

BOWEN UNIVERSITY, IWO.

General Studies Programme

2011/2012 First Semester Examinations

Studies in Philosophy and Logic (GST 302).

Time Allowed – 50 mins.

Section A. Answer all questions in this section.

1. "A philosopher's view of philosophy depends upon his/her own perspective about the subject matter of philosophy." This indicates that (a) philosophy has no definition (b) philosophers have no direction (c) the definition of philosophy is itself a philosophical issue.
2. Which is not a characteristic of philosophical problems (a) they are conceptual in nature (b) they are fundamental in nature (c) they are experimental in nature
3. Andronicus was the student of _____ who invented the word '_____', (a) Aristotle ... metaphysics (b) Protagoras ... ethics (c) Socrates ... philosophy
4. When we study the principles or techniques of differentiating between correct and incorrect reasoning, we are in the realm of _____. (a) Logic (b) arguments (c) ethics
5. _____ is a type of formal argument involving categorical propositions. (a) Categorical syllogism (b) Hypothetical syllogism (c) Disjunctive syllogism.
6. "Some human beings are not mortal beings" is an example of which type of categorical proposition? (a) Universal Affirmation (b) Particular Negation (c) Universal Negation
7. Categorical propositions have a universal or particular _____ and an affirmative or negative _____. (a) quality, quantity (b) measurement, analysis (c) quantity, quality.
8. In a categorical syllogism, the middle term appears in the _____ of the major premise. (a) predicate position (b) copula/verbal position (c) subject position.
9. An argument is valid if it is such that if the premises are true then _____ (a) conclusion cannot be decisive (b) the conclusion cannot but be false (c) the conclusion must be true.
10. The minor term in a categorical proposition takes what position in the conclusion? (a) minor position (b) subject position (c) predicate position.
11. The term which appears in the two premises but does not appear in the conclusion of a categorical syllogism is known as _____. (a) major term (b) minor term (c) middle term.
12. A categorical proposition is best interpreted as being about _____. (a) classes (b) propositions (c) qualities

13. In a deductive argument, the truth of the premises necessarily guarantees the truth of the conclusion. (a) No (b) Yes (c) Undetermined
14. An inductive argument is _____ while a deductive argument is _____. (a) amplicative, explicative (b) analytic, synthetic (c) explicative, amplicative.
15. _____ is a sequence of declarative sentences in which one is claimed to follow from the others. (a) An argument (b) A fallacy (c) Logic.
16. Validity or soundness of an argument is centred upon what type of argument? (a) Inductive argument. (b) Deductive argument. (c) Fallacious argument.
17. A kind of fallacy which concerns mistakes and common flaws in the use of language is known as _____. (a) formal fallacy (b) informal fallacy (c) fallacy of begging the question.
18. When a premise is assumed, consciously or otherwise, for a conclusion, then what type of fallacy is committed? (a) Fallacy of begging the question. (b) fallacy of attacking the person (c) fallacy of arguing to the gallery.
19. Who defined philosophy as "essentially the search for the guide of life?" (a) G. Chatalian (b) H.S Stanilas (c) S. Madubuike
20. Renes Descartes, John Locke and Immanuel Kant are examples of (a) Medieval philosophers (b) Ancient philosophers (c) Modern philosophers.
21. Philosophical problems do not yield to empirical method much more because they are ____ (a) observatory and experimental (b) fundamental and essential (c) conceptual and reflective
22. Pythagoras was the first person to call himself a "philosopher." This information was made known by _____. (a) Aristotle (b) Socrates (c) Cicero
23. When we attempt to analyse or interpret ethical terms such as 'good', 'bad', 'evil', 'obligation', 'duty', 'principle', 'moral', 'immoral', etc, then we are in the realm of _____. (a) Meta-ethics (b) Normative ethics (c) Applied ethics.
24. _____, as a theory of human action, is based on the principle of the greatest good or the greatest happiness. (a) Utilitarianism (b) Subjectivism (c) Prescriptivism
25. The belief that it is possible to have some knowledge which is fundamentally based on incorrigible and absolutely certain beliefs or ideas is known as _____. (a) Foundationalism (b) Rationalism (c) Coherentism
26. Renes Descartes is renowned for his _____ account of knowledge. (a) empirical (b) coherentist (c) foundationalist.
27. The belief that knowledge is attainable basically through perception is known as _____. (a) rationalism (b) foundationalism (c) empiricism

28. The law of thought which states that "if any proposition is true, then it is true" is known as _____. (a) Law of contradiction (b) Law of identity (c) Law of excluded middle.
29. When the information contained in the conclusion of an argument surpasses the evidence presented in the premises, then we have _____ type of argument. (a) a deductive (b) an inductive (c) a fallacious
30. A fallacy which occurs when someone assumes the truth of a statement on the basis that such statement has not been proven to be false is _____. (a) Argumentum ad Ignorantiam (b) Non Sequitur (c) Post hoc ergo Propter.
31. "The witch cried last night and the child dies this morning. Hence it is the witch who killed the child." This is an example of what type of fallacy? (a) Argumentum ad Misericordiam (b) Post hoc, ergo propter hoc (c) Argumentum ad Vericundiam.
32. Prof. Wole Soyinka has claimed that all elements have weight, including air. Thus, air has weight. (a) Argumentum ad Baculum (b) Argumentum ad Populum (c) Argumentum ad Verecundiam.
33. Arguments, whether they are formal or informal, are made up of statements, which are also called _____. (a) sentence (b) propositions (c) judgement.
34. A scientific law purports to describe how the world is. It is therefore _____ and not _____. (a) conceptual, empirical (b) descriptive, prescriptive (c) reflective, analytic
35. When a universal conclusion and necessary truths are assumed from particular phenomena and contingent appearances, we have _____. (a) deduction (b) induction (c) analysis
36. A basic problem of induction as a scientific methodology is that _____. (a) it rests on the validity of the principle of the uniformity of nature. (b) there is a possibility of a change in the course of nature or universe (c) it is infallible
37. When we ask the question, "What is the essence of being?" we are in the realm of _____. (a) Ethics (b) Metaphysics (c) Epistemology
38. The first stage in any scientific study is _____. (a) Observation of a problem (b) Formulation of hypothesis (c) Formulation of scientific laws.
39. Scepticism is an important trend in epistemology basically because (i) it denies the possibility of knowledge attainment (b) it intentionally makes the notion of knowledge obscure (iii) it constantly challenges the quest for absolutely certain knowledge
40. "I ought not to cheat in the examinations" is an example of a _____ ethical statement. (a) normative (b) descriptive (c) meta
41. The words "all", "no", and "some" are _____ in a categorical proposition. (a) qualifier-words (b) copula-words (c) quantifier-words

Identify the conclusions in the following arguments:

42. (i) Obafemi is an undergraduate. (ii) All undergraduates are intelligent. (iii) Obafemi is intelligent. (a) i (b) ii (c) iii.
43. (i) From the fact that Kunle has seen one or two eaglets that are white, (ii) he then speculates that all eaglets are white. (a) ii (b) i (c) undetermined.
44. (i) The alarmists have not succeeded in proving that the toxic and radio-active materials dumped in Koko are dangerously harmful to human life. (ii) Consequent upon this, we may argue that the materials are safe. (a) i (b) ii (c) none

Indicate whether the arguments in questions 45 and 47 are deductive or inductive or undetermined:

45. Out of the three persons Titi, Ngozi and Hauwa in Room 8 of the philosophy block, at least one of them is fair in complexion. Titi and Hauwa are dark in complexion. Ngozi is the fair person in Room 8 of the philosophy block. (a) inductive (b) deductive (c) undetermined.
46. 99% of the inhabitants of Sabo quarters are engineers. Mr. Jimoh lives in Sabo quarters. Therefore, Mr. Jimoh is most probably an engineer. (a) inductive (b) deductive (c) undetermined.
47. Hitler was a dictator and was ruthless. Stalin was a dictator and was ruthless. Castro is a dictator. Therefore Castro is probably ruthless. (a) inductive (b) deductive (c) undetermined
48. Which among these is not a characteristic of science? (a) Objectivity (b) Impersonality (c) Sentimentality.
49. Which among these categories of science is aimed at explaining human behaviour and interaction within social institutions and cultural practices? (a) Social science (b) Natural science (c) Applied science
50. By natural phenomena, we mean _____. (a) supra-sensible objects (b) supernatural entities (c) experiential objects.
51. Philosophy of science is a/an ____ branch of philosophy. (a) cardinal (b) applied (c) principal.
52. The words *scientia* and *episteme* connote _____. (a) science (b) knowledge (c) study
53. The notion of applied science is synonymous with _____. (a) technology (b) astrology (c) social science.
54. List four premise indicators. (a) Thus, For, Hence, In support of (b) Therefore, It follows from, Since, So (c) In support of, For, Since, Because.
55. That knowledge is accessible through reason is the arguments of the _____. (a) rationalists (b) idealists (c) empiricists.
56. The question of whether man is free or determined is a _____ issue with _____ implications. (a) metaphysical, ethical (b) epistemological, logical (c) ethical, metaphysical
57. When we make moral judgements based on our personal attitudes or feelings, then that is ethical _____. (a) universalism (b) relativism (c) subjectivism

58. That a belief, idea or knowledge is justifiable if it conforms and is consistent with the system to which it belongs is the position of the _____. (a) foundationalists (b) coherentists (c) empiricists

59. _____ enhances the ability to reason clearly and correctly. (a) Epistemology (b) Ethics (c) Logic.

60. A valid argument indicates that the truth condition of the premises implies the truth condition of the conclusion. (a) Yes (b) No (c) Undetermined.

Section B - Essay Questions.

Answer ~~Two~~ ^{Two} out of these questions.

1. (a) Attempt a definition of philosophy, taking into cognisance the loose and technical senses of philosophy.

(b) What are the distinguishing characteristics of philosophical problems, and in what sense are they central to philosophy as a discipline?

2. (a) Critically examine rationalism and empiricism with respect to epistemology as a branch of philosophy.

(b) What is foundationalism?

3. "Nothing exists in the intellect which was not first in the senses." Critically examine this statement in view of empiricism as a theory of knowledge.

4. (a) What is metaphysics?

(b) Discuss materialism and idealism as different theories of metaphysics.

5. (a) Define Ethics, and explain the notion of morality as its subject matter.

(b) Define and critically assess the claims and arguments of Ethical relativism.

6. (a) Attempt a critical evaluation of philosophy of science within the context of the problems that are of interest to the philosophers of science.

(b) Identify and discuss three senses in which the concept of science may be understood.

7. (a) Any scientific research must make reference to these four characteristics – specificity, public oriented, impersonality and objectivity. Discuss.

(b) What in your own understanding are the inadequacies of science as a paradigm of knowledge?

8. (a) What are fallacies, and attempt a distinction between formal and informal fallacies.

(b) Define and give examples of three types of fallacies you know.