



Cambridge Pre-U

PHILOSOPHY AND THEOLOGY

9774/03

Paper 3 Topics and Key Texts in Philosophy and Theology 2

May/June 2022

2 hours



You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **two** questions on **one** topic only.
For your chosen topic:
Answer **both parts** of the question in Section A.
Answer **one** question from Section B.
- Follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper, ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 50.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [].

This syllabus is regulated for use in England, Wales and Northern Ireland as a Cambridge International Level 3 Pre-U Certificate.

This document has **8** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

Choose **one** of Topics 1 to 3.

Answer **two** questions.

You must answer **both** parts of the question in Section A and **one** question from Section B for the topic you have chosen.

You should divide your time equally between the questions you attempt.

Topic 1 Philosophy of Mind

Answer Question 1 **and** either Question 2 **or** Question 3.

Section A

I shall also argue for the following conclusions:

1. We are not separately existing entities, apart from our brains and bodies, and various interrelated physical and mental events. Our existence just involves the existence of our brains and bodies, and the doing of our deeds, and the thinking of our thoughts, and the occurrence of certain other physical and mental events. Our identity over time just involves (a) Relation R – psychological connectedness and/or psychological continuity – with the right kind of cause, provided (b) that this relation does not take a 'branching' form, holding between one person and two different future people.
2. It is not true that our identity is always determinate. I can always ask, 'Am I about to die?' But it is not true that, in every case, this question must have an answer, which must be either Yes or No. In some cases this would be an empty question.
3. There are two unities to be explained: the unity of consciousness at any time, and the unity of a whole life. These two unities cannot be explained by claiming that different experiences are had by the same person. These unities must be explained by describing the relations between these many experiences, and their relations to this person's brain. And we can refer to these experiences, and fully describe the relations between them, without claiming that these experiences are had by a person.
4. Personal identity is not what matters. What fundamentally matters is Relation R, with any cause. This relation is what matters even when, as in a case where one person is R-related to two other people, Relation R does not provide personal identity.

[Extract from **Derek Parfit**: *Reasons and Persons*, Chapter 10 'What we believe ourselves to be']

- 1 (a) With reference to the passage, explain what Parfit means by 'Relation R'. [10]
- (b) Critically assess the view that personal identity is 'not what matters'. [15]

Section B

2 'Cartesian substance dualism fails to solve the mind-body problem.' Critically discuss this claim. [25]

OR

3 'All I can know for certain is my own mind and its contents.' Evaluate this claim. [25]

Topic 2 Ethics

Answer Question 4 **and** either Question 5 **or** Question 6.

Section A

The existentialist, on the contrary, finds it extremely embarrassing that God does not exist, for there disappears with Him all possibility of finding values in an intelligible heaven. There can no longer be any good a priori, since there is no infinite and perfect consciousness to think it. It is nowhere written that 'the good' exists, that one must be honest or must not lie, since we are now upon the plane where there are only men. Dostoevsky once wrote: 'If God did not exist, everything would be permitted'; and that, for existentialism, is the starting point. Everything is indeed permitted if God does not exist, and man is in consequence forlorn, for he cannot find anything to depend upon either within or outside himself. He discovers forthwith, that he is without excuse.

[Extract from **Jean-Paul Sartre**, *Existentialism and Humanism*]

- 4 (a) With reference to the passage, explain Sartre's claim that man is 'without excuse'. [10]
- (b) Evaluate the view that if God does not exist, everything would be permitted. [15]

Section B

- 5 Critically evaluate Preference Utilitarianism. [25]

OR

- 6 'We have a duty to preserve life.' Critically discuss the extent to which Kantian ethics helps in making decisions about abortion. [25]

Topic 3 Old Testament: Prophecy

Answer Question 7 **and** either Question 8 **or** Question 9.

Section A

⁶ Thus says the LORD:

For three transgressions of Israel,
and for four, I will not revoke the punishment;
because they sell the righteous for silver,
and the needy for a pair of sandals—

⁷ they who trample the head of the poor into the dust of the earth,
and push the afflicted out of the way;

father and son go in to the same girl,
so that my holy name is profaned;

⁸ they lay themselves down beside every altar
on garments taken in pledge ...

[Amos 2: 6–8a]

7 (a) With reference to the passage, explain why Amos was concerned for social justice in Israel. [10]

(b) Critically examine what is known about the prophet Amos and the reasons for the writing of the Book of Amos. [15]

Section B

8 'The origins of Old Testament prophecy are clear.' How far do you agree? [25]

OR

9 Critically assess the problem of false prophecy in Israel. [25]

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