

4.1 Philosophy and contemporary issues

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 25 marks

KEY WORDS conceptual analysis • thought experiment

Philosophy and contemporary issues

Objective

Split the conceptual from the empirical in contemporary debates, apply the meta-questions (what philosophy is, its method, its public role), and run the issue kits – AI, environment, identity (the HL extension).

1 Key knowledge and worked examples

Extension toolkit. Philosophy as conceptual analysis, argument, and the a priori study of the possible. Method questions: autonomy vs science; thought experiments as intuition-pumps; the experimental-philosophy challenge to intuitions. AI: Turing test, Chinese room, personhood criteria on systems; machine moral agency; algorithmic choice vs compatibilism. Environment: the non-identity problem; future generations' rights; sentience; intrinsic vs instrumental value. Identity: algorithmic othering; epistemology of the feed; the philosopher's advisory role. The meta-skill: name the method while using it.

2 Practice

2.1 Name the three conceptions of philosophical activity from the handout. [3]

2.2 What is the a priori's business, as against science's? [2]

2.3 What does the Turing test test, and what does the Chinese room claim to show? [2]

2.4 State the non-identity problem in one sentence. [2]

2.5 What is the experimental-philosophy challenge to intuitions? [2]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 (*Meta style.*) “Can a machine think?” Split the question into its conceptual and empirical parts, and state philosophy’s function in the debate. [4]

3.2 (*Issue style.*) Develop the non-identity analysis: the conceptual claim, the argument it generates, the rights objection, and the meta-point the case shows about philosophy’s work. [6]

3.3 (*Issue style.*) A recommendation engine shapes what users see and choose. Using compatibilism, evaluate whether the nudged choice is still the user's own. [4]
