

**Victorian Certificate of Education  
2017**

SUPERVISOR TO ATTACH PROCESSING LABEL HERE

STUDENT NUMBER           Letter

**PHILOSOPHY**  
**Written examination**

**Friday 10 November 2017**

**Reading time: 3.00 pm to 3.15 pm (15 minutes)**

**Writing time: 3.15 pm to 5.15 pm (2 hours)**

**QUESTION AND ANSWER BOOK**

**Structure of book**

<i>Section</i>	<i>Number of questions</i>	<i>Number of questions to be answered</i>	<i>Number of marks</i>
A	6	6	20
B	2	2	20
C	3	1	20
			Total 60

- Students are permitted to bring into the examination room: pens, pencils, highlighters, erasers, sharpeners and rulers.
- Students are NOT permitted to bring into the examination room: blank sheets of paper and/or correction fluid/tape.
- No calculator is allowed in this examination.

**Materials supplied**

- Question and answer book of 20 pages
- Additional space is available at the end of the book if you need extra paper to complete an answer.

**Instructions**

- Write your **student number** in the space provided above on this page.
- All written responses must be in English.

**Students are NOT permitted to bring mobile phones and/or any other unauthorised electronic devices into the examination room.**

**SECTION A**

**Instructions for Section A**  
Answer **all** questions in the spaces provided.

**Question 1** (6 marks)

Dualists argue that we should make distinctions between two radically contrasting kinds of things. Socrates and Descartes both give dualist arguments, but each appeals to a different distinction.

- a. What is the distinction to which Descartes appeals? 1 mark

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- b. What is the distinction to which Socrates appeals? 1 mark

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- c. Outline **one** of Descartes’s arguments that makes use of his distinction. 2 marks

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**d.** Outline **one** of Socrates’s arguments that makes use of his distinction.

2 marks

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**Question 2** (4 marks)

- a.** How do Locke and Hume differ in their views about attributing identity to animals and humans on the one hand, and to persons on the other? 2 marks

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- b.** Which of these views is preferable? Justify your response. 2 marks

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**Question 3** (3 marks)

**a.** According to Aristotle, what is the role of habituation in the good life? 1 mark

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**b.** Is Aristotle right in thinking that habituation has this role in a good life? Justify your response. 2 marks

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**Question 4** (2 marks)

Nietzsche distinguishes between master morality and slave morality.

Outline **one** of Nietzsche’s arguments for the superiority of master morality.

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## SECTION C

**Instructions for Section C**

Write an essay on **one** of the following topics.

**Question 1** (20 marks)

On the grave of World War II hero Oscar Schindler, the German inscription reads, ‘The Unforgettable Lifesaver of 1200 Persecuted Jews’. In the film of his life, Schindler says regretfully, ‘I didn’t do enough’. Schindler reflects that perhaps if he had made even more personal sacrifices (found ways to make more money or sold more of his possessions to buy freedom for Jews), he may have saved more lives.

How much is enough when it comes to helping other people? In your response, draw on relevant philosophical sources, including at least **one** of the following: Plato’s *Gorgias*, Aristotle, Nietzsche, Singer.

**OR**

**Question 2** (20 marks)

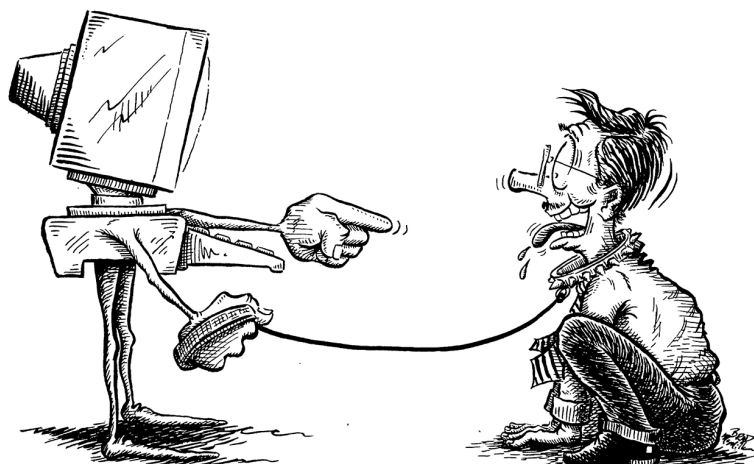
I meant no harm ... which everyone needs.

Due to copyright restrictions,  
this material is not supplied.

Source: Dr. Seuss, *The Lorax*,  
Harper Collins Children’s Books, London, 2009

Is ‘biggering’ the key to a good life? In your response, draw on relevant philosophical sources, including at least **one** of the following: Plato’s *Gorgias*, Aristotle, Nietzsche, Singer.

**OR**

**Question 3** (20 marks)

CartoonStock.com

Source: Brad McMillan; CartoonStock Ltd, <www.CartoonStock.com>

In the cartoon above, is the human living a good life? In your response, draw on relevant philosophical sources, including at least **one** of the following: Plato’s *Gorgias*, Aristotle, Nietzsche, Singer.

















