

RAMAKRISHNA MISSION VIDYAMANDIRA

(Residential Autonomous College under University of Calcutta)

M.A./M.Sc. FOURTH SEMESTER EXAMINATION, MAY 2015

SECOND YEAR

PHILOSOPHY

Date : 19/5/2015

Time : 11 am – 3 pm

Paper : XI [Logic]

Full Marks : 78

Group – A

Answer **one question** mandatorily from **Unit – I** & **another question** mandatorily from **Unit – II**. The third question can be answered from either of the two units i.e. Unit – I or Unit – II

Unit - I

1. a) What is logical appraisal? [3]
b) What, according to Strawson, is the object of logical appraisal? [10]
2. a) What is inconsistency? [4]
b) Is inconsistency always pointless? [3]
c) Discuss, after Strawson, whether the two following sentences are inconsistent with each other :
i) 'I am over six foot tall'
ii) 'I am under six foot tall' [6]
3. Explain the following definitions and point out their internal relations :
a) ' S_1 entails S_2 ' = Df ' S_1 and not- S_2 is inconsistent'
b) ' S_1 entails S_2 ' = Df ' $S_1 \supset S_2$ is logically necessary' [13]

Unit - II

4. How does Pears arrive at the minimal formulation of the thesis that existence is not a predicate? Discuss. [13]
5. "It is too inexact to say simply that the verb 'exists' adds nothing to the concept of the subject." (D. F. Pears) —Explain. [13]
6. How does Pears save the following statements from being vitiated by the problems of referential tautology and referential contradiction? Discuss.
a) All tame tigers exist.
b) Some tame tigers exist. [6·5+6·5]

Group – B

Answer **one question** mandatorily from **Unit – I** & **another question** mandatorily from **Unit – II**. The third question can be answered from either of the two units i.e. Unit – I or Unit – II

Unit - I

7. a) Is an universal premiss essential to summative induction? [4]
b) How is such a premiss established? [6]
c) Why is it that natural laws cannot be established by summative induction? [3]
8. a) What is intuitive induction? [5]
b) How does Kneale reinterpret Aristotle's doctrine of intuitive induction? [8]
9. a) What is the principle of mathematical induction? [4]
b) Is mathematical induction really inductive or deductive? [3]
c) Why is it called recursive? [6]

Unit - II

10. Explain, after Cohen and Nagel, the principle of plurality of causes. [13]
11. a) What is meant by a scientific method? [5]
b) In this connection, explain, after Cohen and Nagel, how hypotheses are conjoined with scientific methods. [8]
12. “The claim that the experimental methods are capable of demonstrating with complete certainty universal, invariable connections rests on a belief that ‘nature is uniform’.” (Cohen and Nagel)
—Explain this statement. [13]

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