

**Philosophy**  
**Higher level**  
**Paper 1**

Tuesday 7 November 2017 (afternoon)

2 hours 30 minutes

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**Instructions to candidates**

- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Section A: answer one question.
- Section B: answer two questions, each chosen from a different optional theme.
- The maximum mark for this examination paper is **[75 marks]**.

## Section A

Answer **one** question from this section. Each question in this section is worth [25 marks].

### Core theme: Being human

1. Read the following article and develop your response as indicated below.

If emotions are vital to the survival of any half intelligent creature we should expect complex robots to evolve their own emotions just as the higher animals have done. The emotions that a creature needs to survive depends on the creature's lifestyle and habitat, consequently robot and human emotions might come to evolve in very different ways. Fear of a battle for supremacy between human and machine might be misplaced as complex robots could become our friends rather than our enemies.

[Source: adapted from: D. Evans (2002), *Emotions — the Science of Sentiment*, Oxford University Press, pages 174–176. By permission of Oxford University Press.]

With explicit reference to the stimulus and your own knowledge, discuss a philosophical issue related to the question of what it means to be human.

2. Look at the following picture and develop your response as indicated below.



[Source: Illustration by Adam Ferner, from M. Phelan (2011), Just what are your intentions?  
*The Philosophers' Magazine*, 1st Quarter 2011, Philosophy Press, p. 73.]

With explicit reference to the stimulus and your own knowledge, discuss a philosophical issue related to the question of what it means to be human.

## **Section B**

Answer **two** questions from this section, each chosen from a different optional theme. Each question in this section is worth [25 marks].

### **Optional theme 1: Aesthetics**

3. Evaluate the claim that reality can be discovered through art.
  
4. To what extent is art judged because it reflects the mood and/or feelings of the artist?

### **Optional theme 2: Epistemology**

5. Evaluate the claim that the limit of a human's knowledge is the content of her or his mind.
  
6. Discuss and evaluate what is claimed to be knowable through the use of reason alone.

### **Optional theme 3: Ethics**

7. Discuss and evaluate the claim that "ethics is more a matter of knowledge and less a matter of decision".
  
8. "What's the use of a fine house if you haven't got a tolerable world to put it on?" Discuss and evaluate this claim in relation to one of the areas of applied ethics that you have studied.

### **Optional theme 4: Philosophy and contemporary society**

9. Evaluate the claim that those who choose to attack and destroy the society of which they are a part should be denied their human rights.
  
10. Evaluate the claim that the main enemy of women is patriarchy.

**Optional theme 5: Philosophy of religion**

11. Evaluate the claim that the idea of a deity is innate in all human beings.
12. To what extent can claims of there being religious experiences be considered valid?

**Optional theme 6: Philosophy of science**

13. Evaluate the claim that the task of the logic of scientific discovery is to give an analysis of the method of the empirical sciences.
14. Explain and discuss the impact of modern physics on philosophical thought.

**Optional theme 7: Political philosophy**

15. Explain and discuss the reasons an individual could give for disobeying the authority and challenging the sovereignty of the state.
  16. Discuss and evaluate the view that an individual has human rights simply by virtue of being a human.
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