

X754/76/11 Philosophy

TUESDAY, 22 MAY 9:00 AM – 11:15 AM

Total marks — 60

SECTION 1 — ARGUMENTS IN ACTION — 20 marks

Attempt ALL questions.

SECTION 2 — KNOWLEDGE AND DOUBT — 20 marks

Attempt ALL questions.

SECTION 3 — MORAL PHILOSOPHY — 20 marks

Attempt the question.

Write your answers clearly in the answer booklet provided. In the answer booklet you must clearly identify the question number you are attempting.

Use blue or black ink.

Before leaving the examination room you must give your answer booklet to the Invigilator; if you do not, you may lose all the marks for this paper.





# SECTION 1 — ARGUMENTS IN ACTION — 20 marks Attempt ALL questions

#### 1. Read the following:

'I've accepted a place at St Andrew's University. I'm really pleased and looking forward to it. I love to play golf and, anyway, I already know some people there so it will be great to catch up with them. What is more, I'm told they are absolutely the best for the course I want to do. Although, to be fair, I'm sure there are other places that are just as good.'

Is this best understood as an argument or some other kind of writing? Give reasons for your answer.

2

2. (a) Give an example of an argument that fits the following diagram:

1



(b) Give an example of an argument that fits the following diagram:

1



(c) Give an example of an argument that fits the following diagram:

1



3. Evaluate the following analogical argument.

'You tell me that I shouldn't download movies from the Internet without paying for them because I'm not giving the makers and actors the money they deserve. That's nonsense. You buy DVDs from charity shops and second-hand shops. It's just the same and nobody says that's wrong.'

2

		MARKS
4.	(a) State the essential characteristic of deductive arguments.	1
	(b) State the essential characteristic of inductive arguments.	1
5.	State <b>three</b> features that distinguish an appropriate appeal to authority from a fallacious appeal to authority.	3
6.	Explain why the premises of an argument might be unacceptable.	2
7.	Explain why a fallacious argument can be persuasive.	2
8.	Describe the main features of a 'slippery slope' argument.	
	Give an example to support your answer.	4

[Turn over

## SECTION 2 — KNOWLEDGE AND DOUBT — 20 marks Attempt ALL questions

- 9. Read the following quotations from **Descartes**' *Meditation 1*:
  - (i) 'I see plainly that there are never any sure signs by means of which being awake can be distinguished from being asleep.'
  - (ii) 'I have no answer to these arguments, but am finally compelled to admit that there is not one of my former beliefs about which a doubt may not properly be raised.'
  - (iii) 'I will suppose therefore that not God, who is supremely good and the source of truth, but rather some malicious demon of the utmost power and cunning has employed all his energies in order to deceive me.'
  - (iv) 'how do I know that God has not brought it about that I too go wrong every time I add two and three or count the sides of a square, or in some even simpler matter, if that is imaginable?"
  - (v) 'from time to time I have found that the senses deceive, and it is prudent never to trust completely those who have deceived us even once.'

Put the quotations into the correct order.

For example, if you think they are already in the correct order you should write the numbers "(i), (ii), (iii), (iv), (v)" as your answer.

2

**10.** What reasons does Descartes give in *Meditation 1* for introducing the idea of a malicious demon?

3

11. Give one objection to Descartes' dreaming argument.

1

**12.** Give **two** objections to Descartes' *Cogito*, ie his conclusion that, 'I am, I exist, is necessarily true whenever it is put forward by me or conceived in my mind'.

2

**13.** Read the following from Descartes' *Meditation 3*:

'So I now seem to be able to lay it down as a general rule that whatever I perceive very clearly and distinctly is true.'

(a) What does Descartes mean by 'clear' ideas?

1

(b) What does Descartes mean by 'distinct' ideas?

1

**MARKS** 

**14.** Read the following extract from **Hume's** *Enquiries*:

'I venture to assert, as true without exception, that knowledge about causes is never acquired through a priori reasoning, and always comes from our experience of finding that particular objects are constantly associated with one other.'

(a) How does Hume support this claim?

6

(b) How might Hume's claim be criticised?

4

[Turn over for next question

## SECTION 3 — MORAL PHILOSOPHY — 20 marks Attempt the question

#### **15.** Read the following:

'Late one night a parent discovers that their child has a very severe headache and decides to take the child to hospital by car. They come to a junction where the traffic lights are at red. Seeing that there are no other cars at the junction, the parent decides to cross the red light. This is seen by police officers who stop the parent, question and breathalyse them. This is standard procedure for any driver stopped for committing a traffic offence. After issuing the parent with a fine for crossing the red light, they allow them to go on their way to hospital. Because they were stopped, they arrived later than they would have done if they had waited for the lights to change.'

Analyse and evaluate how utilitarians might respond to the parent's decision to cross the red light.

In your answer you should make clear the difference between act and rule utilitarianism.

20

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