



**PHILOSOPHY
STANDARD LEVEL
PAPER 2**

Tuesday 20 November 2007 (morning)

1 hour

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Answer one question.

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 supporting material and examples where appropriate*
- *analyse the supporting material*
- *state a clear, personal response to the position expressed by the author.*

Answer **one** question.

1. **Lao Tzu: *Tao Te Ching***
Critically assess the claim that society corrupts the human.
2. **Confucius: *The Analects***
Explain and evaluate how the virtuous person differs from other persons.
3. **Plato: *The Republic***
Critically evaluate the role 'the Good' plays in knowledge.
4. **Aristotle: *The Nicomachean Ethics***
"Happiness, then, is found to be something perfect and self-sufficient, being the end to which our actions are directed." Discuss and evaluate.
5. **Aquinas: *Summa Theologiae***
Explain and discuss Aquinas's distinction between immaterial and material substances.
6. **Descartes: *Meditations***
Explain and evaluate Descartes's reasons for which we may, generally speaking, doubt about all things.
7. **Locke: *Second Treatise on Government***
Critically assess the idea that Locke regards the emergence of civil society as a barrier to tyranny.
8. **Hume: *An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding***
"In Hume's theory of knowledge there is no recourse to substance, self or God. There are just impressions and ideas." Discuss and evaluate.

9. **Rousseau: *Discourse on the Origin of Inequality and Social Contract***
Explain and discuss why equality may not be achievable by any form of government.
10. **Kant: *Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals***
“I ought never to act except in such a way that I could also will that my maxim should become a universal law.” Explain and evaluate.
11. **Nietzsche: *The Genealogy of Morals***
Critically evaluate the notion of bad conscience.
12. **Mill: *Essay on Liberty***
Examine the view that Mill is concerned about the tendency of society to force compliance on the individual.
13. **Freud: *Civilisation and its Discontents and Outline of Psychoanalysis***
Discuss and evaluate the contention that civilisation is responsible for human misery and suffering.
14. **Buber: *I and Thou***
Explain and discuss the notion of love and its role in relation to humans and God.
15. **Ortega y Gasset: *History as a System***
Explain and assess Ortega’s idea that I am me and my circumstances.
16. **Wittgenstein: *The Blue and Brown Books***
Explain and evaluate the analogy between language and games.
17. **Arendt: *The Human Condition***
Analyse and evaluate Arendt’s fear that humans are in danger of becoming slaves to the things they know how to do, but do not understand.
18. **Simone de Beauvoir: *The Ethics of Ambiguity***
Explain and discuss de Beauvoir’s analysis of individualism.
19. **Rawls: *A Theory of Justice***
Explain and evaluate the extent to which the idea of justice as fairness is able “to provide the most appropriate moral basis for a democratic society.”

- 20. Feyerabend: *Farewell to Reason***
Critically evaluate the idea of epistemic relativism.
 - 21. Foucault: *The History of Sexuality***
Explain and discuss the repressive hypothesis.
 - 22. Putnam: *Reason, Truth and History***
Critically assess Putnam’s attempt to refute scepticism in the context of his argument about ‘Brains in a Vat.’
 - 23. Taylor: *The Ethics of Authenticity***
Critically discuss Taylor’s assessment of instrumental reason.
 - 24. Nussbaum: *Poetic Justice***
Evaluate Nussbaum’s claim that “Intellect without emotion is, we might say, value-blind.”
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