ii) You'll have to go to college. Either you go to college or you find a job, and you can't find a job.

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(iii) Everyone who lives in Scotland speaks Gaelic. George lives in Scotland and so obviously George speaks Gaelic.

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1. (continued)

(e) State **three** things you would do to put an argument into standard form.

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(f) Put the argument below into standard form.

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Surely it's obvious that good health depends on eating well, which requires enough money to buy fruit and vegetables. So good health requires enough money to buy fruit and vegetables.

P1: \_\_\_\_\_

P2: \_\_\_\_\_

C: \_\_\_\_\_

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(g) (i) What is a valid argument?

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1. (g) (continued)

(ii) Read the following argument:

If the harvest is good then the price of apples falls. Since the price of apples has fallen, the harvest must have been good.

Explain why the above argument is invalid. You must refer to the argument in your answer.

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(h) Explain the fallacy of an illegitimate appeal to authority.

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(i) Give an example of an **argument** that contains an illegitimate appeal to authority.

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SECTION 2 — KNOWLEDGE AND DOUBT — 30 MARKS

Attempt questions 2(a) and 2(b) then attempt EITHER questions 3(a) — 3(d)  
OR questions 4(a) — 4(d)

2. (a) (i) State the **three** conditions of the tripartite theory of knowledge. 1

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(ii) Explain how these conditions allow us to establish whether we do or do not have knowledge. 2

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(iii) Explain why the infinite regress of justification poses a problem for the tripartite theory of knowledge. 3  
You may use an example to support your answer.

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2. (continued)

(b) Explain what is meant by the term 'innate idea'.

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[Turn over



Attempt ALL questions on DESCARTES or ALL questions on HUME

3. DESCARTES

(a) Explain Descartes' Method of Doubt.

10

In your answer you must include:

- a brief description of Descartes' aims
- a detailed explanation of each of the arguments Descartes uses in his method of doubt: the senses argument, the dreaming argument, and the deceiving God argument
- a brief description of the role of the malicious demon.

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3. (continued)

- (b) Explain **at least two** criticisms of Descartes' method of doubt. You may choose to criticise Descartes' arguments and/or make general comments about the strengths and/or weaknesses of his method of doubt.

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3. (continued)

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(c) Describe Descartes' Cogito.

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(d) Does Descartes succeed in establishing his Cogito as certain knowledge? Give reasons for your answer.

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OR

4. HUME

(a) Explain Hume's theory of knowledge.

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In your answer you must include:

- a brief description of impressions and ideas
- a brief description of how we acquire complex ideas
- a detailed explanation of the arguments Hume uses to support his copy principle: that all ideas can be traced back to impressions; and that if there is no impression then there cannot be a corresponding idea.

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4. (a) (continued)

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4. (continued)

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- (b) Hume uses the missing shade of blue as a counter-example to his theory of knowledge.

Explain the missing shade of blue.

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- (c) Do you think the missing shade of blue is a problem for Hume's theory of knowledge?

Give reasons for your answer.

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**SECTION 3 — MORAL PHILOSOPHY — 30 MARKS**

**Attempt all questions**

5. (a) Describe the **three** key components of the greatest happiness principle.

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5. (continued)

(b) Explain **three** common criticisms of Utilitarianism.

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5. (continued)

(e) Read the following scenario.

In a shop you are accidentally given an extra £10 note in your change. You are considering whether you ought to return the extra £10.

(i) A Utilitarian would advise you to return the extra £10.

Explain why they would give you this advice.

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5. (e) (continued)

(ii) A follower of your other moral theory would advise you to return the extra £10.

Explain why they would give you this advice.

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[Turn over



5. (e) (continued)

(iii) Which moral theory offers the most convincing reasons for returning the extra £10?

Explain your answer.

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[END OF QUESTION PAPER]



MARKS DO NOT  
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ADDITIONAL SPACE FOR ANSWERS AND ROUGH WORK



**MARKS** DO NOT  
WRITE IN  
THIS  
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