

# Victorian Certificate of Education 2017

SUPERVISOR TO ATTACH PROCESSING LABEL HERE

		Letter
STUDENT NUMBER		

# **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

Section	Number of questions	Number of questions to be answered	Number of marks
A	6	6	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 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 (	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.

What is the distinction to which Des	cartes appears?	1
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what is the distinction to which soc	rates appears?	1
Outline <b>one</b> of Descartes's argument	s that makes use of his distinction.	2

# Question 2 (4 marks)

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?					
Which of these views is preferable? Justify your response.	2:				
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	Is Aristotle right in thinking that habituation has this role in a good life? Justify your response.	2 r
	stion 4 (2 marks)	
	zsche distinguishes between master morality and slave morality.	
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2017 PHILOSOPHY EXAM 6
Question 5 (3 marks)
Identify and explain <b>one</b> difference between Nietzsche's and Callicles's viewpoints on the role of social
convention in the good life.
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.

**CONTINUES OVER PAGE** 

## **SECTION B**

## **Instructions for Section B**

Answer all questions in the spaces provided.

# Question 1 (10 marks)

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

Source: DM Armstrong 'The Nature of Mind' in The Nature of Mind and Other Essays

University of Queensland Press, St Lucia, 1980, p. 1				
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 ...'

Source: J Locke, 'Of Identity and Diversity', in *Personal Identity*, 2nd edition, J Perry (ed.), University of California Press, Berkeley and Los Angeles, p. 50

#### **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.

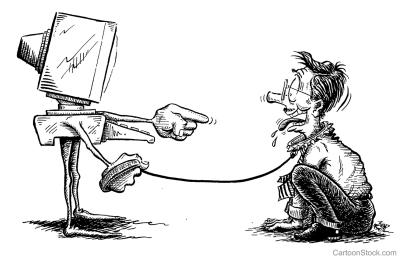
Due to copyright restrictions, this material is not supplied.

Source: Dr. Seuss, *The Lorax*, Harper Collins Children's Books, London, 2009

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)



Source: Brad McMillan; CartoonStock Ltd, <www.CartoonStock.com>

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.	
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2017 PHILOSOPHY EXAM	10


# **Extra space for responses**

Clearly number all responses in this space.		

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2017 PHILOSOPHY EXAM	20

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.** 

