

Total number of printed pages-7

63(FY) SEM-4/MIN(A)/PHLMIN2044A

2025

PHILOSOPHY

[Minor(A)]

Paper : PHLMIN2044A

(Western Philosophy)

Full Marks : 70

Pass Marks : 28

Time : Three hours

The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions.

1. Answer the following questions: $1 \times 10 = 10$
 - (i) Which of the following is a central focus of western philosophy?
 - (A) Supernatural beliefs
 - (B) Mysticism
 - (C) Empirical evidence
 - (D) Oral traditions

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Contd.

- (ii) Analytic philosophy primarily emphasises :
- (A) Historical context
 - (B) Cultural relativism
 - (C) Logical clarity and language analysis
 - (D) Ethical relativism
- (iii) The rejection of metaphysics in Analytic Philosophy is often associated with :
- (A) Plato
 - (B) Friedrich Nietzsche
 - (C) L. Wittgenstein
 - (D) Jean-Paul Sartre
- (iv) Which philosopher is known for introducing the concept of falsification ?
- (A) Thomas Kuhn
 - (B) Karl Popper
 - (C) Immanuel Kant
 - (D) Bertrand Russell

- (v) What do logical positivists believe ?
- (A) All knowledge comes from God.
 - (B) A statement must be tested by experience or logic to be meaningful
 - (C) Right and wrong are always the same for everyone
 - (D) Everyone sees reality in their own way
- (vi) What is a main idea of existentialism ?
- (A) People must follow rules set by society
 - (B) Life has a fixed and clear meaning
 - (C) People create their own meaning in life
 - (D) Everything happens for a reason
- (vii) Which of the following is a modern trend in western philosophy ?
- (A) Focus on mythology
 - (B) Emphasis on scientific thinking and analysis

- (C) Blind acceptance of tradition
(D) Rejection of human reason
- (viii) Which philosopher is most closely linked with analytic philosophy?
- (A) Plato
(B) Immanuel Kant
(C) Ludwig Wittgenstein
(D) Jean-Paul Sartre
- (ix) What does phenomenology mainly study?
- (A) Dreams and imagination
(B) Historical events
(C) Human experiences as they are lived
(D) Religious beliefs
- (x) Who is known as the founder of phenomenology?
- (A) Rene Descartes
(B) Friedrich Nietzsche
(C) Edmund Husserl
(D) Karl Marx

2. Answer the following questions : **(any five)**
2×5=10
- (a) Mention two general characteristics of existentialism.
(b) Name two major trends in western philosophy that emerged in the 20th century.
(c) Write the name of two analytic philosophers.
(d) What does "Esse est percipi" mean?
(e) What is falsification, according to Karl Popper?
(f) Write any two main features of logical positivism.
(g) Name any two philosophers related to phenomenology.
3. Answer the following questions : **(any six)**
5×6=30
- (a) Explain the nature of western philosophy.
(b) Write a short note on the 'rejection of metaphysics' in analytic philosophy.

- (c) How does Analytical Philosophy differ from continental philosophy?
- (d) Distinguish between verificationism and falsificationism.
- (e) Write a short note on Popper's concept of falsification.
- (f) Distinguish between "being for itself and being in itself" according to Sartre.
- (g) What is the significance of 'being' in existentialist thought?
- (h) Explain the main ideas of existentialism in brief.
- (i) Outline the general characteristics of phenomenology as described by its proponents.

4. Answer the following questions : **(any two)**

10×2=20

- (a) Discuss Edmund Husserl's Phenomenology.
- (b) Analyze the major trends in Western Philosophy from its inception to the present day.

- (c) Discuss the core concepts of existentialism, addressing the notions of freedom, despair and authenticity.
 - (d) Write an essay on 'Refutation of Idealism'.
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