



**UNIVERSITY OF NORTH BENGAL**  
B.A. Honours Part-III Examination, 2020

**PHILOSOPHY**  
**PAPER-VIII**

Time Allotted: 2 Hours

Full Marks: 50

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks.*

*The word limit mentioned below against each question to be strictly followed by the students:  
2 marks-30 words / 3 marks-50 words / 4 marks-60 words / 5 marks-100 words /  
6 marks-150 words / 8 marks-220 words / 10 marks-300 words / 12 marks-325 words /  
14 marks-375 words / 15 marks-400 words / 20 marks-475 words.*

**Answer any *one* Group**

**GROUP-A**

**(Phenomenology and Existentialism)**

**SECTION-I**

1. Answer any ***one*** question of the following: 20×1 = 20
- (a) Explain Husserl's thesis of Intentionality. How far is Husserl indebted to Brentano in formulating his theory of intentionality? Discuss. 12+8=20
- (b) Explain Sartre's view of consciousness in the light of the distinction between 'Being-in-itself' and 'Being-for-itself'. 20
- (c) What does Kierkegaard mean by human existence? Give an idea of the characteristics of existence according to him. 8+12=20
- (d) What does Sartre understand by 'choice'? How is an act of choice related to man's existence according to him? Discuss. 6+14=20
- (e) Explain the place of God in existentialist thought with reference to Heidegger and Sartre. 20

**SECTION-II**

2. Answer any ***two*** questions of the following: 10×2 = 20
- (a) Explain Kierkegaard's view on Truth. 10
- (b) How does Husserl distinguish between fact and essence? 10
- (c) Write a note on the existentialist notion of 'bad faith'. 10
- (d) How does Husserl's philosophical radicalism differ from that of Descartes? 10
- (e) Explain the notion of 'nothingness' as in Sartre's Philosophy. 10
- (f) What is phenomenological reduction? Write in brief. 10
- (g) Write a note on the concept of 'epoche'. 10

**SECTION-III**

3. Answer any *five* questions of the following with brief justification wherever necessary: 2×5=10
- (a) What is *Noema*?
  - (b) What is Psychologism?
  - (c) “All existentialists are atheists” — Do you agree?
  - (d) What is anguish?
  - (e) What is naturalism?
  - (f) Who wrote the book “Being and Nothingness”?
  - (g) Why ‘existence precedes essence’?
  - (h) Who wrote Cartesian Meditations?
  - (i) What is transcendental reduction?
  - (j) “Man is condemned to be free” — Who said this and why?
  - (k) In what respect Husserl is indebted to Descartes?
  - (l) Does Marcel believe in the existence of God?
  - (m) What is intuition of essence?

**GROUP-B**

**(Problems of Philosophy)**

**SECTION-I**

1. Answer any *one* question of the following: 20×1 = 20
- (a) What is sense-data? What is the relationship between sense-data and sensation? Can an object be known only through sense-data? Explain. 3+3+14=20
  - (b) Why does Russell say that what we directly see and feel is merely appearance? What does Russell mean by ‘real’? Discuss. 12+8=20
  - (c) “All the knowledge that we can acquire *a-priori* concerning existence seems to be hypothetical.” Explain after Russell. 20
  - (d) “Knowledge by description enables us to go beyond the limit of our private experience”. Explain fully. 20
  - (e) Explain Russell’s concept of Universal. Do you think that, according to Russell, Universal has the same being as relation? Explain. 6+14=20

**SECTION-II**

2. Answer any *two* questions of the following: 10×2 = 20
- (a) Explain Coherence theory of truth as understood by Russell. 10
  - (b) Explain the nature of matter. 10
  - (c) Explain Hegel’s theory as interpreted by Russell. 10

- (d) Explain when, according to Russell, a belief can be considered as knowledge. 10
- (e) What is the principle of Induction? 10
- (f) Briefly state Russell's argument against idealism. 10
- (g) What, according to Russell, is the value of Philosophy? 10
- (h) Explain different classes of intuitive knowledge according to Russell. 10

**SECTION-III**

3. Answer any *five* questions of the following with brief justification wherever necessary. 2×5=10
- (a) How would you define subjective idealism?
  - (b) How does Russell designate proper name?
  - (c) Write two reasons following Russell why we should read philosophy.
  - (d) What is knowledge by acquaintance?
  - (e) What do you mean by knowledge by description?
  - (f) Is Russell a realist or an idealist?
  - (g) 'Monism' is related with which philosopher?
  - (h) Can we ask, "Where and when does North exist"?
  - (i) What is monadism?
  - (j) What is the essence of mind according to Descartes?
  - (k) What does Russell mean by psychological inference?
  - (l) Is it logically possible to suppose that sun rises in the west?
  - (m) How does Russell define physical object?
  - (n) Why is acquaintance by memory?
  - (o) Does Russell believe that Philosophy help us free from our prejudices?

**GROUP-C**

**(Philosophy of Logic)**

**SECTION-I**

1. Answer any *one* question of the following: 20×1 = 20
- (a) What do you mean by 'formal logic'? Explain, in this context, the applications and limitations of formal logic. 20
  - (b) What is truth function? Explain the role of truth-functional operators in truth-functional logic. 5+15=20
  - (c) Explain after Strawson, the distinction between 'entailment' and 'presupposition'. Can entailment be defined in terms of inconsistency and necessity? Discuss. 8+12=20

- (d) What makes predicates incompatible? What particular criteria were involved by Strawson to determine predicates as incompatible? Discuss. 6+14=20
- (e) What is logical appraisal? Why does Strawson regard the word “inconsistent” as the key word of logical appraisal? 6+14=20

**SECTION-II**

2. Answer any *two* questions of the following: 10×2 = 20
- (a) What is meant by logic of language? Explain after Strawson. 10
- (b) Distinguish between ‘formation rules’ and ‘rules of grammar’. 10
- (c) Explain after Strawson, the logic of ordinary speech. 10
- (d) Explain the concept of generality as a prime feature of formal logic. 10
- (e) How does Strawson justify inductive reasoning? Explain briefly. 10
- (f) What is inconsistency? Is inconsistency always pointless? 6+4=10
- (g) Explain orthodox criticism of the traditional logical system after Strawson. 10
- (h) Explain the concept of generality as a prime feature of formal logic. 10

**SECTION-III**

3. Answer any *five* questions of the following with brief justification wherever necessary: 2×5=10
- (a) What do you mean by ‘incompatible predicates’?
- (b) What is fact?
- (c) What is existential import?
- (d) Is truth table a decision procedure?
- (e) When is an argument valid?
- (f) What do you mean by a dilemma?
- (g) What do you mean by ‘logical form’?
- (h) What is a statement?
- (i) What is a variable?
- (j) What is the role of a stroke-function?
- (k) Why is the conclusion of inductive reasoning probable?
- (l) Is entailment the same as presupposition?
- (m) What is a law-statement?
- (n) Distinguish between “referring rules” and “type rules”.
- (o) What are the laws of thought?

**GROUP-D**  
**(Philosophy of Mind)**

**SECTION-I**

1. Answer any *one* question of the following: 20×1 = 20
- (a) Discuss about the third person account of consciousness. What are the merits of it? 12+8=20
- (b) Critically discuss the role of interactionism as a theory about the relation between consciousness and body. 20
- (c) Explain after Sheffer, the concept of an after life. Is there any evidence in favour of disembodied survival? Discuss. 12+8=20
- (d) What does Sheffer understand by mental phenomena? What are the devices generally adopted to explain the varieties of mental phenomena? Are they acceptable to Sheffer? Discuss. 8+6+6=20
- (e) What do you mean by “Free will”? Discuss the problem of free will. What are the views of mental cause theorists in this respect? 2+12+6=20

**SECTION-II**

2. Answer any *two* questions of the following: 10×2 = 20
- (a) Write a note on the thesis of intentionality. 10
- (b) Explain after Sheffer, the nature and scope of Philosophy of Mind. 10
- (c) Discuss about the goals as the explanation of actions. 10
- (d) Discuss about the first person account of consciousness. 10
- (e) Discuss about the difficulties of Identity theory. 10
- (f) Write a note on Strawson’s person theory of consciousness. 10
- (g) Why performative theory is regarded as an attractive theory? Discuss. 10
- (h) Discuss about the avowal theory of mental expression. 10

**SECTION-III**

3. Answer any *five* questions of the following with brief justification wherever necessary: 2×5=10
- (a) Can ‘soul’ and ‘mind’ be identical or not? Give reasons.
- (b) What is the ideal state of soul according to Plato?
- (c) What is metaphysical behaviourism?
- (d) Who is the author of the book ‘*Philosophy of Mind*’?
- (e) What is Epi-Phenomenalism?
- (f) What is ‘Private ostensive’ definition?
- (g) What is Parallelism?
- (h) What does unintelligibility theory say?
- (i) What is occasionalism?

- (j) What is mental telepathy?
- (k) State one advantage of behaviourism.
- (l) What is contextual account of action?
- (m) Name the basic faculties of mind.
- (n) Who was the Spokesman of materialism in ancient Greece?
- (o) What is double-aspect theory of mind?

**GROUP-E**  
**(VEDĀNTASĀRA)**

**SECTION-I**

1. Answer any *one* question of the following: 20×1 = 20
- (a) Explain the Avarana and Viksepasakti of Ajnana according to Sadānanda.
  - (b) What is called Pañcakarana? What is the proof for its existence? Discuss.
  - (c) What is called Samādhi? Distinguish between Savikalpaka and Nirvikalpaka Samādhi.
  - (d) What are the characteristic features of a jivanmukta person? Discuss.
  - (e) What are the four types of anubandha according to Sadananda Yogindra? Discuss.

**SECTION-II**

2. Answer any *two* questions of the following: 10×2 = 20
- (a) Distinguish between Vastu and Utvastu according to Vedāntasāra.
  - (b) What are the results of the performance of Nitya, Naimittika and Worshipping? Discuss.
  - (c) What is the nature of the Viksepasakti of ajñāna?
  - (d) Explain the concept of Apavāda.
  - (e) Why is Ajñāna called Bhāvarūpa? Discuss following Sadānanda.
  - (f) Explain different types of Sthulaśarira.
  - (g) What are the Niyamas included under eight limbs of Samādhi? Discuss.
  - (h) What are the duties of a person worthy for Vedantic Cognition? (adhikari)

**SECTION-III**

3. Answer any *five* questions of the following: 2×5=10
- (a) What is called Vedānta?
  - (b) What is called Vivartta?
  - (c) Why is Ajñāna called jñānavirodhi?
  - (d) What is called Turiyacaitanya?

- (e) What are the Karmendriyas?
- (f) What is called Ajuhat lakṣanā?
- (g) What is the definition of Upakrama?
- (h) What is called Śraddhā?
- (i) What are called Niyamas?
- (j) What is called dhāranā?
- (k) What is the definition of Laya?
- (l) Mention four types of Sādhanā.
- (m) What is called Prāṇa?
- (n) What is the position of udāna vāyu in human body?
- (o) What is Arthavāda?

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