Philosophy HZT4U Exam Review

Breakdown

EXAM BREAKDOWN:

Total 75 marks

- 1. Multiple choice 25 marks
- 2. Identifying philosophy quote 10 marks
- 3. Short essay 20 marks
- 4. Long essay 20 marks

Philosophy

•	Western Philosophy	Varg/Alyssa
•	Eastern Philosophy	Chu
•	Branches of Philosophy	Varg
•	Deductive/Inductive	Varg
•	Rationalism vs Empiricism	Varg
•	Logical Fallacies	Varg
	Stoicism Cynicism Enicureanism Vara	

Philosophers/Thinkers and their Theories

Socrates - Socratic me	ethod MG
Aristotle	Anais
o Golden Mean	MG
o Eudaimonia	MG
Plato	Alyssa
Bertrand Russell	Varg/Nick
Heraclitus	Nick
Confucius and Eastern Philosophers Chu	
Siddhartha	Chu
Chuang Tzu	Chu
Pythagoras	Alyssa
Hobbes	Nick
Descartes	Nick
Locke	Nick
Hume	Nick
Berkeley	Nick
Einstein	Anais
Popper	Anais
Bacon	MG
Darwin	MG
Kuhn	MG/Anais
	Aristotle O Golden Mean Description Confucius and Easterr Siddhartha Chuang Tzu Pythagoras Hobbes Descartes Locke Hume Berkeley Einstein Popper Bacon Darwin

Terms

Branches of Philosophy

Logic: The study of effective reasoning and argument

Metaphysics: The attempt to make a comprehensive account of facts to explain reality.

Ethics: Is the study of how we should live our lives and how we should treat other people

Epistemology: The study of what is possible to know and how certain we can be of that knowledge.

Inductive Reasoning: The general conclusion is drawn from specific examples, or premises.

Cosmology: The study of contingent facts about the universe.

Ontology: Branch of metaphysics concerned with identifying in the most general terms the kinds of things that actually exist.

Morality: What is right or wrong in the light of faith

Branches of Ethics

Ethics

Descriptive Ethics: The factual study of the ethical standards of a group or tradition.

Normative Ethics: The development of theories that systematically denominate right and wrong actions.

Applied Ethics: Use of ethics to form judgements in practical cases.

Meta-Ethics: Careful analysis of the meaning and justification of ethical claims.

Other Terms

Absolute Truth: Truth that is the case no matter what

Relative truth: A truth that is conditioned by a certain social environment of a particular person, time, or place.

Premise: A statement whose truth is used to infer that of others.

Antecedent: Element of conditional syllogism that states the prior condition in any conditional statement

Consequent: The element of a conditional statement that states its outcome or results.

Fallacy: A mistake in reasoning.

Logical Fallacies

Hasty Conclusion: Fallacy is also known as jumping to a conclusion, when someone makes a inductive conclusion based on inductive insufficient reasoning.

Inconsistency: Arises when an argument contains a contradiction.

False Dichotomy: When we are only offered to alternate choices which in reality there is more than two.

Glittering Generalities: Provides no detail whatsoever about an argument but only general statements surrounded by emotional or glittering words.

Appeal to Authority: Relies on use of important well known person or source instead to endure support of the argument.

Card Stacking: AKA, stacking the deck, presents only facts which favour one point of view, while ignoring the facts which support the opposite side.

Bandwagon: Uses popularity or public an opinion as a reason for doing something.

Logical Fallacies

Personal Attack: This logical fallacy consists of not discussing the context of the argument rather referring to the person life of their opponent.

Guilt by Association: Assumes a characteristic of someone based on the characteristics of their surroundings.

Straw Person: This fallacy occurs when someone attacks a minor of irrelevant part of the opponent's position.

Post Hoc: Because one event follows another, a false conclusion is sometimes drawn the one causes the other.

Begging the Question: An argument begs the question when its premises assumes the truth of the conclusion.

Inductive and Deductive Reasoning

Inductive: The general conclusion is drawn from specific examples, or premises.

Definition: Coming to a conclusion logically based off experience.

These conclusions are valid to varying degrees

EG: Asian driver crashes car, thus all Asian drivers are bad drivers.

Deductive: The specific conclusion is drawn from general examples, or premises.

Definition: If the premises is accepted the conclusion is logically guaranteed.

Isn't used for certainty, but good for a general concept

EG: All Waterloo Engineer Applicants must fill out a set of forms... You are a Waterloo Engineer Applicant... you will have to fill out a set of forms...

Rationalism Against Empiricism

Rationalism: *Using logic/reason to develop theories*

Extreme Rationalism: Believe all truth from knowledge and reasoning.

Whatever occurs on paper isn't always same as application

Empiricism: *Using experiences to develop concepts*

Classic empiricism: The idea that we know about the world only what the world reveals to us under five senses.

What about beyond these senses? Is there no thinking about what occurs?

Idiosyncrasy

Stoicism, Epicureanism, Cynicism

Stoicism: The indifference to external things

Stoicism is based on the belief things including human actions are predetermined.

The only things human beings can control is how we react to events.

Remain calm

Cynicism: The philosophy of a simpler life

Rejection of materialistic values.

"There are so many things I do not need or want" -People give up possession to live a humble free life.

Minimal / Frugal life.

Social institutions cannot provide the answers to your life.

Epicureanism: Enjoy life while you can

Hedonism: The goal of living life was to live life solely for pleasure.

Belief that there is no overall plan or rationality to the universe

Extreme searches for pleasure only and result in long term pain.

Did not advocate a life of excess food drink and merriment.

Philosophers

Socrates

The Socratic Method - form of argumentative, cooperative debate based on asking and answering questions to stimulate critical thinking

- Basic form is a series of questions formulated as tests of logic and fact which helps a person or group discover weaknesses in their argument
- Dialectical method involving a discussion in which the defense of one point of view is questioned

"The only true wisdom is in knowing you know nothing."

"The unexamined life is not worth living."

Plato

WORLD OF FORMS

Most true of forms

• The essence of various objects

Unchanging/Eternal

Not subject to time

Represented by physical world

• Forms are extramental, non-physical but not in the mind

"Forms are the perfect archetypes of each sort of object we see around us."

PHYSICAL WORLD

Considered representations of forms

Momentary portrayals of the Form

Temporary

• Subject to time

Represents World of Forms

• The Forms are real but the material objects around us are not

"Everything that we experience in the world of sensation is constantly changing, imperfect and often fleeting."

Plato's Cave

The chained prisoners represent ordinary people who believe the material world to be real

The fire represents the artificial truth of the material world

Shadows on the cave wall represent material objects

The difficult ascent out of the cave represents the process of recollecting our knowledge of the Forms

Outside the cave:

- Moon, stars: the forms of abstractions
- Sun: the Form of the Good

"The Ring of Gyges"

People practice justice involuntarily because they don't have the power to be unjust

If given the opportunity, both the good person and bad person will eventually perform evil deeds, people are, "...only diverted into the path of justice by the force of law."

"For all men believe in their hearts that injustice is far more profitable to the individual than justice..."

If one were to continue on the righteous path despite being given the power to do unjust, people would hypocritically praise them as they would truly believe him to be unintelligent for not taking advantage

Plato's Quotes

"Wise men talk because they have something to say; fools, because they have to say something."

"Be kind, for everyone you meet is fighting a hard battle."

"You can discover more about a person in an hour of play than in a year of conversation."

Aristotle

Aristotle's Theory of True knowledge

He did not accept the concept that things existed separately from the things themselves.

He observed that we use our senses to experience specific objects around us.

We develop universal concepts of objects when we observe for example many different dogs, looking at all the different types we develop a general understanding of what a dog is.

He believed that we can get the truth through observing many certain things, we can develop the idea of a sunny day through many sunny days, a human through many humans and so on.

"All men possess by nature the desire to know"

Aristotle believed that the universe is there to learn from and was open to investigation by any person who cared to search it's secrets.

Aristotle's ideas have heavily influenced western philosophy for the past 2000 years.

Golden Mean

- 1. Theory of excess, deficiency, and moderation extremes in both directions are morally wrong, one must find an equal balance to be virtuous
- 2. Mean is equidistant from each extreme mean can be different for each individual (ex. Amount of food to eat is different for people of varying sizes)
- 3. The virtuous person aims at the mean it is rare to hit the mean for every action, but one must strive for the mean in order to achieve happiness and virtue
- 4. What is virtue then? "virtue is a state of deliberate moral purpose consisting in a mean that is relative to us, the mean being determined by reason, or as a prudent person would determine it."

Eudaimonia

Eudaimonia: "the good for human life"

It is usually translated as happiness but Aristotle states it is "living and faring well"

- 1. "Eudaimonia is not a state of mind, but relates to an activity the activity of living." A good life realises the full potential that a human life has.
- 2. "Eudaimonia is not something subjective, but objective." To say someone is eudaimon is to make an objective statement about their life.
- 3. "Eudaimonia is not something easily changed." It is an evaluation of life as a whole, and does not come and go the way happiness can.

Aristotle's Quotes

We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit.

The roots of education are bitter, but the fruit is sweet.

Poverty is the parent of revolution and crime.

Bertrand Russell

Scientists and realists believe philosophy, while harmless, is useless.

Practicality is wrongfully defined as recognizing only material needs, nourishing the body, but not the mind.

The mind should be viewed as being equally important as the body.

Philosophy is centered around knowledge that focuses on understanding more about our own beliefs and ideals.

Philosophy contains questions about religion which people of faith believe should remain unanswerable at humanity's current capability of understanding.

When answers are given to philosophical questions, seldom are they taken as truth. They often act as guides for how to approach a problem, or as a single viewpoint in an open discussion.

Philosophy is to be studied not for the answer, but for the sake of the question.

Bertrand Russell's Quotes

"The trouble with the world is that the stupid are cocksure and the intelligent are full of doubt."

"Men are born ignorant, not stupid. They are made stupid by education."

"Most people would sooner die than think; in fact, they do so."

Heraclitus

He states that all things in life are in a state of constant change, using fire as an example of this. Fire constantly changes shape, needs constant tending, and constantly gives off heat, smoke, and ashes.

He disagreed with the notion that the universe is in chaos (entropy), and suggested instead that a rational, intelligible structure or order underlay the world's impermanence. The nature of this order (logos) may not be understood by human consciousness.

He believes that everything in existence is fundamentally connected in a unity that exists beyond the temporary nature of the world.

Heraclitus's Quotes

"You cannot step into the same river twice, for it is not the same river and he is not the same man."

"There is nothing permanent except change."

"The hidden harmony is better than the obvious."

Pythagoras

Secret Society

The inner circle (mathematikoi) followers lived permanently with the society, had no personal possessions, were strict vegetarians, and obeyed strict rules:

- 1. Reality is mathematical in nature
- 2. Philosophy can be used for spiritual purification
- 3. The soul can rise to union with the divine
- 4. Certain symbols have a mystical significance
- 5. All followers must observe strict loyalty and secrecy

The outer circle (akousmatics) followers did not follow the same strict rules, they could own a home, have possessions, did not have to be vegetarian, and come to the society in the day.

Pythagoras' Theories

Numbers as the First Principle

The substance of the entire universe is identified with numbers

Only what is possible in mathematics is possible in nature, nothing could exist that implied a mathematical impossibility

The idea of number was a living, qualitative reality that had to be experienced

By focusing on the number, one could purify the mind and experience true happiness

Two Principles

The even and the odd; where the latter is limited (good) and the former unlimited (evil)

The limited ensures safety as it is known, while the unlimited is unknown and thus dangerous

Pythagoras' Theories

Geometry

Mathematics and geometry are intimately related; a number then is a geometric figure and a geometric figure was a number

The true nature of the world is a sort of geometry in numbers and therefore measurable

The geometric figure is a number of points in space the actual number determining the shape or object itself

Music

Discovered the relationship between the length, tautness, and pitch of a string

The modifications and ratios of musical scales could be expressed in numbers

Pythagoras Quotes

"The oldest, shortest words — "yes" and "no" — are those which require the most thought."

"Number is conceived not as a mental abstraction but something which exists in and composes all things."

"... the whole heaven, as has been said is numbers."

"All things, at least those we know, contain Number; for it is evident that nothing whatever can either be thought or known without Number"

Scientific Philosophers

Albert Einstein

Theory of General Relativity:

- "Time and space are relative to the point of view of the observer, and that only the speed of light is constant from all points of view in the universe"
 - Everything is relative, except for the speed of light

Theory of Gravity:

- "Everything emits gravity waves, and that causes disruptions in both space and time"

Theory of Wormholes:

- "Wormholes are theoretical passageways through space-time that create shortcuts for long journeys across the universe"

Karl Popper

Falsification:

- "The growth of knowledge depends entirely upon disagreement"
- "In so far as a scientific statement speaks about reality, it must be falsifiable; and in so far as it is not falsifiable, it does not speak about reality."

Probability:

- All outcomes are separate from the previous one

Plato:

- "who should rule?" vs. "How to rearrange institutions so that the rulers can not do too much damage?"

Francis Bacon

4 Idols of the Mind

Idols of the Tribe - everything we perceive with our senses is only a false reality; human understanding is distorted due to one's own nature and mind

"A false assertion that the sense of man is the measure of all things"

Idols of the Cave - we tend to only see what we want to see rather than accepting reality; the cave is our cover, where we are shielded from the light which symbolizes true reality

"Everyone has a cave or den of their own, which refracts and discolors the light of nature"

Francis Bacon (cont.)

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Charles Darwin

Theory of Evolution - the characteristics of organisms arise and develop through natural selection, variations increase ability to compete, survive, and reproduce

Theory of Natural Selection - animals which have a advantageous trait survive and pass that trait to offspring, those who do not have the trait die because they are not suited for the environment

"One general law, according to the advancement of all organic beings, namely, multiply, vary, let the strongest live and the weakest die"

"Survival of the fittest"

Thomas Kuhn

- Viewed that scientists work within an unquestioned theory or set of beliefs shapes
 their thinking
- An existing paradigm fails to explain events properly because there are many exceptions, but scientists continue to accept and support the status quo without a reasonable alternative

Paradigm Shifts:

- Cycle of Stability, Conflict, Change
- "The decision to reject one paradigm is always simultaneously the decision to accept another"

Political Philosophers

Thomas Hobbes

Theories that trace all observed effects to matter and motion are called "mechanical". Geometry considers the effects of the motions of points, lines, and solids, for example.

Hobbes states that individuals relinquish freedom for personal security. People join together because of negative circumstances and would agree on a "social contract", which resigns their freedom in exchange for security.

The Sovereign's Principal Rights designed by Hobbes are a list of rules by which a sovereign must follow to correctly govern a nation. Abiding by these rules eliminates the possibility of an abuse of power or the jeopardization of the security of citizens. It upholds the social contract between the sovereign and citizen.

""Science is the knowledge of consequences, and dependence of one fact upon another."

"The condition of man... is a condition of war of everyone against everyone."

Rene Descartes

Regarded the opinions and theories of other philosophers as uncertain and contradictory methods for determining truth.

All knowledge began with ideas in the mind, which are considered carefully.

One must exist, for even in the act of doubting everything, there is a being who doubts.

The true nature of our bodies is understood by pure thought and reason with no reliance from the human senses.

The mind and the body can be imagined differently and apart, and as a result they are distinct.

"It was necessary for me to reject as absolutely false everything concerning which I could imagine the least ground of doubt."

"I conceive its extension, or the property it has of occupying space, not at all as an accident, but its true form and essence."

"I think, therefore I am."

John Locke

Empiricist who heavily influenced the works of David Hume and George Berkeley. His ideas were created in rejection of rationalism.

All topics can be argued if of enough significance to society. All answers must be questioned to prevent logical deviations. All ideas come to us through the use of our senses.

Primary qualities such as size and shape reside within the object itself. Secondary qualities such as colour and texture are drawn from primary qualities, and allow us to experience things and objects.

Human nature is characterized by thought and reason. All people are born free and should remain as such for the entirety of their lives.

"Men being, as has been said, by nature, all free, equal and independent, no one can be put out of this estate, and subjected to the political power of another, without his own consent."

"The only defence against the world is a thorough knowledge of it."

"The great source of most of the ideas we have, depending wholly upon our senses, and derived by them to the understanding, I call sensation."

David Hume

Beliefs stem from habit, not reason. Morality is built by the consequences of our actions.

Ideas are thoughts, impressions are sensations and feelings. Memory is based on experience.

Hume suggests cause and effect exists only in the human mind. He denies the existence of the 'self'.

He defines identities as distinct ideas that don't change.

Hume rejects the idea of a social contract.

"Without authority, the strong would prey on the weak."

"Everything we believe is ultimately traceable to experience."

"Human beings are nothing other than bundles of perceptions rapidly succeeding each other."

George Berkeley

Berkeley believes objects exist primarily as ideas in the mind.

He disagrees with John Locke's distinction between primary and secondary qualities, stating instead that both primary and secondary qualities must come through the senses, and so distinguish them.

Berkeley states that we have no true, real and certain understanding about the external world.

Berkeley concludes that all things continue to exist because they are perceived by God.

"Truth is the cry of all, but the game of few."

"The same principles which at first view lead to skepticism, pursued to a certain point, bring men back to common sense."

"Many things, for aught I know, may exist, whereof neither I nor any other man hath or can have and idea or notion whatsoever."

Eastern Philosophers

Chuang Tzu

- Philosophers in China were pondering philosophical questions at the same time Plato and Aristotle were teaching
- A school of philosophy was called Taoism
- Lived during Chou Dynasty when it split to several warring states
 - Old social order collapsed
 - Trying to make new one
- Golden age of philosophy
 - "Hundred schools of thought"
 - Attempts to design new social order
- Confucianism is one school example
 - Founded by thinkers who instructing all came in contact with
 - Encouraged Chinese rulers to follow their teachings
 - Chuang Tzu was one of em

Chuang Tzu

View

- His philosophy of knowledge is described as a sort of scepticism
- No really solid ground for judging between two opposing views held by people with different perspectives
- Less importance to social institutions and behaviourlf one wins an argument, are they truly right? Are their arguments truly correct? Partly right partly wrong?
- If one is right, there would be any room for argument
- No way to say what is better or worse
- Relativism, more than one truth
- More ways to state right or wrong
- More free will over control/discipline

Butterfly

- We can not tell if we are dreaming
- We might interpret dreams within dreams
- Only through awakening do we realize

Confucius and Ethics

Views on ethics

- 5 basic relationships in life
 - 1. Father to son kindness from father, obedience and respect from son
 - 2. Elder brother to younger brother gentility from elder, humility from younger
 - 3. Husband to wife righteous behavior from husband, understanding from wife
 - 4. Elder to junior consideration from elder, deference from junior
 - 5. Ruler to subject benevolence from ruler, loyalty from subjects
- Cultivation of self, character and integrity are necessary for those who are involved in public life
- Tao is the ideal way of life
- Te refers to virtue and moral power
- Jen refers to qualities of goodness, humanity, and benevolence (sensitivity to the wellbeing of others)
- Li refers to appropriate behavior that is necessary for one's place in society
- Yi refers to the ability to weight elevant considerations in specific situations before acting

Confucius and Ethics

Analects (from the textbook)

- "Do not do to others what you do not want done to yourself"
- "To be able to practice five virtues everywhere in the world constitutes humanity.... Courtesy, magnanimity [nobility of feeling and generosity of mind], good faith, diligence, and kindness. He who is courteous is not humiliated, he who is magnanimous wins the multitude, he who is of good faith is trusted by the people, he who is diligent attains his objective, and he who is kind can get service from the people" ~

Confucius and Ethics

Analects (from the video)

- "There is beauty in everything"
- "our greatest glory is not in never falling, but in rising everytime we fall"
- "Learning without thought is labor lost; thought without learning is perilous"
- "When you know a thing, to hold that you know it; and when you do not know a thing, to allow that you do not know it this is knowledge
- I hear and i forget. i see and i remember. I do and i understand"
- If i am walking with two other men, each of them will serve as my teacher. I will pick out the good points of the one and imitate them, and the bad points of the others and correct them in myself."
- "It does not matter how slow you go, as long as you do not stop"
- "Wherever you go, go with all your heart"

Siddhartha Gautama

- Also known as Buddha
- Answer to life's suffering came to Buddha as he meditated under a lotus tree

View

- Right way to live was neither to pursue pleasure, nor deny oneself unnecessarily
- Will not find happiness by satisfying our desires
- Will not find wisdom by denying ourselves from the necessities of life
- Developed 4 Noble Truths
 - 1. Life is suffering
 - 2. Suffering involves a chain of causes
 - 3. Suffering can cease
 - 4. There is a path to such cessation
- Right way to live is to gain wisdom that allows us to see beyond ourselves

Siddhartha Gautama

Ethics

- Created the Eightfold Path to free us from suffering
- Consists of right thinking, right seeing, right speaking, right acting, right lifestyle, right effort, right mindset and right meditation
- 5 moral precepts (Pancha Shila)
 - 1. Avoid killing, or harming any living thing
 - 2. Avoid stealing, taking what is not yours
 - 3. Avoid sexual irresponsibility, for monks and nuns means celibacy
 - 4. Avoid lying or any harmful speech
 - 5. Avoid alcohol and drugs

Siddhartha Gautama

Quotes

- "And what, monks is the right view? The knowledge of pain, knowledge of the cause of pain, knowledge of the cessation of pain and knowledge of the way that leads to the cessation of pain"
- "And what is right intention? The intention....not to hurt, the intention not to injure"
- "And what is right speech? Refraining from falsehood, from malicious speech, from harsh speech, from frivolous speech"
- Amd what is right action? Refraining from taking life, from taking what is not given, from secual intercourse"
- Amd what is right livelihood? Here a noble disciple abandoning a false mode of livelihood gets his living by right livelihood"
- "And what is right effort? Here a monk ... exerts his mind; with the dispelling of bad or evil thoughts that has arisen he exercises will ... with the producing of good thoughts He exercises will, puts forth effort ... with the fixing freeing from confusion. increasing, enlarging, developing and filling up of good thoughts that had arisen he excerccises will, puts forth effort"