

Philosophy
Higher level
Paper 1

Thursday 3 May 2018 (afternoon)

2 hours 30 minutes

Instructions to candidates

- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Section A: answer one question.
- Section B: answer two questions, each chosen from a different optional theme.
- The maximum mark for this examination paper is **[75 marks]**.

Section A

Answer **one** question from this section. Each question in this section is worth [25 marks].

Core theme: Being human

1. Read the following article and develop your response as indicated below.

Grayson Perry is a famous British artist who is also a transvestite. This is an extract from an interview he had with two journalists.

Yet as a transvestite, challenging gender stereotypes is “front and centre” of everything he (Grayson Perry) does. “You are thinking: ‘I’m being compelled to dress up in the wrong clothes, so there must be something going on here’. I don’t think it gives me any insight into being a woman but it makes me question masculinity”. He is convinced that traditional maleness as it is popularly understood is now redundant – “the physical prowess, aggression, territorial aggrandisement, competitiveness”, he says. “A lot of people are nostalgic for old-school masculinity. They think that you only have to peel off this veneer of civilisation and men can be men and women can be women and it can all go back to normal. I want to say it won’t be like that. You have to redefine masculinity to fit in with democracy.”

[Source: The Times / News Licensing.]

With explicit reference to the stimulus and your own knowledge, discuss a philosophical issue related to the question of what it means to be human.

2. Look at the following picture and develop your response as indicated below.



[Source: Geminoid™ HI-1 : ATR Hiroshi Ishiguro Laboratories.
Geminoid™ HI-1 has been developed by Hiroshi Ishiguro Laboratories, Advanced
Telecommunications Research Institute International (ATR).]

With explicit reference to the stimulus and your own knowledge, discuss a philosophical issue related to the question of what it means to be human.

Turn over

Section B

Answer **two** questions from this section, each chosen from a different optional theme. Each question in this section is worth [25 marks].

Optional theme 1: Aesthetics

3. To what extent can aesthetic judgments be more than declarations of personal taste?
4. To what extent must art, for it to be counted as art, be appreciated for its own sake, as opposed to some other end?

Optional theme 2: Epistemology

5. Evaluate the role played by technology in shaping a human's knowledge.
6. Evaluate the claim that "colour, taste, *etc* must be contemplated not as properties of things, but only as changes in the subject, changes which may be different in different men".

Optional theme 3: Ethics

7. To what extent is it possible that fundamental moral principles can be applied to every situation?
8. Justify which ethical approach offers the most effective way to articulate and address moral issues.

Optional theme 4: Philosophy and contemporary society

9. Evaluate the claim that while civil disobedience is sometimes justified, the use of violence in support of the aim cannot be.
10. Evaluate the claim that multicultural societies are faced with a dilemma: On the one hand they are, by definition, inclusive of all minority groups; but on the other hand, they must listen to the majority.

Optional theme 5: Philosophy of religion

11. Evaluate the claim that God’s existence is not a matter of deductive or ontological proofs, but is established by experience.
12. Evaluate the claim that religious language is not the same as ordinary language, and hence the usual rules for establishing its truth do not apply.

Optional theme 6: Philosophy of science

13. Evaluate the claim that “wherever external authority reigns, thinking is considered suspected and dangerous”.
14. Evaluate the claim that “accuracy of observation is the equivalent of accuracy of thinking”.

Optional theme 7: Political philosophy

15. Evaluate the view that the state governs legitimately only when it has the consent of those they govern.
 16. Evaluate the claim that human rights are arbitrary inventions and not a natural, universal feature of human life.
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