PHILOSOPHY
Written examination

Monday 19 November 2007
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

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Total 100

- 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 white out liquid/tape.
- No calculator is allowed in this examination.

Materials supplied
- Question and answer book of 18 pages, including Assessment criteria.

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 – Short answer questions

Instructions for Section A
Answer all questions in the spaces provided. In some cases a single sentence answer may be sufficient.

Question 1
a. i. Briefly outline Socrates’ image of the two sets of jars (Gorgias).

b. ii. What point does Socrates make using the image of the jars?

b. Give two examples used by Socrates to show that ‘the pleasant and the good are different’.

Question 2
a. Why, according to Nietzsche, does the European ‘disguise himself with morality’?

b. Name three of the ‘props’ or ‘supports’ which Nietzsche says many people need due to their ‘instinct of weakness’.
Question 3
a. For Plato, what is one of the differences between the ‘sightseer’ and the philosopher (*Republic*)?

b. In Plato’s simile of the sun, which three features correspond respectively to which three features of human knowledge?

Question 4
a. i. Turing was dissatisfied with the question ‘Can machines think?’. Why?

ii. What question did he suggest instead?

b. i. What is the ‘Argument from Consciousness’ considered by Turing?

ii. How does Turing respond to the Argument from Consciousness?
Question 5

a. According to Armstrong, what is consciousness?

b. How does Armstrong’s understanding of consciousness relate to his overall view of the nature of a person?

The following assessment criteria apply to Section A:

Criterion 1 knowledge of the key elements and historical and philosophical context of the text

Criterion 5 understanding of the relationship between concepts of body and mind and the nature of knowledge
SECTION B – Extended text response short answer questions

Instructions for Section B
Answer three of the following five questions in the spaces provided.
In this section you are required to display more detail and depth of understanding than in Section A; however, an essay type response to any question is not expected. For example, while a concluding sentence may be appropriate depending on the question, an introduction is not necessary.

Question 1
a. ‘Every art and every inquiry, and similarly every action and pursuit [or choice], is thought to aim at some good; and for this reason the good has rightly been declared to be that at which all things aim.’
   (W D Ross/J Barnes translation)

   ‘Every art and every investigation, and similarly every action and pursuit, is considered to aim at some good. Hence the Good has rightly been defended as “that at which all things aim”.’
   (J A K Thomson translation)

   Critically evaluate this argument of Aristotle’s, with reference to at least one example.

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   5 marks

b. Aristotle claims that eudaimonia involves fulfilling our function, but that eudaimonia needs ‘external goods’ as well.
   i. Give a brief description of this function.

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   ii. Name four of the ‘external goods’.

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   2 + 2 = 4 marks

SECTION B – Question 1 – continued

TURN OVER
c. i. For what two reasons does Aristotle think that, simply as human beings, we must have a function?

ii. Evaluate these two reasons.

2 + 4 = 6 marks
Question 2

a. How is Epicurus’s attitude to death connected to his hedonism?

b. Would Epicurus agree more with Callicles or with Socrates about the role of pleasure in the good life? Explain your answer.
c. Critically evaluate Epicurus’s hedonism.

6 marks
Question 3

a. Give a brief account of Nietzsche’s concept of the ‘will to truth’.

b. i. To where does Nietzsche think we are led by the ‘will to truth’?

ii. What is the alternative?

c. Outline and critically evaluate Nietzsche’s reflections on morality, as expressed in the prescribed text.
Question 4

a. Sartre seems to express two different attitudes to the nonexistence of God.
   i. What are these two attitudes?

ii. What is the basis of each of them respectively?

b. i. What claim does Sartre illustrate with his example of choosing to marry?

ii. Critically evaluate this claim.
c.  i.  What claim does Sartre illustrate with his example of the military officer?

ii.  Critically evaluate this claim.

2 + 2 = 4 marks
Question 5

a. i. Murdoch rejects a type of moral philosophy which, following Kant, centres on ‘the notion of the will as the creator of value’. What does she find objectionable in this philosophy?

ii. In Murdoch’s view, what is the creator of value?

b. i. Give two of Murdoch’s examples of moral problems.

ii. How would Murdoch wish us to approach and resolve such problems?

2 + 3 = 5 marks
c. Critically evaluate Murdoch’s view of morality and moral problems, with some reference to the ideas of Martin Luther King.

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5 marks
Total 45 marks

The following assessment criteria apply to Section B:

Criteria

1. Analysis of the central arguments about the good life as developed in the texts
2. Evaluation of the central arguments about the good life as developed in the texts
3. Analysis of the relationship of the arguments in the texts to each other, to other traditions of thinking and to contemporary conceptions of the good life
4. Use of evidence and reasoning to develop arguments and support conclusions
SECTION C – Essay

Instructions for Section C
Answer one question in the space provided.

Question 1
Outline and critically compare the views of Plato, Popper and Kuhn with respect to the nature and discovery of knowledge.

OR

Question 2
Outline and critically compare the views of Descartes, Turing and Armstrong with respect to the possibility of thinking machines.

OR

Question 3
Outline and critically examine the views of any three of Plato, Descartes, Turing and Armstrong on the nature of the human mind.

Total 30 marks

The following assessment criteria apply to Section C:

Criterion 6  analysis of arguments about mind, body, knowledge and belief
Criterion 7  evaluation of arguments about mind, body, knowledge and belief
Criterion 8  use of evidence and reasoning to develop arguments and support conclusions