

# DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

## M.Phil. Entrance Examination, June 2017

Hall Ticket No. \_\_\_\_\_

**Time: 2 hours**

**Max. Marks: 80**

Instructions:

The question paper consists of two parts: **Part A** and **Part B**

**Part A is for 40 marks (forty marks).** It has two sections. Section I consists of 20 multiple choice questions of one mark each which should be answered in the **OMR** supplied. Section II consists of descriptive questions. Separate answer book is provided to answer the questions.

**Part B is for 40 marks (forty marks).** It has two sections. Section I consists of 20 multiple choice questions of one mark each which should be answered in the **OMR** supplied. Section II consists of descriptive questions. Separate answer book is provided to answer the questions.

### Part-A

**40 Marks**

**Section – I (20 marks) Answer these questions in the OMR sheet**

1. The statement of purpose in a research study should:
  - (A) Identify the design of the study
  - (B) Identify the intent or objective of the study
  - (C) Identify the literature to be consulted
  - (D) Describe the study
2. What kind of ideas can't be empirically researched?
  - (A) Effectiveness of different methods of instruction
  - (B) Description of educational practices
  - (C) Issues of values and morality
  - (D) Factors helpful in predicting future drug use
3. Qualitative research is often exploratory and has all of the following characteristics except:
  - (A) it is typically used when a great deal is already known about the topic of interest
  - (B) it relies on the collection of non-numerical data such as words and pictures
  - (C) it is used to generate hypotheses and develop theory about phenomena in the world
  - (D) it uses the inductive scientific method

4. The strongest evidence for causality comes from which of the following research methods?
- (A) Experimental
  - (B) Causal-comparative
  - (C) Correlational
  - (D) Ethnography
5. Defining hypotheses is a useful way of approaching research because:
- (A) It will impress the reader
  - (B) It allows for the development of indisputable proof to be established
  - (C) It looks suitably scientific
  - (D) It allows the development of testable propositions.
6. Carefully study the stages below. Do they refer to induction or deduction?
- Theory developed
  - Thesis worded
  - Observation made
  - Thesis tested on data
- (A) Induction
  - (B) Deduction
  - (C) Both induction and deduction
  - (D) Neither induction nor deduction
7. When evaluating the research study results you would consider all of the following as important except:
- (A) The author's qualifications and experience
  - (B) The design and methodology for the study
  - (C) The significance of the things
  - (D) The discussion and recommendations
8. Constraints or problems in a research study are known as ...
- (A) Assumptions
  - (B) Generalizations
  - (C) Concepts
  - (D) Limitations
9. A critical review aims to:
- (A) Summarize information on a topic from all relevant literature
  - (B) Identify strengths and limitations to make conclusion
  - (C) Describe the methods used to gain evidence in the research studies
  - (D) Identify weaknesses in research studies to make judgments about their suitability
10. The research process is best described as a:
- (A) Method to select a frame of reference
  - (B) Set of rules that govern the selection of subjects
  - (C) Series of steps completed in a logical order
  - (D) Plan that directs the research design

11. A king has a parrot that he used to keep in a golden cage. One day he found the cage empty. Somebody had set the bird free. The king questioned his three jesters, Tom, Dick and Harry. They replied thus:
- Tom: Dick set it free  
Dick: I did  
Harry: I had nothing to do with it.  
Later it was found that only one of them had told the truth. Who set the bird free?
- (A) Tom  
(B) Dick  
(C) Harry  
(D) None of them
12. A new sapling grows at the rate of  $1/10^{\text{th}}$  of its height per month. Suppose the initial height of the sapling is 1 cm. Assuming a simple constant linear growth pattern, how many months will it take for the sapling to double its height?
- (A)  $7 \frac{1}{2}$  months  
(B) 8 months  
(C) 10 months  
(D) none of the above
13. Assume that milk boils at  $100^{\circ}\text{C}$ . The boiled milk first cools down to  $50^{\circ}\text{C}$  in time  $t$  minutes. For the next every  $10^{\circ}\text{C}$  cooling, it takes  $t$  minutes. Suppose you want a sample of boiled milk to cool down from  $100^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $30^{\circ}\text{C}$ , how much time will it take?
- (A)  $3 \times t$  minutes  
(B)  $7 \times t$  minutes  
(C)  $10 \times t$  minutes  
(D) none of the above
14. A butcher trapped some chickens and goats in a cage. There were sixty heads and 160 feet inside the cage. How many chickens and goats did he trap?
- (A) Chicken 60; Goat 160  
(B) Chicken 40; Goat 20  
(C) Chicken 20; Goat 40  
(D) none of the above

The logic problems in this set present you with three true statements: Fact 1, Fact 2, and Fact 3. Then, you are given three more statements (labeled I, II, and III), and you must determine which of these, if any, is also a fact. One or two of the statements could be true; all of the statements could be true; or none of the statements could be true. Choose your answer based solely on the information given in the first three facts.

15. Fact 1: Eyeglass frames cost between Rs.250 and Rs.1000.  
Fact 2: Some eyeglass frames are made of titanium.

Fact 3: Some eyeglass frames are made of plastic.

If the first three statements are facts, which of the following statements must also be a fact?

- I. Titanium eyeglass frames cost more than plastic frames
- II. Expensive eyeglass frames last longer than cheap frames
- III. Only a few eyeglass frames cost less than Rs.250.

- (A) I only
- (B) II only
- (C) II and III only
- (D) None of the statements is a fact

16. Fact 1: Geetha has four children

Fact 2: Two of the children have blue eyes and two the children have brown eyes.

Fact 3: Half of the children are girls.

If the first three statements are facts, which of the following statements must also be a fact?

- I. At least one girl has blue eyes
- II. Two of the children are boys
- III. The boys have brown eyes

- (A) I only
- (B) II only
- (C) II and III only
- (D) None of the statements is a fact.

17. Fact 1: All hats have brims.

Fact 2: There are black hats and blue hats.

Fact 3: Base ball caps are hats.

If the first three statements are facts, which of the following statements must also be a fact?

- I. All caps have brims
- II. Some baseball caps are blue
- III. Baseball caps have no brims

- (A) I only
- (B) II only
- (C) II and III only
- (D) None of the statements is a fact.

18. A research proposal is best described as a(n):
- (A) Framework for data collection and analysis
  - (B) Description of the research process for a research project
  - (C) Description of how the researcher plans to maintain an ethical perspective during the study
  - (D) Argument for the merit of the study
19. The purpose of literature review is to:
- (A) Use the literature to identify present knowledge and what is unknown
  - (B) Assist in defining the problem and operational definition
  - (C) Identify strengths and weakness of previous studies
  - (D) All the above
20. What is the main quality of a good theory?
- (A) A theory that is proven to be right at a particular point in time
  - (B) A theory that has been revised
  - (C) A theory cited by many researchers
  - (D) A theory that has survived attempts at falsification

**Section – II (20 Marks) Answer the questions of this section in the booklet provided.**

**Critical thinking: A**

Disputes between people happen in our day today life. Some are ordinary but some are technical. Disputes need to be resolved. However without knowing the exact nature of a dispute, one cannot simply resolve it. Hence it is useful to make initial classification for deeper and closer analysis of disputes. We can broadly classify dispute into two, namely, (1) *disagreement in belief* and (2) *disagreement in attitude*. Two persons can disagree on factual matter, for instance, whether or not Delhi is the capital of India. This type of disagreement which can be addressed by looking into the world of facts can be roughly identified as disagreement in belief. We can ascertain a fact by different kind of scientific or objective method. However, there are times when even after looking into facts, some disagreements may persist. For instance, one person will be of the opinion that Delhi is the worst city in the country while the other may disagree by saying that Delhi is rather the best city in the country. They differ in terms of their approval or value judgment of the subject matter at hand. Such type of disagreement is referred to as disagreement in attitude. And for addressing such a problem, it is useful to understand the motive and intention of the disputants, or employ rhetoric rich in persuasive and expressive language. We may have to exercise reason to understand and to persuade each other as how best we can value a thing. It is possible that two persons can agree with respect to belief but disagree with respect to attitude or that they can disagree with respect to belief but agree with respect to attitude. Sometimes disagreement between two persons can be both.

Given the general character of dispute outlined above, check if there is any dispute between pairs of sentences given below and if so, identify the kind of dispute and justify your answer. **Your analysis for each should not exceed 150 words.**

*(Each question carries equal marks: 5 x 2 = 10 marks)*

1. A: Absence makes the heart grow fonder.  
B: Life remains the same with or without a companion.
  
2. A: How can one make sense of state's silence on religious fundamentalism in India today?  
I answer that one cannot without disgrace support the present government.  
B: With all the controversial issues of religious fundamentalism in India, it is without doubt that India still is the best example of religious tolerance.

**Critical thinking: B**

In the passage given above (i.e., **Critical thinking: A**), we have identified two kinds of disputes, namely, (1) *disagreement in belief* and (2) *disagreement in attitude*. Both are genuine disputes. However, there is yet another type of dispute which is not considered genuine. On the contrary it is called a *verbal dispute*. A verbal dispute is one where a disagreement between two persons arises due to linguistic confusion or ambiguity. Misuse of words in the formulation of a problem may be deliberate or inadvertent. At times, the confusion may arise due to context of language use. Such a dispute can be resolved by clarifying the meanings of words that occur in a dispute or by providing the context of language use. For instance, one philosopher may insist that '*a bird singing in a remote jungle makes no sound*' while another philosopher insists that it does. This disagreement at first appears to be genuine but can be categorized as verbal disagreement in that the meaning of the term "sound" has been used by them differently. While the first is using it in the sense of auditory perception of a human subject, the latter in the mechanical sense of air vibration. Finally we now introduce a third kind of dispute – *critical disagreement*. This type of disagreement is both verbal and genuine. For example, two persons can disagree on whether or not a film involving explicit sexual activity is an art film. One might argue that it is "pornography." Even after clarifying the lexical meaning of the term "art" or "pornography," it is quite possible that their disagreement continues – they may disagree more fundamentally with respect to their theoretical or conceptual frameworks which may be influenced by culture and ideology. Critical disagreement cannot be simply resolved by looking at the dictionary meaning of words. It is akin to disagreement of attitude and requires analysis at a much higher level of abstraction to resolve it. In such a case, we say that the dispute is apparently verbal but really genuine.

Having outlined the distinction between verbal and genuine disagreements on the one hand and critical disagreement on the other, identify the kind of dispute between pairs of sentences given below and justify your answer. **Your analysis for each should not exceed 150 words.**

*(Each question carries equal marks: 5 x 2 = 10 marks)*

1. A: Revenue is good for the Government because revenue collection for this year is more than the last year by 25%.  
B: No, it is not good this year. After calculating the expenditure, the balance for this year is 30% lesser than last year.
2. A: Don't ask your wife whether or not to go to party. Use your own judgment.  
B: I will use my own judgment and in my judgment, I should ask my wife.

## Part – II

**40 Marks.**

### **Section – I (20 Marks)**

**Answer these questions in the OMR sheet**

21. One of the tasks of philosophy is to test conceptual frameworks for depth and consistency. It does this through (1) expressing our ideas in clear, concise language and (2) supporting those ideas with reasons and with overcoming objections to them. Philosophy thus emphasizes the need to:
  - (A) pose questions that can be resolved not by reasoning but only by faith or personal belief
  - (B) show why the beliefs adopted by most people in a culture are preferable since more people understand those beliefs and see no reason to raise objections to them
  - (C) articulate what we mean by our beliefs and to justify our beliefs by arguments
  - (D) develop a set of ideas about the nature of society that can be used to support a religious conceptual framework.
22. According to Plato, we can attain knowledge only by seeing beyond this world of particular, changing objects to the true essences or Forms in terms of which things in this world are intelligible. For example, we know what triangularity is not from comparing sensible triangles but by thinking of the ideal of triangularity in terms of which these sensible figures are recognized as triangles. From this Plato concludes that all knowledge (as opposed to opinion) is innate, because:
  - (A) from the moment we are born we know what things are in the world in terms of ideas that we get through our senses
  - (B) since we are born with senses (that is, our senses are innate), we can know things about the sensible world with certainty as long as we rely on the senses alone.
  - (C) our knowledge of the world is not really of the sensible world itself but of the world grasped mathematically and ideally.
  - (D) since our absolutely certain knowledge of things cannot be based on the changing things in sensible experience, it must merely be triggered by sensible experience.

23. According to Socrates, just as there is a difference between what an ironic statement says and its true meaning, so also appearances differ from reality. Even though societies or individuals appear to differ about what is required for the good life, that in no way contradicts the fact that:
- (A) what is right or wrong, true or false varies from one culture to another.  
 (B) appearances are the only real way we have for knowing reality.  
 (C) the distinction of appearance and reality is the basis for the dialectical discovery of truth.  
 (D) there are objective principles for thought and action that are required for the good life.
24. In Aristotle's terminology, *incontinence* is when:
- (A) One does not know that one's actions are wrong, but does them anyway  
 (B) one knows that one's feelings are inappropriate, and does not act on them  
 (C) One knows that one's feelings are inappropriate, and does not act on them.  
 (D) one does the right action, but for the wrong reason.
25. Jainism classifies *paroksajñāna* into ...
- (A) *mati and avadhi*  
 (B) *avadhi and śruta*  
 (C) *mati and śruta*  
 (D) *avadhi and kevala*
26. *Prama* according to the Buddhists is...
- (A) *Ajñātātattvārthajñāna*  
 (B) *Tadvatitaparakāramjñānam*  
 (C) *Samyakjñānam*  
 (D) *asamḍightayathārthānubhavam*

Read the following passage and answer the questions from 27 to 31:

The thesis of James' Radical Empiricism is that "There is only one primal stuff or material in the world, a stuff of which everything is composed, and ... we call that stuff 'pure experience.'" James' Empiricism differs from traditional British Empiricism in his insistence that we remain within concrete experience, his insistence that "conjunctive and disjunctive relations are, when experienced, equally real." The world of facts as we experience them comprises a mosaic or set of mosaics and some of these directly experienced mosaics of plural facts appear to be connected, while others are experienced as disjunctives. The unity of the universe as a neat set of interconnected relations in an Absolute is false, said James, because direct experience informs us of a discontinuity of facts in a mosaic design. Thus Radical Empiricism claims that data in our experience show the universe to be pluralistic, comprised of facts which form neither a perfect unity nor any absolutely perfect relationship to one another. James termed this Metaphysical Pluralism a "mosaic philosophy."



27. For James the primary stuff is  
 (A) ordinary experience  
 (B) pure experience  
 (C) mixed experience  
 (D) imagination
28. Radical Empiricism holds that everything of the world is composed of  
 (A) pure experience  
 (B) mixed experience  
 (C) ordinary experience  
 (D) imagination
29. Radical Empiricism differs from British Empiricism in  
 (A) Preference for concrete experience.  
 (B) Conjunctive and disjunctive relations are equally real.  
 (C) Both the above are true.  
 (D) Both of them are false.
30. The world of facts are  
 (A) mosaic  
 (B) sets of mosaic  
 (C) connected and disjunctive  
 (D) All the three are true
31. Which one of the following is not correct for James?  
 (A) The unity of the universe is false.  
 (B) The universe is pluralistic.  
 (C) Experience informs discontinuity.  
 (D) The universe is a neat set of inter-connected relations.
32. The view that *Īsvara* is only the *nimittakarana* of the world is upheld by :  
 (A) The Nyāya  
 (B) The Sāṃkhya  
 (C) The Advaitavedānta  
 (D) The Mīmāṃsā
33. According to Śaṃkara *Vyāvahārikasattā* is falsified by ...  
 (A) *Prātibhāsikasatta*  
 (B) *Pāramārthikasatta*  
 (C) Both (A) and (B)  
 (D) Neither (A) nor (B)

34. *Vedānga* that deals with the etymological meaning of *Veda* is:
- (A) *sikṣa*  
 (B) *vyākaraṇa*  
 (C) *nirukta*  
 (D) *kalpa*
35. Which one of the following is not a *niyama* according to Yoga philosophy?
- (A) *īśvaraparinidāna*  
 (B) *satya*  
 (C) *santoṣa*  
 (D) *svadhyāya*
36. The primary meaning of a word according to the Mīmāṃsakas ...
- (A) refers to the genus or the class character of individuals  
 (B) refers to the form or configuration of the individuals  
 (C) refers to an individual  
 (D) refers to the individual, the configuration and the generality
37. Which of the following does not match?
- (A) *Nyāya-bindu* - Dharmakīrti  
 (B) *Nyāya-kusumāñjali* - Udayanāchārya  
 (C) *Vivekacudāmaṇi* - Rāmānujachārya  
 (D) *Saundaryalahari* - Sankarachārya
38. Which of the statements below best captures what Kant's constructivism says about the world of which we can have knowledge?
- (A) It's entirely created by our minds.  
 (B) It has its own structure completely independent of our minds.  
 (C) Its fundamental structure depends on our minds, but our minds must work with given material that they don't create.  
 (D) It's sustained by a single divine mind
39. Which of the following is part of *sādhana-catustaya* according to Śamkara?
- (A) Study of Vedas  
 (B) Discriminating knowledge of the eternal and non eternal nature of things  
 (C) Listening to the Guru  
 (D) Concentration of the mind
40. Which one of the following alternatives does not stand for *pakṣatā* according to Nyāya?
- (A) *Siddhi* and no *śiṣādhayīṣa*  
 (B) *Siddhi* and *śiṣādhayīṣa*  
 (C) No *siddhi* and no *śiṣādhayīṣa*  
 (D) No *siddhi* and *śiṣādhayīṣa*

**Section – II (20 Marks)**

Answer any **four** of the following in **250 words each** choosing at least one from each group. All questions carry equal value. **Answer these questions in the booklet provided.**

**Group – 1**

1. What are the arguments of Aristotle in rejecting Plato's theory of forms? Are they justified? Discuss.
2. Why does Descartes suppose at the end of Meditation I, that there is an evil demon "who works as hard as he can to deceive me"?
3. Do you agree with Hume that "the most lively thought is still inferior to the dullest sensation"? Discuss.
4. What is an *imperative*, in Kant's philosophy? What is the difference between *hypothetical* and *categorical* imperatives?

**Group – 2**

1. What are the three factors of Reality enunciated in Jainism? From this how did they criticize the Buddhist theory of *kṣanikavāda*?
2. Explain how the Samkhya theory of *satkāryavāda* is central to their philosophy?
3. Evaluate Rāmānuja's critique of Śankara's theory of *māya*.
4. State and explain the criterion for Reality according to Vaiśeṣika Philosophy