

Victorian Certificate of Education 2016

SUPERVISOR TO ATTACH PROCESSING LABEL HERE

Letter

STUDENT NUMBER

PHILOSOPHY

Written examination

Wednesday 2 November 2016

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

| Section | Number of questions | Number of questions to be answered | Number of marks |
|---------|---------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| А | 4 | 4 | 20 |
| В | 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 16 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 (5 marks)

In *Phaedo*, Simmias uses the analogy of a lyre to argue against Socrates's claim that the soul, unlike the body, is immortal.

a. Outline this argument.

2 marks

b. Evaluate this argument.

3 marks

| | ystem punishes people who commit crimes even if they are so drunk that they have of what they did. | |
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| Why does I | Locke consider this a potential problem for his theory of personal identity? | 2 n |
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| | Locke justify the legal punishment of people who commit crimes while they are so hey have no memory of what they did? | 1 |
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| Evaluate Lo | ocke's justification. | 3 r |
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Question 3 (6 marks)

Critically compare the viewpoints of Callicles and Aristotle on the role of self-restraint in the good life.



Question 4 (3 marks)

Why does Nietzsche see the attitude of the 'herd man' as an obstacle to the good life?

END OF SECTION A TURN OVER

SECTION B

Instructions for Section B

Answer **all** questions in the spaces provided.

Question 1 (10 marks)

'The mind cannot be reduced merely to the physical processes of the body.'

Critically compare the viewpoints of Descartes and Armstrong with regard to this statement. In your response, make use of a relevant contemporary debate.



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Question 2 (10 marks)

'In each person there is an unchanging core that we call the self.'

Critically compare the viewpoints of Hume and Nagasena with regard to this statement. In your response, make use of a relevant thought experiment.

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SECTION C

Instructions for Section C

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

Question 1 (20 marks)

'It is unjust that technology benefits only the affluent minority of the world's people.'

Critically respond to this point of view. 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)

'The purpose of our lives, and therefore the means to our happiness, is to reduce the suffering of others.'

Critically respond to this point of view. 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)

'Consumer culture serves the most self-interested parts of human nature and therefore makes us all worse off.'

Critically respond to this point of view. In your response, draw on relevant philosophical sources, including at least **one** of the following: Plato's *Gorgias*, Aristotle, Nietzsche, Singer.

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| Extra space for | or responses |
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Clearly number all responses in this space.

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An answer book is available from the supervisor if you need extra paper to complete your 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.**

