

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

BA EXAMINATION

for Internal Students

This paper is also taken by Combined Studies Students

PHILOSOPHY

4. Greek Philosophy from the beginnings to Aristotle

Answer THREE questions. Answer at least TWO questions from SECTION B.

SECTION A

1. In what sense, if any, does Heraclitus hold that everything is always changing?
2. What is Parmenides' argument to show that what is is one and continuous?
Is his argument sound?
3. What, according to Democritus, is 'the empty'? How might he have justified its existence?
4. Examine Zeno's argument that a moving arrow is at rest.
5. Was Plato right to complain that Anaxagoras 'made no use of his intelligence' (Phaedo 98b)?

SECTION B

6. Is there a case for describing Socrates as a sophist?
7. According to Plato, is recollection of Forms necessary for the acquisition of concepts?
8. EITHER (a) Is Plato's Phaedo coherent when it holds that the soul is both a knowing subject and the source of life?

OR (b) Is a tripartite soul three persons in a single body?

9. EITHER (a) Is the theory of Forms a theory of universals?

OR (b) Why is the Form of the Good 'beyond being'?

10. EITHER (a) In the Parmenides, Socrates is puzzled about the existence or non-existence of certain Forms. What can we infer from this?

OR (b) 'Forms are set in nature like patterns, whereas other things resemble them and are likenesses ...' (Parmenides 132d1-3). Explain and assess Parmenides' argument against this proposal.

11. EITHER (a) How, in the Theaetetus, does the thesis that knowledge is perception connect with EITHER Protagorean relativism OR Heraclitean flux?

OR (b) 'Tell me: do we say that the syllable is both its letters -- or, all of them, if there are more than two -- or that it is some single form produced by their combination?' (Theaetetus 203c). Describe and assess Socrates' examination of these options.

12. Does the Sophist's explanation of falsehood deal successfully with problems about false judgement raised in the Theaetetus?

13. 'Teleology requires theology'. Assess the importance of god in the teleology of EITHER Plato OR Aristotle.

14. EITHER (a) If nothing can come from nothing, how, according to Aristotle, can anything change?

OR (b) Are Aristotelian species eternal? Justify your answer.

15. EITHER (a) How do Aristotle's four causes interconnect?

OR (b) Is Aristotle's teleology anthropocentric?

16. Does Aristotle's account of chance refute the determinist?

17. EITHER (a) 'Aristotle's account of the relation between soul and body is functionalist'. 'Aristotle's account of the relation between soul and body is dualist'. Evaluate one or both of these claims.

OR (b) To what extent is Aristotle's account of thought dependent on his account of perception?

18. Why, according to the Categories, is an individual substance 'a substance most strictly'?
19. In Metaphysics VII (Zeta), chapter 3, Aristotle argues for a certain claim about substance and the substratum. What is the claim and what is Aristotle's argument in support of it?
20. What, according to Metaphysics IX (Theta), is the relation between a potential for change and potential being?

END OF PAPER