



SUBJECT:	Philosophy
PAPER NUMBER:	I
DATE:	28 th April 2026
TIME:	4:00 p.m. to 7:05 p.m.

This examination paper has **TWO** sections. Answer **BOTH** Section A and Section B. Section A carries 30 marks and Section B carries 70 marks. Follow the instructions given in each section.

SECTION A: LOGIC AND REASONING

Answer any THREE questions from Section A. Each question carries 10 marks.

1. a) Explain what is meant by saying that a formula A implies a formula B, i.e. that $A \rightarrow B$ (2)
- b) Translate the following propositions symbolically:
 - i. If Janet and Julie are swimming, then Katia is swimming too. (2)
 - ii. If Janet is swimming and Katia is not swimming, then Julie is not swimming. (2)
- c) Using truth-tables, check whether formula (i) implies formula (ii) above. (4)

(Total: 10 marks)

2. a) Translate the following propositions symbolically:
 - i. It is not the case that Petra and Steph are at work. (1)
 - ii. If Petra is at work, then Steph is at work. (1)
 - iii. Petra or Steph is not at work. (1)
 - iv. Only one of Petra or Steph is at work. (1)
 - v. Unless Steph is at work, Petra is not at work. (1)
- b) What is meant by saying that two formulae, A and B, are equivalent, i.e. that $A \leftrightarrow B$. (2)
- c) Using truth-tables, check which formulae in question (a) are equivalent. (3)

(Total: 10 marks)

Please turn the page.

3. a) Identify the fallacy in the following statement, and explain the error in reasoning:

"Your Honour, if you convict me, my elderly mother will be heartbroken. She depends on me for everything. (4)

- b) Give the logical structure of the following fallacies: (4)

- i. Appeal to Force
- ii. Against the Person (abusive)

- c) Give an example of **each** fallacy in 3b). (2)

(Total: 10 marks)

4. a) Fill in the blanks:

i. $(A \wedge B) \wedge C \equiv \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$ (associativity). (1)

ii. $A \rightarrow B \equiv \underline{\hspace{2cm}} < B$ (Modus Ponens). (1)

iii. $\vee$ is commutative, i.e. $\underline{\hspace{2cm}} \equiv \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$. (1)

iv. $\vee$ is self-distributive, i.e. $A \vee (B \vee C) \equiv \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$. (1)

- b) Translate the following propositions symbolically and, using truth-tables, check whether the implications involved are valid:

i. If Angela is reading, then Kate is writing. Kate is not writing. Therefore, Angela is not reading. (2)

ii. If Angela is not reading, then Kate is writing. Angela is not reading. Therefore, Kate is writing. (2)

- c) What is the standard name of the implications whose truth-table has been worked out in question 4b) above? (2)

(Total: 10 marks)

SECTION B: ETHICS AND SOCIETY

Answer Question 5 and any other question from this section. Each question carries 35 marks.

5. To what extent do you agree with Sartre's notion of freedom? Discuss with reference to the issue of 'bad faith'.
6. Aristotle and Epicurus both see a good life as one of happiness, but they differ on how to achieve it. Discuss.
7. Discuss the topic of privacy and ethics on the internet.
8. Discuss the main difference between Socrates and the Sophists, namely their debate over the existence of absolute truth or knowledge, reflecting their contrasting philosophies.

(Total: 70 marks)



SUBJECT:	Philosophy
PAPER NUMBER:	II
DATE:	29 th April 2026
TIME:	9:00 a.m. to 12:05 p.m.

The examination has **TWO** sections. Answer **BOTH** Section A and Section B. Section A carries 30 marks and Section B carries 70 marks. Follow the instructions given in each section.

SECTION A: KEY QUESTIONS IN EUROPEAN THOUGHT

Compulsory Question

Answer Question 1. The question carries 30 marks.

1. Pangloss was professor of metaphysico-theologico-cosmolo-nigology. He proved admirably that there is no effect without a cause, and that, in this best of all possible worlds, the Baron's castle was the most magnificent of castles, and his lady the best of all possible Baronesses.

"It is demonstrable," said he, "that things cannot be otherwise than they are; for all being created for an end, all is necessarily for the best end. [...]"

One day Cunegonde, while walking near the castle, in a little wood which they called a park, saw between the bushes, Dr. Pangloss giving a lesson in experimental natural philosophy to her mother's chamber-maid, a little brown wench, very pretty and very docile. As Miss Cunegonde had a great disposition for the sciences, she breathlessly observed the repeated experiments of which she was a witness; she clearly perceived the force of the Doctor's reasons, the effects, and the causes; she turned back greatly flurried, quite pensive, and filled with the desire to be learned; dreaming that she might well be a sufficient reason for young Candide, and he for her.

(From: Voltaire, *Candide*, Chapter 1)

- a. What are the philosophical themes that Voltaire wanted to discuss through the novella *Candide*? (10)
- b. Explain the philosophical significance of the expression "the best of all possible worlds." (10)
- c. *Candide* engages with the problem of evil. Describe **TWO** responses to this problem from ancient or medieval philosophy. (10)

(Total: 30 marks)

Please turn the page.

SECTION B

Choose any TWO questions. Each question carries 35 marks.

2. For Aristotle, the human is a social and political animal. Discuss this in relation to his views on ethics and politics.
3. Is Rousseau an optimist or a pessimist with regard to human nature and civilisation? Discuss in relation to his views on the state of nature and the social contract.
4. Discuss the philosophical views on the meaning of life as presented in Albert Camus' *The Myth of Sisyphus*.
5. What is the significance of "the evil demon" in Descartes' *Meditations*?
6. What is the relation between language and action? Discuss in relation to **TWO** philosophers of language of your choice.

(Total: 70 marks)