

X268/12/01

NATIONAL
QUALIFICATIONS
2012

TUESDAY, 8 MAY
1.00 PM – 3.40 PM

PHILOSOPHY
HIGHER

You should answer

Section 1 – Question 1

Section 2 – **Either** Question 2
OR Question 3

Section 3 – Question 4 **AND**
Either Question 5
OR Question 6

Section 4 – Question 7 **AND**
Question 8



Section 1 – Critical Thinking in Philosophy

Question 1

(You should answer all Parts, (a–j), of this question)

- (a) State **three** differences between deductive and inductive arguments. 3 KU

Consider the argument in the following passage.

How can I go to the party? If I'm to get a good mark in this course I need to finish the project and to complete the project I will need to work on it all weekend. Don't call me, don't come round. Just let me get on with my work.

- (b) **Re-write** the argument in standard form clearly identifying the premises and conclusion. 2 AE
- (c) What is meant by a “hidden” premise? 1 KU
- (d) State **one** hidden premise associated with the above argument. 1 AE

- (e) Read the following argument.

If you have a good diet you will grow up to be fit and strong. Since you are clearly fit and strong you must have had a good diet.

- (i) Name the fallacy in the above argument. 1 AE
- (ii) Explain what is wrong with this kind of argument. 1 KU
- (f) Which of the following contains **or** implies a false dilemma? Give a reason for your answer.
1. William was no longer sure he wanted to break in to the house. “Come on,” said Sarah, who by now had taken charge, “What are you, a man or a mouse?”
 2. “Neither a borrower nor a lender be.” (William Shakespeare, “Hamlet”, Act 1 scene 3.)
 3. The rebel soldiers surrounded the hut where the two friends were hiding. There was now no escape. They heard the captain call out, “You have two choices—surrender or die.”
 4. “I don't know what to do”, the woman said. She was lying, she knew full well what she had to do.
 5. Let's see what's in the picnic basket. Well, you can have an apple or an orange. 1
2 KU
AE

Question 1 (continued)

(g) “All cats like fish so Tiddles likes fish.”

Identify **four** features of this argument using what you have learned from studying critical thinking.

4 AE

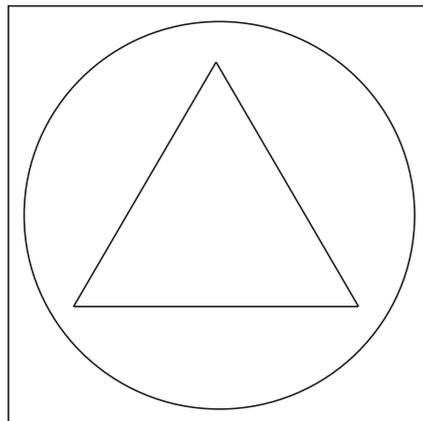
(h) Make up a sentence that is **not** a statement.

1 KU

(i) What is a sound argument?

1 KU

Look at the following diagram



(j) Make up a sound argument about some aspect of the above diagram.

2 KU
(20)

[Turn over

Section 2 – Metaphysics

Either**Question 2**

(You should only answer this question if you have studied the debate “**Is there a rational basis for belief in God?**” If not, go to Question 3.)

And assuredly that, than which nothing greater can be conceived, cannot exist in the understanding alone.

St. Anselm, Proslogium

Does Anselm’s ontological argument successfully prove the existence of God?
Give reasons for your answer.

10 KU
10 AE
(20)

Or**Question 3**

(You should only answer this question if you have studied the debate “**Do we have free will?**”)

To what extent is the Libertarian argument convincing?

10 KU
10 AE
(20)

Section 3 – Epistemology

Question 4

(You should answer **all** parts of this question and **either** Question 5 **or** Question 6.)

The Tripartite Theory of Knowledge is the theory that knowledge consists of justified true beliefs and that these criteria are individually necessary and jointly sufficient for knowledge.

- | | | | |
|-----|--|-------------|------------------------|
| (a) | Why are these criteria deemed to be “individually necessary” and “jointly sufficient”? | 2 | KU |
| (b) | How does scepticism challenge the possibility of satisfying the justification criterion? | 2 | KU
AE |
| (c) | How do Gettier problems challenge the tripartite theory of knowledge?
Give an example to support your answer. | 2
2 | KU
AE |
| | | (10) | |

[Turn over

Either**Question 5**

(You should only answer this question if you have studied **Descartes' Rationalism** in the Epistemology Unit. If not, go to Question 6.)

At the beginning of Meditation 1 Descartes tells us what strategy he is going to use.

- | | | |
|--|-------------|----|
| (a) Describe the strategy that Descartes says he intends to use. | 4 | KU |
| (b) Describe how Descartes implements this strategy in the rest of Meditation 1. | 10 | KU |
| (c) Evaluate the arguments Descartes uses to arrive at the <i>Cogito</i> . | 16 | AE |
| | (30) | |

Or**Question 6**

(You should only answer this question if you have studied **Hume's Empiricism** in the Epistemology Unit.)

Even after we have experience of the operations of cause and effect, the conclusions we draw from that experience are not based on reasoning or on any process of the understanding. I shall try to explain and defend this answer.

Hume Enquiries, Section IV: II

- | | | |
|--|-------------|----|
| (a) What conclusions does Hume think we normally draw from the “experience of the operations of cause and effect”? Give examples to support your answer. | 6 | KU |
| (b) Why does Hume believe that these conclusions are “not based on reasoning or on any process of the understanding”? | 8 | KU |
| (c) Evaluate to what extent Hume's position on the reason of animals supports the above claim. | 16 | AE |
| | (30) | |

Section 4 – Moral Philosophy

You should answer **both** questions – Question 7 **and** Question 8.

Question 7

Describe Bentham’s utilitarianism and explain why other utilitarian philosophers have modified this position.

15 **KU**
15 **AE**
(30)

Question 8

- (a) What is meant by “contradiction in conception”? Give an example to support your answer. **2** **KU**
- (b) What is meant by “contradiction in the will”? Give an example to support your answer. **2** **KU**
- (c) Explain **two** criticisms of Kantian ethics. **6** **AE**

(10)

[END OF QUESTION PAPER]

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