Assignment for Philosophy Module   **Total marks: 25**

I. Select the answer that best characterizes each argument (5 x 2 = 10)

1. Mr. Ramchand, who is a lobbyist for the petroleum industry supports the argument that the government should subsidize oil exploration. In view of Mr. Ramchand's credentials, it follows that the government indeed should do likewise.
      a. False cause.
      b. Appeal to unqualified authority.
      c. No fallacy.
      d. Begging the question.
      e. Argument against the person, circumstantial.

2. Jignesh argues that it's not right to post the photographs of convicted child molesters on the Internet. Obviously Jignesh supports child molestation. But these monsters have completely ruined the lives of thousands of children. They can't be allowed to wreak their havoc any longer. Clearly, Jignesh's argument is misguided.
      a. Missing the point.
      b. No fallacy.
      c. Red herring.
      d. Straw man.

3. Either you are with the government, or you are an anti-national
      a. No fallacy.
      b. Accident.
      c. Appeal to force.
      d. False dichotomy

4. The Ionic Blast hairdryer does a great job removing the frizz from Francesca's hair. Therefore, since Gabriella's hair is virtually identical to Francesca's, probably the Ionic Blast would do a good job removing the frizz from Gabriella's hair.
      a. Slippery slope.
      b. No fallacy.
      c. Appeal to unqualified authority.
      d. Weak analogy.

5. If there is oxygen, then there is fire. There is oxygen in this room, therefore there is fire.
      a. no fallacy
      b. affirming the antecedent
      c. denying the consequent
      d. denying the antecedent

II. The following problems relate to identifying and evaluating inductive and deductive arguments. Select the best answer for each. (5 x 2 = 10)

1. Given that n is an integer, it follows that 2n is an even integer.
     a. Inductive, strong.
     b. Deductive, valid.
     c. Deductive, sound.
     d. Inductive, weak.
     e. Deductive, invalid.

2. In professional boxing it is appropriate to throw knock-out punches. Since professional wrestling is similar in many ways to boxing, it is appropriate for professional wrestlers to throw knock-out punches.
     a. Inductive, weak.
     b. Deductive, valid.
     c. Deductive, strong.
     d. Inductive, strong.
     e. Deductive, invalid.

3. If people are not informed about the workings of government, then they cannot vote intelligently. People cannot vote intelligently. Therefore, people are not informed about the workings of government.
     a. Inductive, strong.
     b. Deductive, invalid.
     c. Inductive, sound.
     d. Deductive, valid.
     e. Inductive, weak.

4. No supporters of abortion rights are fundamentalist Christians. Therefore, no fundamentalist Christians are supporters of abortion rights.
     a. Deductive, valid.
     b. Inductive, strong.
     c. Inductive, invalid.
     d. Inductive, weak.
     e. Deductive, invalid.

5. All credit cards are invitations to overspend, and some invitations to overspent are precursors of bankruptcy. Therefore, some credit cards are precursors of bankruptcy.
     a. Deductive, invalid.
     b. Deductive, sound.
     c. Inductive, strong.
     d. Deductive, valid.
     e. Inductive, weak.

III. Read Chapter 1 from John Searle, *Mind: A Brief Introduction*. Out of the 12 problems in the philosophy of mind mentioned in that chapter, pick one that troubles, interests, or puzzles you the most. Discuss why it does so, and how this problem could be resolved.
(word limit: 500 – 1000 words, 5 Marks)