

**Victorian Certificate of Education  
2018**

SUPERVISOR TO ATTACH PROCESSING LABEL HERE

STUDENT NUMBER           Letter

**PHILOSOPHY**  
**Written examination**

**Thursday 15 November 2018**

**Reading time: 11.45 am to 12.00 noon (15 minutes)**

**Writing time: 12.00 noon to 2.00 pm (2 hours)**

**QUESTION AND ANSWER BOOK**

**Structure of book**

<i>Section</i>	<i>Number of questions</i>	<i>Number of questions to be answered</i>	<i>Number of marks</i>
A	5	5	20
B	2	2	20
C	3	1	20
			Total 60

- Students are permitted to bring into the examination room: pens, pencils, highlighters, erasers, sharpeners and rulers.
- Students are NOT permitted to bring into the examination room: blank sheets of paper and/or correction fluid/tape.
- No calculator is allowed in this examination.

**Materials supplied**

- Question and answer book of 20 pages
- Additional space is available at the end of the book if you need extra paper to complete an answer.

**Instructions**

- Write your **student number** in the space provided above on this page.
- All written responses must be in English.

**Students are NOT permitted to bring mobile phones and/or any other unauthorised electronic devices into the examination room.**

**SECTION A**

**Instructions for Section A**  
Answer **all** questions in the spaces provided.

**Question 1** (3 marks)

In his ‘Sixth Meditation’, Descartes argues that it is certain that he can exist without his body.

State the premises of his argument.

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**Question 2** (2 marks)

Use an example to explain **one** of Armstrong’s objections to behaviourism.

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**Question 3** (5 marks)

**a.** Outline an argument used by Hume to support his sceptical view of personal identity. 3 marks

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**b.** Outline **one** objection that could be made to Hume’s sceptical view of personal identity. 2 marks

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**Question 4** (5 marks)

- a.** Briefly state **one** viewpoint that Aristotle expresses on the role of pleasure in the good life. 1 mark

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- b.** Explain how Socrates might respond to Aristotle’s viewpoint stated in **part a.** 2 marks

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- c.** Explain how Callicles might respond to Aristotle’s viewpoint stated in **part a.** 2 marks

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**Question 5** (5 marks)

- a. Nietzsche offers a single objection to ‘hedonism or pessimism or utilitarianism or eudaemonism’.

Briefly state this objection.

1 mark

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- b. To what extent is the objection stated in **part a.** a fair criticism of Singer’s argument in ‘Famine, Affluence, and Morality’?

4 marks

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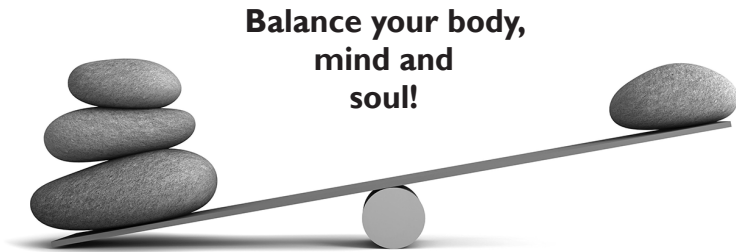
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**SECTION B**

**Instructions for Section B**  
Answer **all** questions in the spaces provided.

**Question 1** (10 marks)



Source: mstanley/Shutterstock.com (image only)

To what extent does the advice in the image above make sense for Armstrong and Socrates? Would either of them be right? Why or why not?

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## SECTION C

## Instructions for Section C

Write an essay on **one** of the following topics.

## Question 1 (20 marks)



Source: Chris Madden; CartoonStock Ltd,  
<www.CartoonStock.com>

In the cartoon above, is anyone living the good life? In your response, draw on philosophical sources, including at least **one** of the following: Plato's *Gorgias*, Aristotle, Nietzsche, Singer.

OR

## Question 2 (20 marks)

'We have very few real needs, but our wants are destroying us.'

Do you agree? In your response, draw on relevant philosophical sources, including at least **one** of the following: Plato's *Gorgias*, Aristotle, Nietzsche, Singer.

OR

## Question 3 (20 marks)

'No need to worry: technology will save us.'

Do you agree with what this statement suggests about technology and the good life? In your response, draw on relevant philosophical sources, including at least **one** of the following: Plato's *Gorgias*, Aristotle, Nietzsche, Singer.





















