



**PHILOSOPHY  
STANDARD LEVEL  
PAPER 2**

Wednesday 17 May 2006 (morning)

1 hour

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**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Answer one question.

In answering questions, candidates are expected to:

- present an argument in an organized way
- use clear, precise and appropriate language, demonstrating that they understand the author's specific terminology
- show an understanding of the specific demands of the question
- give detailed references to the ideas and arguments presented in the text
- provide relevant supporting material and examples where appropriate
- analyse the supporting material
- state a clear, personal response to the position expressed by the author.

Answer **one** question.

1. **Lao Tzu: *Tao Te Ching***  
“In order to live in harmony we must not act.” Explain and evaluate this claim.
2. **Confucius: *The Analects***  
Explain and assess the Confucian view of virtue.
3. **Plato: *The Republic***  
Analyse Plato's view about the role of women in his ideal state, and discuss the extent to which egalitarianism is possible in Plato's political philosophy.
4. **Aristotle: *The Nicomachean Ethics***  
Discuss the extent of the relationship between wisdom and happiness.
5. **Aquinas: *Summa Theologiae***  
The goal of the will is happiness. Explain and evaluate.
6. **Descartes: *Meditations***  
Explain and discuss the scope of Descartes's concept of 'idea'.
7. **Locke: *Second Treatise on Government***  
To what extent does Locke's notion of war justify aggression?
8. **Hume: *An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding***  
Explain and discuss the relevance of Hume's investigation of miracles.
9. **Rousseau: *Discourse on the Origin of Inequality and Social Contract***  
Explain and assess Rousseau's concept of sovereignty.

10. **Kant: *Groundwork of the Metaphysic of Morals***  
To what extent is an autonomous will a necessary condition for human dignity?
11. **Nietzsche: *The Genealogy of Morals***  
Explain and discuss the nature and role of ‘punishment’ for Nietzsche.
12. **Mill: *Essay on Liberty***  
Explain and discuss Mill’s ideas about the ‘despotism of custom’.
13. **Freud: *Civilisation and its Discontents and Outline of Psychoanalysis***  
Explain and assess Freud’s account of the qualities of the psychic processes.
14. **Buber: *I and Thou***  
Explain and discuss Buber’s claim that the ‘I’ is the true standard of humanity.
15. **Ortega y Gasset: *History as a System***  
“Man needs a new revelation.” With reference to ‘historical reason’ explain and critically evaluate Ortega’s statement.
16. **Wittgenstein: *The Blue and Brown Books***  
Explain and assess why the philosophical craving for generality is a hindrance to understanding.
17. **Arendt: *The Human Condition***  
Explain the hierarchy of human activities (labour, work, action) and discuss whether it justifies the seeing of the decline of ‘action’.
18. **Simone de Beauvoir: *The Ethics of Ambiguity***  
Explain and discuss De Beauvoir’s analysis of Marxism in relation to her Existentialist views.
19. **Rawls: *A Theory of Justice***  
Explain and evaluate Rawl’s notion of the veil of ignorance.
20. **Feyerabend: *Farewell to Reason***  
Explain and evaluate whether rationality is still possible.
21. **Foucault: *The History of Sexuality***  
Explain and discuss the distinction between ‘the right of life’ and ‘the right of death’.

**22. Putnam: *Reason, Truth and History***

“The mind and the world jointly make up the mind and the world.” Critically assess.

**23. Taylor: *The Ethics of Authenticity***

“Authenticity is clearly self-referential, but this doesn’t mean that the self and what the self refers to must be self-referential.” Critically discuss.

**24. Nussbaum: *Poetic Justice***

To what extent should literature enlighten the moral behaviour of political leaders? Explain and evaluate.

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