



General Certificate of Education
Advanced Subsidiary Examination
January 2010

PHILOSOPHY

PHIL1

Unit 1 An Introduction to Philosophy 1

Tuesday 12 January 2010 9.00 am to 10.30 am

For this paper you must have:

- an 8-page answer book.

Time allowed

- 1 hour 30 minutes

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Examining Body** for this paper is AQA. The **Paper Reference** is PHIL1.
- Answer **Question 1** and **one** other question.
- Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 90.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Answer **Question 1** and **one** other question.

Theme: Reason and experience

- 1 (a) Explain what is meant by the claim that the human mind starts as a *tabula rasa* and give **one** reason for holding this view. (15 marks)
- (b) How convincing is the view that sense experience is the source of all knowledge? (30 marks)

Theme: Why should I be governed?

- 2 (a) ‘Demonstrating that power is legitimate is difficult.’ Explain **and** illustrate **one** reason for this. (15 marks)
- (b) Is unlawful conduct for political ends ever justifiable? (30 marks)

Theme: Why should I be moral?

- 3 (a) Outline **and** illustrate **two** ways in which an action may be both self-interested and altruistic. (15 marks)
- (b) Does morality demand that we suppress our own inclinations and desires for the benefit of others? (30 marks)

Theme: The idea of God

- 4 (a) Outline **and** illustrate how God’s transcendence might conflict with **one** of His other attributes. (15 marks)
- (b) How convincing is the view that the idea of God is innate in all of us? (30 marks)

Theme: Persons

- 5 (a) Explain **and** illustrate **one** criticism of the view that our identity as persons through time is given by our physical continuity. (15 marks)
- (b) ‘Rights attach to persons, beings who are autonomous and responsible, not necessarily to all humans.’ Consider the implications of this view. (30 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS