**Knowledge**

**345-101-MQ**

Dr. Brendan Myers Fall 2015

**Final Examination**

(30 points; 30% of the final exam)

This final examination is worth 30% of the grade for the course. Please feel free to doodle in the margins of the paper if you are stuck with one of the questions. Please answer all questions, except the multiple-choice questions, with complete and grammatically correct sentences. 0.5 points will be deducted for every spelling and grammar error detected by your instructor, to a maximum of 3 points.

You may answer the multiple choice questions directly on the exam script. Please provide a computer-printed text for the short-answer questions and the critical questions.

The exam must be in your instructor’s hands no later than **Thursday, 17th December, at 12:00.** Exams which arrive after this time will be considered late, and will receive a grade of zero. Note that computer problems are NOT considered acceptable reasons for a late submission.

Thank you for enrolling in this course, and I wish you an enjoyable holiday season!

**Your Name (please print):**

**Your Student Number:**

**Please use the space below to draw a picture.**

**Part One: Multiple Choice Questions**. (1/2 points each.) Circle your answers here. If it appears that there is more than one correct answer, choose the one which you think is the BEST answer.  
  
1. What is an intellectual environment?

1. Any place where two or more people can talk to each other about their ideas
2. The prevalent ideas shared around any place where two or more people can talk about their ideas
3. Any place where a minimum of ten people can gather to talk about their ideas
4. Any place where a minimum of twenty people can gather to talk about their ideas
5. A concept used by philosophy professors to torment their students

2. What is a world view?

1. The sum of one’s beliefs about public matters like religion, politics, economics, professional sports, etc.
2. The sum of one’s habits, personality traits, psychological dispositions, and the like
3. The sum of a set of related answers to the biggest questions in life
4. The sum of a set of related questions about the biggest experiences in life
5. The sum of the prevalent ideas in any given intellectual environment

3. Which of the following is NOT a type of good question?

1. Open
2. Fertile
3. Tenacious
4. Direct
5. Rhetorical

4. Which of the following is NOT a type of bad question?

1. Loaded
2. Controversial
3. Empty
4. Rhetorical
5. Leading

5. What is a Framing Language?

1. The words, phrases, metaphors, symbols, definitions, etc., which we use to think and speak of things in a certain way.
2. The questions and problems which prevail in any given intellectual environment
3. A feature of conspiracy theories
4. The indicator-words which indicate where an argument’s inferences are.
5. The indicator-words which indicate where an argument’s premises and conclusions are.

6. What is a Limit Situation?

1. Moments when one confronts the limits of one’s possibilities for action and choice.
2. Moments when one confronts the narrowness of one’s usual way of thinking.
3. Moments when one meets a problem that one cannot solve on one’s own.
4. Situations of bad luck, tragedy, and misfortune.
5. Situations in which other persons or forces are obstructing or blocking your work.

7. Which of the following statements is a Conjunction?

1. “Some players on this team have been playing for many years.”
2. “Players on this team are either new to the game, or they’ve been playing for years.”
3. “Our team has players who are new to the game, and players who’ve been playing for years.”
4. “If the player is very experienced, she’s more likely to score a goal.”
5. “Our team will win the game, if and only if we have lots of experienced players.”

8. Which of the following statements is a Disjunction?

1. “Some players on this team have been playing for many years.”
2. “Players on this team are either new to the game, or they’ve been playing for years.”
3. “Our team has players who are new to the game, and players who’ve been playing for years.”
4. “If the player is very experienced, she’s more likely to score a goal.”
5. “Our team will win the game, if and only if we have lots of experienced players.”

9. Which of the following statements is a Conditional?

1. “Some players on this team have been playing for many years.”
2. “Players on this team are either new to the game, or they’ve been playing for years.”
3. “Our team has players who are new to the game, and players who’ve been playing for years.”
4. “If the player is very experienced, she’s more likely to score a goal.”
5. “Our team will win the game, if and only if we have lots of experienced players.”

10. Which of the following was NOT one of the charges pressed against Socrates?

1. Making the worse argument the stronger
2. Not believing in the gods of the city
3. Teaching philosophy without a license
4. Corrupting the youth
5. Blasphemy

11. Which of the following is NOT a usual feature of conspiracy theories?

1. The theory involves individuals, not groups
2. The theory involves groups, not individuals
3. The theory involves person(s) with nefarious purposes
4. The theory assumes the conspiracy always works in secret, never in public
5. The theory assumes that bad things happen by design, never by accident.

12. What is Propaganda?

1. Any communication to the public, issued by a government, for any purpose.
2. A communication to the public, issued by a government, designed to raise support for a political cause.
3. A communication to the public, issued by any political organization (governments, churches, charities, etc.), designed to raise support for a political cause.
4. A communication to the public, issued by any political organization, designed to raise support for a political cause using fear, lies, half-truths, absolutist moral assumptions, etc.

13. Which of the following is NOT one of the usual psychological strategies employed by con artists and scammers?

1. Obedience to authority
2. Bullying and aggression
3. Vulnerability
4. Time pressure
5. Flattery

14. Which of these is the best description of Ockham’s Razor?

1. The shortest explanation tends to be the truth.
2. The most elegant explanation tends to be the truth.
3. The simplest explanation tends to be the truth.
4. The explanation with the fewest unanswered questions tends to be the truth.
5. The explanation with the fewest references to Hitler tends to be the truth.

15. Which branch of philosophy did Descartes wish to re-position as ‘first philosophy’?

1. Ethics
2. Metaphysics
3. Aesthetics
4. History of Ideas
5. Epistemology

16. How many meditations are in Descartes *Meditations*?

1. Three
2. Four
3. Five
4. Six
5. Seven

17. What is the ‘Cartesian Circle’?

1. A logical fallacy in Descartes’ Evil Genius hypothesis
2. A circle drawn on a Cartesian Plane
3. A logical fallacy in Descartes’ Ontological Argument for God
4. A logical fallacy in Descartes’ theory of Mind-Body Substance Dualism
5. A logical fallacy in Descartes’ Parable of the Wax

18. In the first of Berger’s “Ways of Seeing” videos, what does Berger say is the most important force influencing the meaning of images?

1. Oil painting
2. Reproduction
3. Subject matter
4. Purchase price
5. Fame

19. In the second of Berger’s “Ways of Seeing” videos, what does he say nudity is?

1. A form of dress
2. A form of disguise
3. Merely the absence of clothing
4. A religious experience
5. A political statement

20. In the third of Berger’s “Ways of Seeing” videos, what does oil painting primarily serve?

1. The ideological interests of the ruling class of any given period
2. The ego of the artist
3. The aesthetic interests of museum curators
4. The economic interests of art supply store owners
5. The ego of the person(s) depicted in the paintings

**Part Two: Short answer questions.** (1 point each, unless otherwise noted.) Please answer these in your exam booklet.

1. Name and describe one of the bad thinking habits described in class.
2. Name and describe one of the good thinking habits described in class.
3. What is a Value Program?
4. Name and describe two of the standard fallacies discussed in class. (2 points)
5. Describe one of the features of ‘modernity’.
6. Describe one of the features of ‘post-modernity’.
7. Describe the way in which Descartes reaches his famous conclusion *Cogito, ergo sum.*
8. Describe the major problem in Descartes’ argument for the existence of God.
9. What does Berger mean by ‘mystification’?
10. What, according to Berger, is the reason painters sometimes included skulls in their portrait paintings?
11. What does Berger say is the point of Holbein’s *The Ambassadors*? (2 points)
12. What does Berger say is the point of Gainsborough’s *Mr and Mrs Andrews*? (2 points)
13. What does Berger mean when he says “Publicity is the process of manufacturing glamour”?

**Part Three: Critical Questions.** (14 points; 7 points per question.)

Choose TWO of the following critical questions, and write an argument in support of your answer to the question. Let your answer be no less than two pages, double-spaced. Given that you are allowed your copy of the text here in the exam, your answer must include at least one relevant quotation from the text, which provides evidence in support of your argument. Please include page number references to indicate where in the text your quote came from.

1. If you were among the jurors at the trial of Socrates, which way would you have voted? Why?

2. Explain Sartre’s idea of ‘The gaze”. Do you think his idea is sound or unsound (or something in between)? Why?

3. Explain DeBeauvoir’s idea of “the male gaze”. Do you think her idea is sound or unsound (or something in between)? Why?

4. Explain Beaudrillard’s idea of “the hyper-real”. Do you think his idea is sound or unsound (or something in between)? Why?