PHILOSOPHY

Written examination

Friday 10 November 2017

Reading time: 3.00 pm to 3.15 pm (15 minutes)
Writing time: 3.15 pm to 5.15 pm (2 hours)

QUESTION AND ANSWER BOOK

Structure of book

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- 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.
Question 1 (6 marks)
Dualists argue that we should make distinctions between two radically contrasting kinds of things. Socrates and Descartes both give dualist arguments, but each appeals to a different distinction.

a. What is the distinction to which Descartes appeals? 1 mark

b. What is the distinction to which Socrates appeals? 1 mark

c. Outline one of Descartes’s arguments that makes use of his distinction. 2 marks
d. Outline one of Socrates’s arguments that makes use of his distinction.  

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2 marks
Question 2 (4 marks)

a. How do Locke and Hume differ in their views about attributing identity to animals and humans on the one hand, and to persons on the other?  

b. Which of these views is preferable? Justify your response.
Question 3 (3 marks)

a. According to Aristotle, what is the role of habituation in the good life?  

b. Is Aristotle right in thinking that habituation has this role in a good life? Justify your response.  

Question 4 (2 marks)

Nietzsche distinguishes between master morality and slave morality.

Outline one of Nietzsche’s arguments for the superiority of master morality.
Question 5 (3 marks)
Identify and explain one difference between Nietzsche’s and Callicles’s viewpoints on the role of social convention in the good life.

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Question 6 (2 marks)
Singer draws an analogy between rescuing a child drowning in a pond and famine relief.
Outline this analogy and explain the moral conclusion Singer draws from it.

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END OF SECTION A
Question 1 (10 marks)

‘… classical philosophy has tended to think of the mind as an inner arena of some sort.’


Is the mind best thought of as an ‘inner arena’?

Critically discuss this question. In your response, focus on the views of Armstrong and either Descartes or Socrates, and make reference to a relevant contemporary debate.
Question 2 (10 marks)

‘Person … is a forensic term, appropriating actions and their merit …’


Explain and evaluate what Locke means by this claim, making reference to the views of either Hume or Nagasena.
SECTION C

Instructions for Section C
Write an essay on one of the following topics.

Question 1 (20 marks)
On the grave of World War II hero Oscar Schindler, the German inscription reads, ‘The Unforgettable Lifesaver of 1200 Persecuted Jews’. In the film of his life, Schindler says regretfully, ‘I didn’t do enough’. Schindler reflects that perhaps if he had made even more personal sacrifices (found ways to make more money or sold more of his possessions to buy freedom for Jews), he may have saved more lives.

How much is enough when it comes to helping other people? In your response, draw on relevant philosophical sources, including at least one of the following: Plato’s Gorgias, Aristotle, Nietzsche, Singer.

OR

Question 2 (20 marks)

I meant no harm … which everyone needs.

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Is ‘biggering’ the key to a good life? 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)


In the cartoon above, is the human living a good life? In your response, draw on relevant philosophical sources, including at least one of the following: Plato’s Gorgias, Aristotle, Nietzsche, Singer.
Question no.
Extra space for responses

Clearly number all responses in this space.
An answer book is available from the supervisor if you need extra paper to complete an answer. Please ensure you write your student number in the space provided on the front cover of the answer book. At the end of the examination, place the answer book inside the front cover of this question and answer book.