

Philosophy 3
0790

CAMEROON GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION BOARD

General Certificate of Education Examination

JUNE 2016

ADVANCED LEVEL

Subject Title	PHILOSOPHY	
Paper No./Title	3	(Problem-Solving and Analysis)
Subject Code No.	0790	

Three Hours

Candidates are required to answer **FOUR** questions, choosing *three* questions from Section One and *One* question from Section Two. Each question carries 25 marks.

You are reminded of the necessity for good English and orderly presentation in your answers.

SECTION ONE: LOGIC

Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow:

Socrates and Glaucon were discussing on the qualities required in the guardians. They soon found themselves in difficulties with the analogy of the watch-dog, which combined the qualities of gentleness and savagery which they thought incompatible:

"In what way?" asked Glaucon.

Socrates replied; "If a well-bred watch-dog behaves well, then it is gentle to those it is used to, and if it sees a stranger, then it is savage."

Conclusively, since some well-bred watch-dogs are aggressive to strangers, it follows that all well-bred watch-dogs are aggressive to strangers.

Questions

- (a)
 - (i) State the contradictory of the inverse of: "All well-bred watch-dogs are aggressive creatures". (5 marks)
 - (ii) Determine the converse of the proposition in a (i) above. (2 marks)
 - (iii) Given a (ii) as False, what is the truth value of its Subcontrary? (1 mark)
- (b)
 - (i) Use the disjunctive proposition in the passage and construct a valid 'Modus Tollendo Ponens'. (3 marks)
 - (ii) Translating the major of b-(i) above into a hypothetical proposition, construct a valid Modus Tollens. (3 marks)
- (c)
 - (i) Identify a suitable major premise for a Complex Destructive Dilemma in the passage above. (2 marks)
 - (ii) Using c (i), construct a Complex Destructive Dilemma. (3 marks)
 - (iii) Refute c (ii) by 'taking it by the horns'. (3 marks)
- (d)
 - (i) State the Fallacy of Composition most clearly committed in the passage. (1 mark)
 - (ii) Explain how it has been committed. (2 marks)

- 2
- (a) Using the terms "dinosaurs" as the major term, "amphibians" as the middle term, and "mammals" as the minor term, construct the following syllogistic arguments:
- (i) AEE-4. *All dinosaurs are amphibians. No amphibians are mammals. No dinosaurs are mammals.*
 - (ii) EIO-2. *Some mammals are amphibians. No amphibians are dinosaurs. Some dinosaurs are not mammals.* (2 x 3 marks)
- (b)
 - (i) Test the validity of a (i) by means of the Venn Diagram. *Some dinosaurs are not mammals.*
 - (ii) Construct the Enthymeme of the First Order from a (ii) above. *Since some mammals are amphibians,*
 - (iii) Construct the Enthymeme of the Third Order from a (i) above. *All dinosaurs are amphibians and no amphibians are mammals.* (2 marks)
- (c) Given the minor premise of a (i) above as False, determine the truth value of its:
- (i) Contrary. *All amphibians are mammals.*
 - (ii) Contrapositive. *No amphibians are non-mammals.*
 - (iii) Obverse. *All non-mammals are non-amphibians.* (3 x 1 mark)
- (d) Given the terms: "reptiles", "wild animals", "carnivores" and "dangerous animals", construct a:
- (i) Simple Constructive Dilemma.
 - (ii) Simple Destructive Dilemma.
 - (iii) Refute d (i) above by 'Grasping the horns of the dilemma'. (3 x 3 marks)

SECTION TWO: TEXTUAL STUDIES / ANALYSIS

Sub-Section One: **RÉNE DESCARTES: Meditations on First Philosophy**

5. Read the following passage and answer the questions below:

What then will be true? Perhaps, just the single fact that nothing is certain.

But how do I know there is not something else, over and above all those things that I have just reviewed concerning which there is not even the slightest occasion for doubt? Is there not some God, or by whatever name I might call him, who instils these thoughts? But why would I think that, since I myself could perhaps be the author of these thoughts? Am I not then at least something? But I have already denied that I have any senses and any body. Still I hesitate; for what follows from this? Am I so tied to a body and to the senses that I cannot exist without them? But I have persuaded myself that there is absolutely nothing in the world: no sky, no earth, no minds, no bodies. Is it then the case that I too do not exist? But doubtless I did exist, if I persuaded myself of something. But there is some deceiver or other who is supremely powerful and supremely sly and who is always deliberately deceiving me. Then too there is no doubt that I exist, if he is deceiving me. And let him do his best at deception, he will never bring it about that I am nothing so long as I shall think that I am something. Thus, after everything has been most carefully weighed, it must finally be established that this pronouncement: "I am, I exist", is necessarily true every time I utter it or conceive it in my mind.

Questions

- (a) Indicate the main theme of the text above and its logical structure. (5 marks)
- (b) Explain the following:
 - (i) "how do I know there is not something else ... concerning which there is not even the slightest occasion for doubt?"
 - (ii) "this pronouncement: "I am, I exist", is necessarily true every time I utter it or conceive it in my mind." (4 marks)
- (c) What, according to Descartes, is the significance of the analogy of the evil genius? (3 marks)
- (d) State any two reasons why the Cartesian Doubt is useful. (4 marks)
- (e) Why does Descartes think that we should not make a direct pronouncement on the immortality of the soul? (4 marks)
- (f) Is Cartesian subjectivity of any relevance to the philosophical enterprise? (5 marks)

- (a) Translate the following arguments into valid standard-forms:
- (i) Some writers are not readers; Some authors are not readers; All writers are authors. (3 marks)
 - (ii) Some reformers are fanatics; Some idealists are fanatics; All reformers are idealists. (3 marks)
 - (iii) State the Figures and Mood Names of a (i) and a (ii) respectively. (2 x 2 marks)

(b) Given that A, B and C are True statements, and X, Y and Z are False statements, which of the following are True?

- (i) $(Z \equiv A) \supset (\sim B \vee \sim C)$ (3 marks)
- (ii) $(B \vee X) \vee (Y \cdot \sim A)$ (3 marks)
- (iii) $B \supset (Z \vee A)$ (3 x 3 marks)

(c) Using the variables p, q, r and s, symbolize the following statements:

- (i) Either Mofor is a trader or Azah is a nurse, which implies that they are workers; although it is not the case that they are rich persons. (3 x 2 marks)
- (ii) If students work hard, then they will not fail; and the proprietor will not be happy, if their parents do not pay their fees.
- (iii) It is not the case that teachers tell lies if and only if their students are stubborn, though the students' being stubborn is not a sufficient condition that the teacher tell lies. (3 x 2 marks)

4. (a) Using the suggested annotations, translate the following arguments into symbols:

- (i) Only acts that promote the general happiness are morally obligatory. Not all acts that promote the general happiness are socially acceptable. Therefore, at least one act that is socially acceptable is not morally obligatory. (Ax : x is an act; Px : x promotes the general happiness; Mx : x is morally obligatory; Sx : x is socially acceptable)
- (ii) All jesters are knaves. No knaves are foolish persons. Therefore, no jesters are foolish persons. (Jx : x is a jester; Kx : x is a knave; Fx : x is a foolish person)
- (iii) No vegetarians are slim persons. Some drivers are vegetarians. Therefore, some drivers are not slim persons. (Vx : x is a vegetarian; Sx : x is a slim person; Dx : x is a driver) (3 x 2 marks)

(b) Construct proofs to show the following symbolic arguments valid:

- (i)
 - 1- $\sim (J \vee K)$
 - 2. $\sim J \cdot \sim K$
 - 3. $\sim K$ $\therefore \sim K$
- (ii)
 - 1- $R \cdot (S \cdot T)$
 - 2. $(R \cdot S) \cdot T$
 - 3. $R \cdot S$
 - 4. $S \cdot R$ $\therefore S \cdot R$
- (iii).
 - 1- $\sim M \vee (\sim N \vee \sim O)$
 - 2. $(\sim M \vee \sim N) \vee \sim O$
 - 3. $\sim (M \cdot N) \vee \sim O$
 - 4. $\sim O \vee \sim (M \cdot N)$ $\therefore \sim O \vee \sim (M \cdot N)$ (3 x 3 marks)

(c) Symbolize each of the following arguments using the letters in brackets as statement variables. Test their validity by the Truth Table Method:

- (i) If the rain falls (R), then the farmers will plant their seeds (F); while if the storm subsides (S), then the farmers will plant seeds. Either the rain falls or the storm subsides. Therefore, the farmers will plant seeds.
- (ii) Ojong marries Alieh (O) and Ngwo marries Enanga (N) if and only if Papa accepts (P). Papa does not accept. Therefore, neither Ojong marries Alieh nor Ngwo marries Enanga. (2 x 5 marks)

Sub-Section Two: Unseen Text

6. Read the following passage and answer the questions below:

The first societies were governed by the aristocratic form of government. The family heads discussed public matters among themselves, and the youths yielded without reluctance to the authority of experience. Hence, the names of priests, elders, senator, and gerontes. The savages of North America are still governed like this till date, and they are very well governed.

But as the inequality produced by institutions prevails over natural inequality, wealth and power were preferred to age, and the aristocracy became elective. Finally, the power transmitted with the property of the father to the children, made the families to become patrician, produced a hereditary government, and introduced senators of twenty years old.

There are, therefore, three types of aristocracy: the natural, the elective, and the hereditary. The first is suited only to simple peoples; the third is the worst of all governments. The second, which is true aristocracy, is the best.

Jean-Jacques Rousseau: *The Social Contract*

Questions

- (a) Give the central theme and the logical articulations of the text above. (5 marks)
- (b) Explain the following:
 - (i) "youths yielded without reluctance to the authority of experience."; (4 marks)
 - (ii) "inequality produced by institutions prevails over natural inequality". (4 marks)
- (c) Why does the author think that elective Aristocracy is the best? (4 marks)
- (d) Explain why Rousseau thinks that a democratic form of government is not suitable to men. (4 marks)
- (e) State any two reasons why the aristocratic form of government is better off than the democratic form of government. (3 marks)
- (f) Can Aristocracy benefit the present Cameroonian society in any way? (5 marks)