



National
Qualifications
2023 MODIFIED

X854/76/12

**Philosophy
Paper 2**

TUESDAY, 23 MAY

1:30 PM – 3:15 PM

Total marks — 50

SECTION 1 — ARGUMENTS IN ACTION — 30 marks

Attempt ALL questions.

SECTION 2 — KNOWLEDGE AND DOUBT — 10 marks

Attempt either ALL questions on DESCARTES or ALL questions on HUME.

SECTION 3 — MORAL PHILOSOPHY — 10 marks

Attempt ALL questions.

Write your answers clearly in the answer booklet provided. In the answer booklet you must clearly identify the question number you are attempting.

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

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



SECTION 1 — ARGUMENTS IN ACTION — 30 marks

Attempt ALL questions

1. Which of the following sentences is a statement?
 'You cannot be serious!'
 'Wow, delicious cake!'
 'Remember to put the rubbish out!' 1

2. Give an example of a premise indicator. 1

3. What are counter-examples used for? 1

4. Read the following passage:
'I have been a Radiohead fan for 10 years. Their live shows are great. Every album tells a different story, and their lyrics feel relevant and allow the listener to relate to their experience.'
 Is this an argument or some other kind of writing?
 Give **two** reasons for your answer. 2

5. (a) What is a conductive argument? 1
 (b) Provide a conductive argument with the conclusion 'You should go to the party on Saturday night'. 1

6. Present the argument below using an argument diagram. Remember to provide a key for your diagram, if needed.
Professional tennis players get regular exercise. It's an established fact that regular exercise keeps people healthy. Healthy people will live long lives. Professional tennis players will therefore live long lives. 3

7. Read the argument below:

It would be wrong to buy an electric car this year. For one thing, the charging infrastructure isn't in place yet. Although it might save money in the long run, they are more expensive to buy than cars that run on diesel or petrol. They are also bound to come down in price as soon as supply increases. You've got to agree — it would not be a good move right now.

- (a) Give a definition of a deductive argument 1
- (b) Is this argument deductive? Give **two** reasons for your answer. 2

8. Read the following passage.

Human animals have rights. There is no morally relevant difference between human animals and non-human animals. Therefore, non-human animals must have rights too.

How effective is the above argument?

Give reasons for your answer.

In your answer you may wish to comment on the following things:

- whether the premises in this argument are acceptable
- whether the premises in this argument are sufficient to prove the conclusion. 3

9. (a) Explain what is meant by describing an argument as 'valid'. 1
- (b) Provide a valid argument with the conclusion 'You should work hard in school.' 1
- (c) Explain why the following argument is invalid. In your answer you must refer to this argument.

P1: All good friends are kind.

P2: All good friends are funny.

P3: Sammy is kind and funny.

Sammy is a good friend.'

1

10. Explain the *post hoc ergo propter hoc* fallacy.

In your answer you should provide an example and explain why the reasoning in it is flawed.

3

[Turn over

11. Read the following discussion:

Koyama: According to scientists we should aim to eat a vegan diet, because eating meat has a far bigger negative impact on the planet than plant-based diets. Therefore, we should all become vegan.

Ruti: Well, I found this one researcher on the internet who said that eating meat is not any worse for the environment than any other diet. So, I'm going to keep eating meat.

Koyama: What about all the other scientists who disagree?

Ruti: Well, I still think it's not that bad. They could be the ones that are wrong!

- (a) Evaluate whether the arguments in the discussion above contain fallacious or appropriate appeals to authority.

In your answer you may wish to include the following:

- a definition of a **fallacious** appeal to authority argument
- discussion of whether Koyama's argument contains a fallacious or appropriate appeal to authority
- discussion of whether Ruti's argument contains a fallacious appeal to authority.

4

- (b) Explain why somebody might think Ruti is guilty of confirmation bias.

You must refer to the discussion in your answer.

2

12. Read the argument below:

'If you want to reduce your carbon footprint you should avoid international travel. You haven't been abroad in 3 years, so you must want to reduce your carbon footprint.'

Explain the fallacy in this argument.

2

SECTION 2 — KNOWLEDGE AND DOUBT — 10 marks

Attempt ALL questions on DESCARTES or ALL questions on HUME

DESCARTES

13. State two of Descartes' aims in his method of doubt. 2
14. (a) What is the extent of Descartes' doubt about his senses at the end of the unreliability of the senses argument? 1
- (b) What is the extent of Descartes' doubt about his senses at the end of the dreaming argument? 1
15. In an essay a student wrote:
'Descartes' theory that a malicious demon is deceiving him about everything is stupid & far-fetched. There is no evidence that a malicious demon even exists. The malicious demon argument certainly does not prove that everything I believe is false. Descartes was looking for certainty and one thing we can be certain of is that he was wrong!'
 What is wrong with this response to Descartes' malicious demon? In your answer you should make clear what role the malicious demon plays in Meditation One. 6

OR

HUME

16. What does Hume mean by the terms "impressions" and "ideas"? 2
17. Describe how Hume uses the idea of God to support the copy principle. 2
18. In an essay a student wrote:
'The missing shade of blue proves Hume's theory that all ideas come from impressions, but it is a hopeless example. For one thing, how is a blind guy supposed to have seen every shade of blue? Hume says that it's a singular example, but he doesn't realise that it applies to the other senses too. Even if it did only apply to colour, what about the missing shade of green?'
 What is wrong with this response to Hume's missing shade of blue? In your answer you should make clear what role the missing shade of blue plays in Hume's theory. 6

[Turn over

SECTION 3 — MORAL PHILOSOPHY — 10 marks

Attempt ALL questions

19. Why is the ‘sovereignty of reason’ important to Kant? 2
20. Explain why Kant argues that nothing but the good will is good in itself. 3
21. Read the following scenario:
Sinead volunteers with a local charity because she feels satisfied to be making a difference and enjoys getting to know people.
- (a) Why would Kant say that Sinead’s actions in this scenario are not morally praiseworthy? 3
- (b) Do you agree with Kant’s view about the moral worth of Sinead’s actions?
Give reasons for your answer. 2

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