



**L-Università  
ta' Malta**

**MATSEC  
Examinations Board**



# **Specimen Papers**

## **SEC 40 Ethics**

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## Specimen Assessments: Controlled Paper MQF 1-2-3

MATRICULATION AND SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS  
BOARDL-Università  
ta' Malta

SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE LEVEL

SAMPLE PAPER – PRIVATE CANDIDATES

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SUBJECT: **Ethics**

PAPER NUMBER: **Level 1 – 2 - 3**

DATE:

TIME: 2 Hours

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**ALL questions are to be answered.**

1. a) Identify the meaning of a role model from the below. (3 marks)

James is a very good friend who is always willing to help his friends. At school he participates in different sports, and all his friends want to be on his team. The coaches always use James as an example of what it means to play in a fair way and to be supportive of your team.

James is a role model because \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- b) Identify from the following **FOUR** positive qualities of a role model. (4 marks)

Empathy	Accountability
Respect for others	Narcissist
Self-Centred	Integrity

- c) Explain how one's moral life is influenced by role models. (8 marks)

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- d) People often refer to figures such as Nelson Mandela or Mother Teresa as role models. Discuss the impact of political and religious role models on their society. (10 marks)

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2. a) Are the practices below forms of harassment or discrimination in the workplace? What shows you from the text that it is a form of harassment or discrimination and what is based upon? (6 marks)

Sarah's employer decides that all staff must start a new shift pattern which involves working late in the evening. All staff must accept this. But Sarah takes medication for her disorder which makes her feel very sleepy in the evenings, so she can't work late shifts. *(Adapted from mind.org.uk)*

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John and Jane have the same work duties and responsibilities. They have both achieved the targets set for them by their boss and they both joined the company two years ago. After comparing their salary, Jane realised that she is earning less than John.

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- b) Explain why harassment and discrimination in the workplace are unethical. (8 marks)

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- c) Discuss how taxes and other financial contributions such as national insurance contribute to the welfare state. (10 marks)

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3. Read the case study below and answer the following questions;

Stacy was born with a part of her brain missing. She is 31 years old but has the mental age of a six-month-old baby. She cannot walk or talk.

Stacy needs assistance at all times. She needs people to change her clothes or her nappies.

Her mother explains that it is very difficult to take care of her daughter Stacy, and to also care for her other children at the same time.

Stacy stayed with her family until she was twenty. It was becoming too difficult to take care of her at home. Stacy's family lived in a house that did not have a lift or other features she needed.

Stacy's family needed help. They decided that Stacy would be better cared for in a suitable home with nurses and designed for her needs.

Abi says that Stacy is very happy in the new home and that the staff and nurses are very caring. Stacy has a very good quality of life. She takes part in many activities like swimming or trips to Disneyland.

- a) From the text provided identify the definition of a person with disability. (3 marks)

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- b) From the text provided identify the relations of dependence found in it. (4 marks)

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- c) Describe, how ethical and legal limitations safeguard vulnerable others. (7 marks)

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- d) Discuss how dependence creates rights for some and responsibilities for others who are morally obliged to care for them. (10 marks)

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4. Read the case study below and answer the following questions;

Uncle Joe is old and very sick. He is in hospital. Everyone agrees that his life is nearing to an end.

Jane thinks that Uncle Joe is in a lot of pain and has already suffered for too long. Jane is of the opinion that Uncle Joe has a poor quality of life. His illness does not allow him to work and contribute to society. The hospital fees keep adding up. According to Jane, they should consider the option of helping Uncle Joe to die.

Peter is not interested in the hospital costs. Peter thinks that they should do everything possible to help Uncle Joe. According to Peter, they should make sure that Uncle Joe's life is of a good quality. He also understands that some of the remedies to ease the pain shorten the patient's lifespan, but he would rather have Uncle Joe not suffer.

Vince thinks that Uncle Joe should continue living his life until nature takes its course, even if he is living in pain. All human life should be protected according to Vince.

- a) Identify the end-of-life action that is being discussed in the text above. (2 marks)

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- b) Describe the issues raised by the end-of-life action identified in question a). (4 marks)

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- c) Identify the doctrine of double effect from the text above. Which part of the text shows this doctrine? (2 marks)

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- d) Describe the doctrine of the double effect. (3 marks)

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e) Give **THREE** examples of how to protect human life. (6 marks)

i) \_\_\_\_\_

ii) \_\_\_\_\_

iii) \_\_\_\_\_

f) Discuss the moral responsibility of sustaining and conserving human life. (10 marks)

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## Specimen Assessments: Controlled Paper MQF 1-2

MATRICULATION AND SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS  
BOARD



L-Università  
ta' Malta

SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE LEVEL

SAMPLE PAPER – ALL CANDIDATES

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SUBJECT: Ethics

PAPER NUMBER: Level 1 – 2

DATE:

TIME: 2 Hours

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**ALL questions are to be answered.**

**Section A – Answer all question. (25 marks)**

1. Choose the correct answer;
  - a) A role model is someone who can influence your life negatively/positively. (1 mark)
  - b) Which **ONE** of these can be a good role-model? (mark the correct answer with ✓) (1 mark)
    - A person addicted to drugs
    - A person who dedicates his or her life to helping others
    - Someone who makes money by tricking other people
2. Explain the negative ways a bad role model can influence another person's life. (5 marks)

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3. "Self-centred people are easy to recognise but difficult to deal with. They love to talk about themselves and ignore the feelings of others." *(Source: adapted from <https://pairedlife.com>)*

Explain briefly, how living a self-centred life makes us blind to the needs of others. (5 marks)

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4. List **THREE**'s responsibilities towards oneself and others when practising responsible sex. (3 marks)

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5. Describe how responsible sex is about respecting others and oneself. (5 marks)

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6. Describe the use of cloning. (5 marks)

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**Section B – Answer all questions. (75 marks)**

1. Read the case study below and answer the following questions;

Jeff and his best friend, Steven, have been friends since they were kids. One Saturday, Steven asked Jeff if he would drive him into the nearest town. He didn't have his license yet and said he thought it would be fun for them to hang out.

When they arrived, Steven asked Jeff to drive to a particular address. When they arrived, Steven asked Jeff to wait in the car. Steven returned to the car and Jeff asked what was going on. Steven pulled out a bag of white powder. He admitted that the powder was cocaine. He was addicted to drugs and felt that he could not live without them. When Jeff asked why he did not tell him why he asked for a lift. Steven said that he did not tell him because he thought that Jeff would not take him to buy the drugs.

That night Jeff could not sleep because he felt bad about what he had found out. He knew that drugs are bad. Steven will also continue using them with or without his help. He was angry that Steven had put him in the position of driving with an illegal drug, but even more importantly, he was worried about his friend.

Jeff had promised Steven he would not tell anyone about all this but it was driving him crazy. He had wanted to ask his parents' advice, but he was afraid that they would report his friend to the police. Jeff was torn about how best to protect Steven.

*Adapted from <https://www.goodcharacter.com/dilemma1/>*

- a) List **TWO** forms of psychological harm. (4 marks)

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- b) Identify the addictive behaviour found in this text. (1 mark)

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- c) Demonstrate through examples how addictions have negative consequences on myself and others. (10 marks)

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- d) Describe the relationship between self-reflection and self-mastery. (7 marks)

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- e) Steven is putting his life and that of others at risk. He needs help from others, to help him, even at their risk of their own life.

List **THREE** people who risk their lives to help others. (3 marks)

- i. \_\_\_\_\_  
ii. \_\_\_\_\_  
iii. \_\_\_\_\_

2.

- a) Describe the difference between physical and love. (5 marks)

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- b) Describe different kinds of love and their effect on others. (10 marks)

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- d) Explain what taking a responsible attitude towards one's life and the life of others means. (10 marks)

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3.

- a) Which of the following are examples of unnecessary pain to animals? Tick the correct answers. (6 marks)

• Isolation	• Lack of exercise	• Unhygienic conditions
• Trophy Hunting	• Humane slaughter	• Commercial breeding
• Small cages	• Poisoned food	• Regular exercise

Animals can feel pain, fear, and stress, just like humans, and hurting them for no reason is wrong. Many cultures value compassion for all living creatures, and respecting their lives means not causing harm. Science has shown that animals experience emotions like humans, which has led to ethical debates about treating them better, especially when we have other options. As societies become more advanced, we also improve our moral standards, like how we no longer accept practices like slavery or child labour. Treating animals kindly shows our progress as a caring society. Being cruel to animals can also affect how we treat people. Research shows that people who harm animals may also hurt humans. Teaching children to be kind to animals helps them grow up to be more empathetic and compassionate adults. Treating animals poorly, like in factory farming, can damage the environment and lead to species going extinct. A balanced ecosystem is important for both humans and animals because it provides us with clean air, water, and food. Many countries have laws to protect animals from cruelty. Hurting animals can lead to legal consequences, and people now expect products to be made without harming animals, so businesses that do not follow these values might lose support. Give an outline of the life and death issue presented in this passage.

- b) Identify **FIVE** reasons from the text why we should not cause unnecessary pain to animals. (5 marks)

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- c) John adopted a dog from an animal shelter. This dog was rescued from a dog breeder who was keeping the dog to breed puppies to sell them. John loves the dog and cares for the dog without any intention of using it for making money. After reading this passage, identify the definitions of intrinsic value and instrumental value.

Intrinsic Value

(3 marks)

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Instrumental Value

(3 marks)

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d) Explain what it means to treat animals with ethical consideration. (8 marks)

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## Specimen Assessments: Controlled Paper MQF 2-3

MATRICULATION AND SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS  
BOARD



L-Università  
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SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE LEVEL

SAMPLE PAPER – ALL CANDIDATES

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SUBJECT: Ethics

PAPER NUMBER: Level 2 – 3

DATE:

TIME: 2 Hours

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**ALL questions are to be answered.**

**Section A – Answer all question. (25 marks)**

1. Explain how my moral life is influenced by role models. (5 marks)

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2. Social media has been identified as a platform for the spread of extremist groups and politics such as the Alt-Right and radical Islamism. Discuss the mechanisms of radicalisation over social media. (10 marks)

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3. "Self-centred people are easy to recognise but difficult to deal with. They love to talk about themselves, and ignore the feelings of others."

*(Adapted from: [pairedlife.com/etiquette/Annoying-Behaviors-of-Self-Centered-People](https://pairedlife.com/etiquette/Annoying-Behaviors-of-Self-Centered-People))*

Explain how living a self-centred life makes us blind to the difficulties of others. (5 marks)

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4. Explain the characteristics of relations of dependence. (5 marks)

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5. *The right to die is a concept based on the opinion that a human being is entitled to end their own life or to opt for voluntary euthanasia.*

(Source: [www.wikipedia.com](http://www.wikipedia.com))

Analyse the claim that is made in favour of the right to die.

(5 marks)

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**Section B - Answer all question. (75 marks)**

1.



- a) Explain, in about 50 words, some of the consequences to myself from acts of self-harm. (5 marks)

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- b) Why do we have a moral obligation not to harm ourselves? (7 marks)

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- c) Explain how solidarity is a form of respect towards those who are different from us. (5 marks)

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- d) Read the passage below and answer the question;

A classroom is a model of the world. Different cultures, mentalities, religions, and their influence come together in a classroom community. With such a mix of individuals, it's only natural that points of views and beliefs will clash.

A classroom is, before anything else, a place of learning. It should be a space where children go to gain knowledge even about life. Classrooms are where students can best learn the social skills necessary to survive in the world. One of the most important things they need to know and understand is the importance of accepting others.

(Adapted from: <http://dwyerfamilyfoundation.com/4-ways-instill-importance-tolerance/>)

Discuss the role of tolerance in the classroom, as a type of closed community. (8 marks)

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

2.

a) Describe care as a positive sentiment towards others.

(5 marks)

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b) Discuss the role of care in relation to dependence.

(6 marks)

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(5 marks)

[illegible]

(9 marks)

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a) Describe the right to be treated with dignity and respect.

[illegible]

b) Explain how you can contribute positively to the life of others.

(5 marks)

[illegible]

c) Discuss why human life has a positive meaning and how do secular attitudes offer a positive meaning to life. (15 marks)

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[illegible]