



OFFICE OF TASMANIAN
ASSESSMENT, STANDARDS
& CERTIFICATION

Tasmanian Certificate of Education
External Assessment 2016

PLACE YOUR CANDIDATE
LABEL HERE

PHILOSOPHY

(PHL315113)

Time allowed for this paper

- Working time: 3 hours
- Plus 15 minutes recommended reading time

Pages:	8
Questions:	15

Candidate Instructions

1. You **MUST** make sure that your responses to the questions in this examination paper will show your achievement in the criteria being assessed.
2. There are **FIVE** sections to this paper.
3. You must answer:
 - **ALL** questions from **Section A**, in short answer form
 - **BOTH** questions from **Section B**, in short answer form
 - **ONE** question from **Section C**, in essay form
 - **ONE** question from **Section D**
 - **ONE** question from **Section E**
4. Answer each section in a separate answer booklet.
5. The recommended time to be spent on a section is given in the instructions in that section.
6. All written responses must be in English.

On the basis of your performance in this examination, the examiners will provide results on each of the following criteria taken from the course statement:

- Criterion 1** Communicates philosophical ideas and information.
- Criterion 2** Demonstrates knowledge and understanding of philosophical ideas.
- Criterion 3** Explains the logic and reasoning used in philosophical arguments.
- Criterion 4** Evaluates the relative strengths and weaknesses of philosophical arguments.

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SECTION A

Answer **ALL** questions in this section.

Use a separate answer booklet for this section.

It is recommended you spend approximately **15 minutes** on this section.

This section assesses **Criteria 1 and 2**.

EPISTEMOLOGY

Question 1

Describe, in your own words, a problem with philosophical scepticism.

Refer to one or more philosophers in your response.

Question 2

Describe what Descartes' reflection on the wax reveals about the wax itself **and** the human mind.

Question 3

Describe **one** issue with induction **or** deduction.

Refer to one or more philosophers in your response.

SECTION B

Answer **BOTH** questions in this section.

Use a separate answer booklet for this section.

It is recommended you spend approximately **30 minutes** on this section.

This section assesses **Criteria 1, 2 and 3**.

FREE WILL

Question 4

Does compatibilism overcome the problems of **both** determinism **and** free will?

Explain your reasoning with reference to one or more philosophers.

Question 5

What is the role of punishment in a deterministic world?

Explain your reasoning with reference to one or more philosophers.

SECTION C

Answer **ONE** question from this section.

Use a separate answer booklet for this section.

It is recommended you spend approximately **45 minutes** on this section.

This section assesses **Criteria 1, 2, 3 and 4.**

MIND/BODY

Question 6

What do you think is the best explanation for how mind and body interact?

Evaluate your response with reference to a range of philosophers.

Question 7

Choose **either** a dualist **or** materialist perspective.

What arguments for this view are most defensible?

Evaluate your response with reference to a range of philosophers.

Question 8

'Being conscious is the same as having a mind'.

Discuss this statement.

Use your response to defend **or** reject the premise by referring to a range of philosophers.

SECTION D

Answer **ONE** question from this section.

Use a separate answer booklet for this section.

It is recommended you spend approximately **45 minutes** on this section.

This section assesses **Criteria 1, 2, 3 and 4.**

LIFE, THE UNIVERSE AND EVERYTHING

Question 9

Why have some philosophers thought that Darwin's theory of evolution refuted the argument from design?

Explain your response with reference to a range of philosophers.

Question 10

'The universe just exists, and that's that'.

Evaluate this statement.

Justify your response referring to a range of philosophers.

Question 11

'Scientific explanations can neither prove nor disprove the cosmological argument'.

Evaluate this statement.

Justify your response referring to a range of philosophers.

SECTION E

Answer **ONE** question from this section.

Use a separate answer booklet for this section.

It is recommended you spend approximately **45 minutes** on this section.

This section assesses **Criteria 1, 2, 3 and 4.**

PHILOSOPHERS AND THE GOOD LIFE

Question 12

According to Schopenhauer, in general, romantic love **does not** lead to happiness.

Discuss this statement.

Explain in your response how Schopenhauer's view might be challenged.

Question 13

According to Nietzsche, our character is formed by our struggles with adversity.

Explain and critically assess Nietzsche's view using at least one of his examples.

Question 14

Montaigne's essays aim to describe the animal nature of human beings.

Discuss this statement.

Explain in your response how Montaigne's view might be challenged.

Question 15

Critically assess Thoreau's views on the role of the natural world in achieving the good life.



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