



Examination paper

PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS—UNIT 1

Student Name:

Student
number:

Teacher:

Time allowed for this paper

Reading/planning time before commencing work: ten minutes

Working time for paper: two and a half hours

Material required/recommended for this paper

To be provided by the supervisor

This Question/Answer Booklet

To be provided by the candidate

Standard materials: Pens, pencil, eraser or correction fluid, highlighter and ruler.

Special materials: Nil

Important note to candidates

No other materials may be taken into the examination room. It is **your** responsibility to ensure that you do not have any unauthorised notes or other material of a non-personal nature in the examination room. If you have any unauthorised material with you, hand it to the supervisor **before** reading any further.

Structure of this paper

Section	Suggested working time	Number of items available	Number of items to be attempted	Marks available
Section One: Reasoning and inquiry skills	40 minutes	14	14	30
Section Two: Philosophical analysis	60 minutes	2	2	40
Section Three: Extended argument	50 minutes	5	1	30
Total				100

Instructions to candidates

1. Write your answers for section 1 in the spaces provided in this paper. Use a blue or black pen only.
2. You must confine your responses to the items and to follow all instructions specific to each item.
3. Spare answer pages may be found at the end of this booklet if you need more space to answer. Please indicate in the original answer space where the answer is continued.

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Section One: Reasoning and Inquiry Skills**30 Marks**

Attempt all questions in this section.

Allow approximately 40 minutes for this section.

Question 1**[10 marks]**

Classify each of the following passages as description, explanation or argument.

[10 marks, one mark for each]

a. The heat in Perth is very humid.

b. The piano is known as a percussion instrument because pianos use small 'hammers' to hit the instrument's strings.

c. Whoever is stronger should lead the world. Ants are stronger than humans, therefore ants should lead the world.

d. Water is composed of two parts hydrogen and one part oxygen. .

e. Red food colouring is often made up from crushed insects.

f. You can never walk into the same river twice because you are not the same person at each moment in time.

g. The Norse god Freyja is often mentioned as the god of fertility and farming.

h. James eats jam two donuts every day and these contain loads of sugar, so he will be at risk of getting diabetes.

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- i. Daylight hours are longer in some areas of the world due to the tilt in the Earth's axis of rotation.

- j. Coral reefs around the world are dying because the oceans are warming.

Question 2**[2 marks]**

Circle the inference indicators in the following argument.

An apple a day keeps the doctor away, so you should eat an apple a day because you only see doctors when you are sick.

Question 3**[2 marks]**

Circle the inference indicators in the following argument.

Violent video games are bad for children because they normalise violent actions. Therefore, parents should be careful to monitor the types of video games their children play.

Question 4**[2 marks]**

Identify the premise and the conclusion in the following argument.

Science is our only means of knowing anything about the world. This is because science is our only objective method of interrogating the world.

The premise is:

The conclusion is:

See next page

Question 5**[2 marks]**

Identify the premise and the conclusion in the following argument.

Coal seam gas mining pollutes aquifers, therefore we should not permit that form of mining in Australia.

The premise is:

The conclusion is:

Question 6**[2 marks]**

Identify the premise and the conclusion in the following argument.

Penguins are ethical animals because they are monogamous.

The premise is:

The conclusion is:

Question 7**[2 marks]**

Identify the premise and the conclusion in the following argument.

Having coffee just before bed may prevent you from sleeping well that night, therefore you should not drink coffee just before bed.

The premise is:

The conclusion is:

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Question 8**[1 mark]**

What is the technical name for the following form of reasoning?

If a sandwich has mayonnaise in it, it will be tasty. The sandwich is not tasty, therefore there is no mayonnaise in the sandwich.

Question 9**[1 mark]**

What is the technical name for the following form of reasoning?

Horses are happy when they gallop. This horse is galloping, so it must be happy.

Question 10**[1 mark]**

What is the technical name for the following form of reasoning?

If the sun is out, the ground will be hot. The ground is not hot, so the sun must not be out.

Question 11**[1 mark]**

What is the technical name for the following form of reasoning?

Guitars are very loud if they are plugged into amplifiers. This guitar is plugged into an amplifier, so it will be very loud.

Question 12**[2 marks]**

Is the following inference an example of inductive or deductive reasoning? Explain why.

All ducks make the sound 'oink' when they are hungry, except green ducks. There is a group of brown ducks that are hungry, so they will make an 'oink' sound.

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Question 13**[2 marks]**

Is the following inference an example of inductive or deductive reasoning? Explain why.

Whenever I have worn a white shirt to work, I get a stain on it. Today I'm wearing a white shirt to work, so I'm sure I'll get a stain on it.

Question 14**[4 marks]**

In the following argument:

- (a) number and bracket each statement in order of appearance. [$\frac{1}{2}$ mark each]
- (b) circle the inference indicators. [1 mark each]

When determining if an action is right or wrong we should choose the action that maximises pleasure and minimises pain. Most animal industries that make animal food products produce more pain than pleasure, therefore it would be morally wrong to consume products that come from these industries. Consequently, we ought to adopt a broadly vegetarian diet.

End of Section One

See next page

Section Two: Philosophical Analysis

40 Marks

This section contains **two** questions. Answer both questions.

Suggested working time for this section is 60 minutes.

Question 15

(20 marks)

The following dialogue is an excerpt from a classroom community of inquiry.

You are required to

- summarise (2 marks)
 - clarify (6 marks)
 - and critically evaluate (12 marks)
- the contributions of each participant

George: The definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again but hoping for a different outcome.

Harry: But, who can say what the outcome will be each time as, even if you think you're doing the exact same thing, there are so many factors that may be different, even if only slightly different. These factors can change the causal chain and may produce a different outcome.

George: I don't think miniscule changes like whether it is raining or sunny will have any affect on the outcome. If you act, it's still the same you acting as you did previously. This is why people get stuck in ruts.

Harry: Even if you're the same you, the future you is different to the past you. You have grown and altered, even at a cellular level! And I'm sure environmental factors, even if they seem insignificant, can have an effect on a causal chain and lead to different outcomes that simply can't be predicted!

George: We are creatures of habit. Things simply don't change.

Harry: All we can ever be sure of is change. It may not seem like things are changing and even when it does, the changes that occur may not always seem for the "better", but the only thing we can rely on is that "this too shall pass".

Section Two: Philosophical Analysis (continued)

Question 16

(20 marks)

Choose **one (1)** of the following three passages and

- summarise (2 marks)
 - clarify (8 marks)
 - and critically evaluate (10 marks)
- the topic in the passage

Capital Punishment

Society's laws should reflect the culture they govern. If a culture supports the notion of 'an eye for an eye', then that society should be allowed to enforce Capital Punishment. Laws are a system of rules, implemented through social institutions in order to govern behaviour. Globally, laws differ greatly. In some places the enforcement of Capital Punishment for the worst of offenders is just. If the law of the land states that a crime is punishable by Capital Punishment then people who commit these crimes should be fully aware they will be held accountable in such a way that they may, if found guilty, lose their life. By living in a particular place, you agree to follow the social contracts by which that society is bound. If you don't like it, then don't live there.

Genetic Engineering

Parents have the right to select the best genetic material for their children. Genetic engineering can modify mutations from human cells and eradicate illness and disease. If parents make use of genetic engineering, they can prevent the next generation from suffering unnecessarily and may also prolong their lives. Genetic engineering also permits parents to choose the hair colour, eye colour, or facial features of their future children. Although such features may not prolong the life of the human race, they enable parents to design children who will be happy and valued by the society in which they live. Making children biologically immune to some diseases is a good thing and ensures future generations inherit these same genes.

Socratic Dialectic

Why would Socrates think that dialectic is a good way of inquiring into any topic? A dialogue is simply a conversation. A conversation never just tells you what is correct or what is incorrect. A conversation becomes confusing because there is always more than one point of view. In a conversation, people often disagree. One person says something and then the other person counters what was said. Basically, the second person rebuts the argument of the first person, who seeks again to defend what they initially said and on it goes. This is never-ending! How can we ever get to the truth of the matter when there are always new arguments and justifications for so many different perspectives? If only someone could just be the voice of authority and tell us the Truth, we'd all be able to agree and finally put an end to the incessant debate. We don't need dialectic, what we need is certainty.

Section Three: Extended Argument

30 Marks

This section contains **five** questions. Answer **one** question only. Write your answer in the spaces provided.

Suggested working time for this section is 50 minutes.

Choose **one** of the following five questions. Argue for or against the statement in the question, giving clear definitions, examples and reasons.

Question 17

Imagination can never be a good guide to what is real.

or

Question 18

I am my mind.

or

Question 19

Personal identity is dictated by the society in which you live.

or

Question 20

What is just is determined by those who are powerful.

or

Question 21

Love is irrational.

End of questions