M.A. 1st Semester Examination, 2019

PHILOSOPHY

(*Western Epistemology*)

PAPER – PHI-104

Full Marks : 40

Time : 2 hours

The figures in the right hand margin indicate marks

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

Illustrate the answers wherever necessary

GROUP–A

1. Answer any *four* of the following questions : 2×4

   (*a*) What is the conclusion of the best sceptical argument ?

   (*b*) What are the two types of sceptical arguments ?

(*c*) Name one of the responses to Gettier counter-examples.

(*d*) What is the suggested fourth condition that Goldman proposes for the tripartite analysis of knowledge ?

(*e*) What do '$P(h/e) = 0$', '$P(h/e) = 1$', and '$P(h/e) = 0{\cdot}5$' mean ?

(*f*) What a probability assessment is relative to ?

(*g*) What is apriori knowledge ?

(*h*) What is a synthetic truth ?

GROUP–B

2. Answer any *four* questions of the following : 4×4

(*a*) Describe any one sceptical method which is not an argument based sceptical method.

(*b*) State the principle of closure as stated by Dancy.

(*c*) What is the tripartite definition of knowledge ?

(*d*) Why does it seem to Dancy that the second condition of tripartite definition of knowledge is not strong enough ?

(*e*) The view that only justified beliefs can justify other beliefs can result in an infinite regress. Elaborate.

(*f*) Can accepting the circular justification as a legitimate form of justification, solve the problem of infinite regress of justification ? Briefly explain.

(*g*) Explain and critically examine the fallibilist account of epistemic justification.

(*h*) What are the empiricist commitments of a foundationalist theory of justification ?

GROUP–C

3. Answer any *two* questions : 8×2

(*a*) State any one standard thought experiment against the possibility of knowledge.

(*b*) How could the absence of relevant falsehood be a possible answer to the Gettier counter -example ? Briefly explain.

(*c*) Explain the foundationalist theory of epistemic justification.

(*d*) Explain coherenist theory of epistemic justification.
