



General Certificate of Education  
Advanced Subsidiary Examination  
June 2014

# Philosophy

# PHIL1

## Unit 1 An introduction to Philosophy 1

Monday 12 May 2014 1.30 pm to 3.00 pm

**For this paper you must have:**

- an AQA 12-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 **Paper Reference** is PHIL1.
- Answer **four** questions.
- Answer **both** questions on **Theme 1** and **both** questions on **one** other theme.
- 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.

### Advice

- You are advised to read through the examination paper before you attempt the questions.
- You are advised to spend the same amount of time on each theme.

---

Answer **four** questions.

Answer **both** questions on **Theme 1** and **both** questions on **one** other theme.

---

**Theme 1: Reason and experience**

**0 | 1** Explain and illustrate **two** reasons for holding the view that at birth the mind is a tabula rasa (blank slate). **[15 marks]**

**0 | 2** 'All of the concepts we have are derived from sense experience.' Discuss. **[30 marks]**

**Theme 2: Why should I be governed?**

**0 | 3** Illustrating your answer, explain **one** criticism of the view that 'in a state of nature' people live together peacefully in perfect freedom and equality. **[15 marks]**

**0 | 4** 'The use of unlawful conduct for political purposes cannot be justified.' Discuss. **[30 marks]**

**Theme 3: Why should I be moral?**

**0 | 5** Explain and illustrate the claim that universal moral principles are too abstract to guide action. **[15 marks]**

**0 | 6** 'It is always in my interest to conform to moral conventions to which I have contractually agreed.' Discuss. **[30 marks]**

**Theme 4: The idea of God**

**0 | 7** Explain and illustrate **two** problems with the idea that God is supremely good. **[15 marks]**

**0 | 8** Is any account of how we obtained the idea of God convincing? **[30 marks]**

**Theme 5: Persons**

0	9
---	---

 Illustrating your answer, explain **two** reasons for separating the concept of a person from that of a human being. **[15 marks]**

1	0
---	---

 'The idea that a machine could be a person is ridiculous.' Discuss. **[30 marks]**

**END OF QUESTIONS**

**There are no questions printed on this page**