

4.1 HL unseen text and normative bridges: supported rehearsal

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 6 marks

Objective

Supported preparation: Analyse an unseen philosophical argument about a contemporary issue; Evaluate the nature and methods of philosophical inquiry. This is original rehearsal, not completion of the assessed task.

1 Key knowledge and worked examples

For an unseen text, identify its question, premises, conclusion and method, then evaluate what it is doing philosophically. Descriptive accuracy does not automatically establish a normative decision rule.

Original source / task evidence

Task: “The new algorithm is more accurate, so it should make every decision.” Supply the missing assumption and evaluate it.

Separate what is stated from the interpretation.
HL unseen text and normative bridges

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The argument assumes accuracy always outweighs accountability, rights and other values. Challenge that priority with a case where explanation or appeal matters; acknowledge that accuracy can still have substantial value.

2 Practice

2.1 For the worked case, identify the evidence and a conclusion it can support. Explain one material limit. [3]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 Rewrite the algorithm conclusion to incorporate accountability without ignoring accuracy. Give a reasoned answer, evidence or method, and a relevant qualification. [3]

Solutions

2.1 The argument assumes accuracy always outweighs accountability, rights and other values. Challenge that priority with a case where explanation or appeal matters; acknowledge that accuracy can still have substantial value. Authored points for identifying relevant evidence, explaining a supported inference and a material limit.

3.1 Use the system for a specified decision class only where relevant validation, explanation, appeal and human accountability meet justified standards. Accuracy can support this conditional recommendation but cannot by itself override every right or value. Test the revised premises and exceptions. Authored points for a relevant judgement, reason tied to the case and justified qualification or method. Accept a supported alternative.