

1st Mid-Sem Exam

Introduction to Humanities

Date: Saturday 7th February 2015

Duration: 1½ Hrs

Question Paper

Tip: Be brief & to the point

Total Marks: 90

1. Birth of Reason:

- (a) What is a difference between 'graphemes' and 'phonemes'? Give examples of ancient inscriptions based on graphemes and phonemes respectively. Do Visual and Sonic inscription methods affect reflective reasoning? 7
- (b) Explain controversial 'Dark Period versus Golden Period' in the Indian past? 5
- (c) What kind of theory building was done to achieve the fiat of 'Oral Inscription'? 8

2. History of Ideas: Indian Linguistics and Birth of Algorithm

- (a) What is the etymology of the term '*manuṣya*' according to Yāska and what idea of man is implicit in it? 7
- (b) Give two examples of actual phenomenon that always have a form of a discrete line. 5
- (c) What four basic algorithmic operations were discovered while constructing phonetic 'Rules'? What were the three categories of phonetic meta-rules and their mutual relations? 8

3. History of Ideas: Comparison of Greek & Indic Ideational Streams

- (a) What are the major points of difference between the Indian traditions of mathematics and the Greek traditions of mathematics? 5
- (b) What are the major points of difference between the Indian and Greek traditions of logic with respect to 'Universal Verb'? 5
- (c) Show how Viete's invention of the 'law of homogeneous quantities' integrated Greek idea of dimensional numbers and Indian idea of polynomial numbers. How did this move make way for modern science? 5

4. Renaissance Ideas of Man:

- (a) Give theological justification of Newton's idea of 'instantaneous action at a distance'? Give two examples of 'action across time gap'? 5
- (b) Give Descartes' proof of God. 5
- (c) What is Leibniz's idea of a 'point'? According to Leibniz why is shape not a quality of material object? 5

5. Motion of Man: Foundations of Humanities

(a) Are there forces operative in human affairs which are not 'instantaneous action at a distance'? Illustrate with two examples. 5

(b) What is a difference between continuum and contiguum? Why understanding human affairs require understanding contiguity rather than continuity? 5

(c) Give critique of Descartes' argument for Mind-Body dichotomy and its relation with causality. What is a 'term'? 10

Have a good day !