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**Philosophy  
Higher level  
Paper 1**

Friday 15 November 2019 (afternoon)

2 hours 30 minutes

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**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 excerpt and develop your response as indicated below.

Removed for copyright reasons

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: assembled by Kosmur on deviantart.com. File licensed under CC BY-ND 3.0  
(<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nd/3.0/>)]

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. Evaluate the claim that art generates an experience that is an activity of consciousness which triggers human emotions.
  
4. Evaluate the claim that art ought to contribute to improving society.

### Optional theme 2: Epistemology

5. To what extent does knowledge require foundations?
  
6. Discuss the role of reason in knowing the external world.

### Optional theme 3: Ethics

7. To what extent is it justified to equate what is right with the will of God?
  
8. Evaluate the claim “that morality is what the majority [...] happen to like, and immorality is what they dislike”.

### Optional theme 4: Philosophy and contemporary society

9. Evaluate the view that a tolerant society should not promote any particular lifestyle as superior.
  
10. Evaluate the claim that in contemporary society we possess certain rights which cannot be taken from us.

**Optional theme 5: Philosophy of religion**

11. Evaluate the claim that we can only know about God through experience.
12. Evaluate the claim that religious language is unverifiable.

**Optional theme 6: Philosophy of science**

13. Evaluate the claim that the use of inductive reasoning in science is problematic.
14. To what extent is an explanation a description of the world?

**Optional theme 7: Political philosophy**

15. To what extent do our political obligations arise from a social contract?
  16. Evaluate the view that the aim of distributive justice is compatible with defending individual freedoms and rights.
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