

## Written end-of-term examination

Notice: Before you begin answering any questions, please carefully read through all of the instructions. If anything is unclear or if there is a problem, please quietly request the attention of an official (ideally by raising your hand and looking in their direction).

Each part contains exactly one question per each of the {sample size number = 8} course topics, listed in chronological order. {Note: normally, the number of course topics is greater than ten; topics or order of topics may differ from year to year.}

Each student's individual scores for the four parts will be weighted such that the maximum percentage shown below is assigned to their highest scores.

### (I) True or false (15–25%)

For each of the following statements, please tick one of the boxes, either 'true' or 'false' (please assume that there is no alternative, third option).

2 points for a correct answer

1 point for no answer

0 points for an incorrect answer

- (1) Gettier presents a theory of knowledge from which it follows that knowledge cannot be justified true belief.

☐ True

☐ False

- (2) Carroll's paradox in 'What the Tortoise Said to Achilles' concerns inference.

☐ True

☐ False

- (3) 'Are there moral facts?' is a question that belongs to the subfield of meta-ethics rather than the subfield of normative ethics.

☐ True

☐ False

- (4) Socrates is a proponent of the view that what is pious is what is dear to all gods.

☐ True

☐ False

- (5) Physicalism is the view that there is nothing over and above the physical.

☐ True

☐ False

- (6) The multiple realizability of mental states presents an important challenge to token identity theory.

☐ True

☐ False

(7) Of the various senses of consciousness, it is *phenomenal* consciousness that presents an important challenge to physicalism.

☐ True ☐ False

(8) While philosophers disagree about what accounts for our identity over time, all philosophers agree that we are fundamentally persons.

☐ True ☐ False

## (II) Multiple choice (15–25%)

For each of the following questions, please choose only one answer (a), (b), (c), or (d). Please circle the whole answer.

2 points for a correct answer

1 point for no answer

0 points for an incorrect answer

(1) Russell argues that the table in front of him 'is not what it seems'. He also claims

- (a) it really is a community of souls.
- (b) it really is an idea in the mind of God.
- (c) it really is an idea in his own mind.
- (d) [None of the above]

(2) Which of the following is not a theoretical approach to vagueness?

- (a) Epistemicism
- (b) Degrees of truth
- (c) Supervaluationism
- (d) Necessitism

(3) Which of the following is not normally considered an issue in AI ethics?

- (a) Deep learning is a black box
- (b) Human–robot interaction
- (c) The moral status of machines
- (d) The Turing test

(4) What does Nietzsche accuse Socrates of having said?

- (a) The only thing I know is that I know nothing.
- (b) Piety demands that one treats the gods in the same way as one treats horses.
- (c) Living – that means being sick for a long time.
- (d) The unexamined life is not worth living.

- (5) According to Kim, one problem of multiply realized properties is that
- (a) such properties are not supervenient on physical states.
  - (b) such properties are surjective.
  - (c) such properties are projectible.
  - (d) [None of the above]
- (6) According to Jackson, when Mary sees color for the very first time, she
- (a) acquires a new representation of a physical fact.
  - (b) learns a new non-physical fact.
  - (c) acquires a new way to identify physical facts.
  - (d) [None of the above]
- (7) In class, we discussed the following view about personal identity:
- (a) Pan-psychism.
  - (b) Eliminativism.
  - (c) Animalism.
  - (d) [None of the above]
- (8) According to Parfit, spectrum cases about personal identity show that
- (a) facts about personal identity are deep facts.
  - (b) facts about personal identity are not deep facts.
  - (c) a person can survive drastic physical and psychological changes as long as these changes occur gradually.
  - (d) a person can survive drastic physical, but not psychological, changes.

### (III) Very short answers (25–35%)

Please answer a total of (no more than) 8 questions and at least four from each of the two sections. For each question you choose to answer, please closely follow the specific instructions in order to give your answer. [average required answer length c. 3 sentences]

#### Section i (please answer exactly four questions from this section)

- (1) In only one or two sentences, describe Gettier's main argumentative strategy using all of the following terms: 'counterexample(s)', 'theory', 'sufficient condition(s)'.
- (2) Present a version of the sorites paradox (also known as the paradox of the heap) in schematic argument form (i.e., a list of premises and conclusion).

- (3) Liao uses the statement 'machine learning is data hungry' to mark what he considers a central issue in AI ethics. First, explain in one sentence what the statement means. Then, in two or three sentences, describe an example in this connection in which a person, group of people or a company act in a way that would seem morally wrong (also say, in a few words, why it would seem morally wrong).
- (4) Typically, when Socrates asks 'What is . . .?' (e.g. 'what is piety?'), he is asking for conditions that are necessary and jointly sufficient for something's being the thing in question (e.g. piety). First explain, in one sentence each, what (in principle) necessary conditions and what (in principle) sufficient conditions are. Then write down completed versions of the following incomplete sentences (using the words 'necessary' and 'sufficient' to fill in the blanks): 'Being red is a \_\_\_\_ condition for being coloured. Being coloured is a \_\_\_\_ condition for being red.'

Section ii (please answer exactly four questions from this section)

- (5) What is supervenience? State the general principle in one sentence and give one example in another short sentence.
- (6) Why is supervenience necessary, but not sufficient, for physicalism?
- (7) What is a philosophical zombie?
- (8) According to Parfit, in what sense are persons like nations?

(IV) Short answers (25–35%)

Please answer a total of (no more than) 2 questions and at least one from each of the two sections. For each question you choose to answer, please closely follow the specific instructions in order to give your answer.

Section i (please answer exactly one question from this section)

- (1) Present one of Gettier's cases; then explain briefly what he argues it shows; finally indicate very briefly, in one sentence each, two possible responses to this argument.
- (2) Briefly explain two approaches to vagueness, including the one according to which there exist sharp cut-off points and vagueness is a form of ignorance. Also, briefly explain whether and why, or why not, the question 'Are there sharp cut-off points between heaps and borderline cases?' (higher-order vagueness) poses a special problem for these approaches.

- (3) Here is Liao's 'Child' case:

A runaway self-driving car is headed toward a child who will be killed. The self-driving car can swerve slightly to avoid hitting the child. Swerving the car slightly to avoid hitting the child has a low (but not zero) chance of harming the passenger in the car. (Liao, p. 12)

Use this case to discuss the view that self-driving cars should always absolutely prioritise the passenger. Do this in the following way: first, briefly present your reason for agreeing or disagreeing with this view; second, present one possible objection to your own argument.

- (4) State the practical importance of the question 'What is piety?' for Euthyphro and Socrates, respectively (in one or two sentences each). Then discuss the question of whether the dialogue between the two has been, or has not been, an effective method for them to find out what to do regarding their respective practical purposes.

Section ii (please answer exactly one question from this section)

- (5) What is the causal exclusion argument? Present the argument in the form of three premises and one conclusion. Explain each premise in two or three short sentences, and briefly present one potential response to one of the premises.
- (6) In your own words, and to the best of your ability, describe what it means to say that mental states are *multiply realizable*. Then go on to state why one might think that mental states are multiply realizable. Lastly, detail Kim's challenge to the multiple realization thesis.
- (7) What is the conceivability argument (also known as the zombie argument)? Present the argument in the form of at most four premises and one conclusion. Explain each premise in two or three short sentences, and briefly present one potential response to one of the premises.
- (8) In your own words, and to the best of your ability, describe the psychological criterion of personal identity. Then go on to raise one objection to this criterion.