



22075602

**PHILOSOPHY
HIGHER LEVEL
PAPER 2**

Friday 18 May 2007 (morning)

2 hours

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Answer two questions, each on a different prescribed text.

In answering questions, candidates are expected to:

- *present an argument in an organized way*
- *use clear, precise and appropriate language, demonstrating that they understand the author's specific terminology*
- *show an understanding of the specific demands of the question*
- *give detailed references to the ideas and arguments presented in the text*
- *provide relevant supportive material and examples where appropriate*
- *analyse the supporting material*
- *state a clear, personal response to the position expressed by the author.*

Answer **two** questions, each on a different prescribed text.

1. **Lao Tzu: *Tao Te Ching***
Explain and discuss the notion of no action (*wu-wei*).
2. **Confucius: *The Analects***
Explain and evaluate the relationship between ritual and morality.
3. **Plato: *The Republic***
Evaluate the extent to which living a life according to moral principles is necessary for the construction of the just city.
4. **Aristotle: *The Nicomachean Ethics***
Explain and assess Aristotle's argument that prudence is the correct principle in moral conduct.
5. **Aquinas: *Summa Theologiae***
Explain and evaluate Aquinas's view on free will.
6. **Descartes: *Meditations***
Explain and evaluate Descartes's position on certainty.
7. **Locke: *Second Treatise on Government***
"Liberty in the state of nature is freedom from any constraint but the moral law of nature. Under government, it is freedom from the arbitrary will of another man, and from any human rule but the standing rule common to everyone of that society." Explain and discuss.
8. **Hume: *An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding***
Explain and discuss Hume's view on liberty and responsibility.

9. **Rousseau: *Discourse on the Origin of Inequality and Social Contract***
Explain and discuss the role that private property plays in Rousseau’s political philosophy.
10. **Kant: *Groundwork of the Metaphysic of Morals***
Explain and evaluate Kant’s concept of duty.
11. **Nietzsche: *The Genealogy of Morals***
Explain and evaluate the role of language and interpretation in Nietzsche’s questioning the value of morality.
12. **Mill: *Essay on Liberty***
Discuss and evaluate the claim that Mill over-estimates the value of free speech to society and individuals.
13. **Freud: *Civilisation and its Discontents* and *Outline of Psychoanalysis***
Explain and discuss the role that the notion of guilt plays in culture according to Freud.
14. **Buber: *I and Thou***
Explain and discuss the claim that in developing an ‘I -Thou’ relationship with God, people will learn to love the entire world.
15. **Ortega y Gasset: *History as a System***
Explain and assess Ortega’s idea that human life should be understood as an absolutely unique kind of reality.
16. **Wittgenstein: *The Blue and Brown Books***
Explain and assess Wittgenstein’s statement that thinking essentially consists in operating with signs.
17. **Arendt: *The Human Condition***
Explain and assess Arendt’s notions of labour and work.
18. **Simone de Beauvoir: *The Ethics of Ambiguity***
Explain and evaluate the claim that we are totally and inexcusably responsible for our actions.
19. **Rawls: *A Theory of Justice***
“Each person is to have an equal right to the most extensive scheme of equal basic liberties compatible with a similar scheme of liberties for others.” Explain and evaluate.

- 20. Feyerabend: *Farewell to Reason***
Explain and evaluate Feyerabend's epistemic relativism in the context of his views of democracy.
- 21. Foucault: *The History of Sexuality***
Explain and evaluate the role that art and science play in our understanding of sexuality according to Foucault.
- 22. Putnam: *Reason, Truth and History***
Explain and evaluate the claim that "meanings are not in the head."
- 23. Taylor: *The Ethics of Authenticity***
"The search for authentic self-fulfillment can become incoherent and self-defeating when it is tied to atomistic individualism, the overvaluation of instrumental reason and an alienation from public life."
Explain and assess.
- 24. Nussbaum: *Poetic Justice***
Explain and evaluate Nussbaum's argument that a literary imagination is a necessary element in political and judicial decisions.
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