

**2010**

**M.A. Part II Examination**

**PHILOSOPHY**

**PAPER—VIII**

*Full Marks : 100*

*Time : 4 Hours*

*The figures in the right-hand margin indicate full marks.*

*Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable.*

*Write the answer to questions of each Group in separate books.*

*Answer any six questions taking any three from each group.*

**Applied Philosophy**

**Group—A**

1. (a) Explain the principle of equal consideration of interest.  
(b) Is it a formal principle? Give a reasoned answer. 10+6
2. Discuss the positive and negative impact of family. 16
3. Write a short essay on racial discrimination. 16
4. (a) Explain the following with suitable examples :  
(i) Preferential treatment.  
(ii) Reservation system.
- (b) Consider the objections against reservation system and preferential treatment. 4+4+8

*(Turn Over)*

5. Write short notes on any two of the following :
- (a) Rawls' view that moral personality is the basis of equality.
- (b) Distinction between sex and gender.
- (c) The role of environment in sex difference. 16
6. (a) State and explain the conditions a professional must fulfil in order to be trustworthy. 8
- (b) In what way a professional can fulfill these conditions? Explain fully. 8

*General Impression — 2*

**Group—B**

1. Do you think that Abortion is an unjust killing? Is abortion permissible in any case? Give reasons for your answer. 10+6
2. (a) What is suicide?
- (b) Do you think suicide is a moral crime? Discuss. 4+12
3. Explain and examine Peter Singer's arguments for voluntary en euthanasia. 16
4. (a) What is meant by 'environmental ethics'?
- (b) How does environmental ethics differ from traditional ethics? Discuss. 6+10
5. (a) What is gene therapy?
- (b) Distinguish among different types of gene therapy.
- (c) Discuss the categorical objection against gene therapy. 3+3+10

6. Write short notes on any *two* of the following : 8+8
- (a) The doctrine of double effect.
  - (b) Involuntary euthanasia.
  - (c) The feminist view about abortion.

General Impression — 2

### ***Philosophy of Cognitive Science***

#### **Group—A**

- 1. State any two main characteristics of Cognitive Science. 8+8
- 2. Explain with an example the interdisciplinary nature of Cognitive Science. 16
- 3. Briefly state the relationship between cognitive science and epistemology. 16
- 4. Write a short essay on machine functionalism. 16
- 5. Critically explain the theory of pictorial representation. 16
- 6. Write short notes on any two : 8+8
  - (a) Behaviourism as an important theory in the history of Cognitive Science. 8+8
  - (b) Psychofunctionalism;
  - (c) Propositional attitude.

General Impression — 2

**Group—B**

1. Briefly state and explain the structure and function of a CPU of a standard digital computer. 16
2. Write a short essay on the theory of connectionism. 16
3. Explain the frame problem against the artificial intelligence theory. 16
4. Explain the structure and function of a neuron. 16
5. Explain language and other high level functions of brain following Broca's Aphasia and Wernicke's Aphasia. 16
6. Write short notes on any two : 8+8
  - (a) The mine-rock detector (connectionism).
  - (b) The Chinese-room argument.
  - (c) Differences between left and right brain.
  - (d) Differences between short term and long term memory.

*General Impression — 2*

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