

# Commentary on candidate evidence

## Candidate 1

The evidence for this candidate has achieved the following marks for each question of this course assessment component.

## Section 1 — Arguments in Action

### Question 1(a)

The candidate was awarded **0/1 marks** because they did not correctly identify a distinguishing feature of a statement.

### Question 1(b)

The candidate was awarded **1/1 mark** for identifying a statement.

### Question 1(c)

The candidate was awarded **0/1 mark** because they did not identify a counter example.

### Question 2(a)

The candidate was awarded **0/1 mark** because relevance is a separate criteria from acceptability and they did not correctly explain what made the premise acceptable.

### Question 2(b)

The candidate was awarded **0/1marks**.

### Question 3

The candidate was awarded **2/2 marks** for explaining that it is not possible to know the spider in the living room is the same as the one from the sink and the additional point that A is not justified by the sighting of only two spiders.

### Question 4

The candidate was awarded **2/3 marks**. 1 mark was given for drawing a convergent argument diagram and 1 mark was given for identifying the conclusion 'Sophie is the right candidate for the job'.

### Question 5

The candidate was awarded **2/3 marks**. 1 mark was given for putting the argument into standard form, that is, laying out the premises and conclusion with each taking a separate line and labelled accordingly. 1 mark was given for including an appropriate premise and conclusion.

**Question 6(a)**

The candidate was awarded **1/1 mark** for pointing out in question 6(b) that 'the lamb is ready to eat' can be understood in two different ways — either that the lamb is ready for its dinner or that the lamb is ready for your dinner.

**Question 6(b)**

The candidate was awarded 0/2 marks.

**Question 7(a)**

The candidate was awarded 0/2 marks.

**Question 7(b)**

The candidate was awarded 2/2 marks. 1 mark was given for noting that the police officer may arrest people with dark skin and dark clothes due to a previous experience of this occurring. 1 mark was given for developing this point and making reference to how this has increased shootings of innocent black people in America.

**Question 8(a)**

The candidate was awarded 0/1 mark.

**Question 8(b)**

The candidate was awarded 2/2 marks. 1 mark was given for the example and 1 mark for explaining why the reaction is not relevant to the conclusion.

**Question 9(a)**

The candidate was awarded 1/1 mark for correctly identifying the structure.

**Question 9(b)**

The candidate was awarded **1/1 mark** for giving a correct example.

**Question 9(c)**

The candidate was awarded 0/3 marks.

**Question 10**

The candidate was awarded 0/2 marks.

## **Section 2 — Knowledge and Doubt**

**Question 11**

The candidate was awarded 0/2 marks.

**Question 12**

The candidate was awarded 0/2 marks.

**Question 13**

The candidate was awarded **0/2 marks**.

**Question 14**

The candidate was awarded 1/4 marks for the point that he may have seen it clearly and distinctly but it doesn't always have to mean it's true.

**Section 3 — Moral Philosophy****Question 15**

The candidate was awarded 1/1 mark for correctly distinguishing lower pleasures as those shared with animals and higher pleasures as ones that use our intellect.

**Question 16**

The candidate was awarded 1/2 marks for the point that the pleasure from each cannot be compared.

**Question 17**

The candidate was awarded **0/4 marks**.

**Question 18**

The candidate was awarded 1/3 marks for saying it is unfair because it is comparing a higher pleasure with a lower pleasure.

## Candidate 2

The evidence for this candidate has achieved the following marks for each question of this course assessment component.

### Section 1 — Arguments in Action

#### Question 1(a)

The candidate was awarded **1/1 mark** for correctly noting a statement has truth value.

#### Question 1(b)

The candidate was awarded **1/1 mark** for identifying the statement.

#### Question 1(c)

The candidate was awarded **1/1 mark** for the counterexample.

#### Question 2(a)

The candidate was awarded **1/1 mark** for saying the premise is acceptable because it is common knowledge.

#### Question 2(b)

The candidate was awarded **1/1 mark** for noting that this is deductive because the conclusion does not go beyond what is contained in the premises.

#### Question 3

The candidate was awarded **2/2 marks**. 1 mark was given for the claim that with B as a conclusion it would be a deductive argument as the conclusion does not go beyond what is contained in the premises. 1 mark was given for noting that this would be a valid argument and the conclusion is not just probable.

#### Question 4

The candidate was awarded **3/3 marks**. 1 mark was given for drawing a convergent argument diagram, 1 mark was given for identifying the conclusion 'Sophie is the right candidate for the job', and 1 mark was given for providing an appropriate key, with statements labelled and omitting both 'for goodness' sake' and 'come on, she's obviously the right candidate' from the argument given in this question.

#### Question 5

The candidate was awarded **2/3 marks**. 1 mark for putting the argument into standard form, that is, laying out the premises and conclusion with each taking a separate line and labelled accordingly. 1 mark was given for including an appropriate premise and conclusion.

#### Question 6(a)

The candidate was awarded **1/1 mark** for pointing out that 'the lamb is ready to eat' can be understood in two different ways — either that the lamb is ready for its dinner or that the lamb is ready for your dinner.

**Question 6(b)**

The candidate was awarded **1/2 marks** for recognising that we may not have to accept the conclusion that we should set the table.

**Question 7(a)**

The candidate was awarded **2/2 marks**. 1 mark was given for confirmation bias involves seeking evidence that confirms what you already believe. 1 mark for confirmation bias involves ignoring evidence that would disprove what you already believe or point in another direction

**Question 7(b)**

The candidate was awarded **2/2 marks**. 1 mark was given for noting that the police may seek out information that confirmed a man was innocent and 1 mark was given for the claim that they would ignore evidence of his guilt.

**Question 8(a)**

The candidate was awarded **0/1 mark**.

**Question 8(b)**

The candidate was awarded **2/2 marks**. 1 mark was given for the example and 1 mark was given for explaining that it was not relevant to the conclusion.

**Question 9(a)**

The candidate was awarded **1/1 mark** for correctly identifying the structure.

**Question 9(b)**

The candidate was awarded **1/1 mark** for giving a correct example.

**Question 9(c)**

The candidate was awarded **2/3 marks**. 1 mark was given for the claim that it may appear valid but further investigation would show it to be invalid. 1 mark was given for explaining that just because it's not raining would not guarantee you shouldn't take the umbrella.

**Question 10**

The candidate was awarded **0/2 marks**.

## Section 2 — Knowledge and Doubt

**Question 11**

The candidate was awarded **2/2 marks**. 1 mark was given for noting that Descartes must exist in order to dream. 1 mark was given for 'cogito ergo sum is a self-authenticating statement'.

**Question 12**

The candidate was awarded **2/2 marks**. 1 mark was given for a perception is 'clear' when it is present to the attentive mind. 1 mark was given for a perception is 'distinct' if, it is not confused with anything that is not clear.

**Question 13**

The candidate was awarded **2/2 marks**. 1 mark was given for claiming that he is certain of the cogito and he sees it clearly and distinctly. 1 mark was given for stating that Descartes claims that anything he perceives to be the same level of 'clear and distinct' will also be a foundation for knowledge.

**Question 14**

The candidate was awarded **4/4 marks**. 1 mark was given for recognising that his trust in clear and distinct perceptions relies on the existence of God. 1 mark was given for the deduction from this that if there is no God then he cannot prevent him from being deceived by the evil demon. 1 mark was given for recognising that to establish the clear and distinct rule, Descartes made use of logic and a further 1 mark was given for recognising that logic had been rejected through the method of doubt.

## Section 3 — Moral Philosophy

**Question 15**

The candidate was awarded **1/1 mark** for correctly distinguishing between higher and lower pleasures.

**Question 16**

The candidate was awarded **1/2 mark** for the point that for Mill, the quality of pleasure was more important than the quantity of pleasure.

**Question 17**

The candidate was awarded **4/4 marks**. 1 mark was given for competent judges have experienced both higher and lower pleasures. 1 mark was given for reference to the quote 'it is better to be a human being dissatisfied than a pig satisfied'. 1 mark was given for the comment that someone who had not experienced both types of pleasure would not be a competent judge. 1 mark was given for noting that Mill thought that because we would not sacrifice higher pleasures for a life of lower pleasures, it must mean we prefer higher pleasures.

**Question 18**

The candidate was awarded **2/3 marks**. 1 mark was given for saying it is unfair because Mill never said that we would never resort to baser pleasures. 1 mark was given for recognising that even though we might choose a pizza over the opera, you would never wish to live a life of only lower pleasures.

### Candidate 3

The evidence for this candidate has achieved the following marks for each question of this course assessment component.

## Section 1 — Arguments in Action

#### Question 1(a)

The candidate was awarded **1/1 mark** for correctly noting a statement has truth value.

#### Question 1(b)

The candidate was awarded **1/1 mark** for identifying the statement.

#### Question 1(c)

The candidate was awarded **1/1 mark** for the counterexample.

#### Question 2(a)

The candidate was awarded **1/1 mark** for saying the premise is acceptable because it is true by definition.

#### Question 2(b)

The candidate was awarded **0/1 mark**.

#### Question 3

The candidate was awarded **2/2 marks**. 1 mark was given for the claim that we have no reason to assume that they are the same spider. 1 mark was given for recognising that the evidence doesn't warrant the claim that there is an infestation.

#### Question 4

The candidate was awarded **1/3 marks**. 1 mark was given for identifying the conclusion, 'Sophie is the right candidate for the job'.

#### Question 5

The candidate was awarded **2/3 marks**. 1 mark was given for putting it into standard form, that is, laying out premises and a conclusion each taking a separate line and labelled accordingly. 1 mark was given for including an appropriate premise and conclusion.

#### Question 6(a)

The candidate was awarded **1/1 mark** for pointing out that 'the lamb is ready to eat' can be understood in two different ways — either that the lamb is ready for its dinner or that the lamb is ready for your dinner.

**Question 6(b)**

The candidate was awarded **2/2 marks**. 1 mark was given for recognising that on reading that the baby sheep is ready to eat, it does not make sense to set the table. 1 mark was given for the claim that it would be right in this case to criticise the speaker's logic.

**Question 7(a)**

The candidate was awarded **0/2 marks**.

**Question 7(b)**

The candidate was awarded **2/2 marks**. 1 mark was given for noting that the police may keep trying to prove his theory and 1 mark for noting that this would waste time when they could be proving that someone else had done it.

**Question 8(a)**

The candidate was awarded **0/1 mark**.

**Question 8(b)**

The candidate was awarded **2/2 marks**. 1 mark was given for the example and 1 mark was given for explaining that it was not relevant to the conclusion.

**Question 9(a)**

The candidate was awarded **1/1 mark** for correctly identifying the structure.

**Question 9(b)**

The candidate was awarded **1/1 mark** for giving a correct example.

**Question 9(c)**

The candidate was awarded **2/3 marks**. 1 mark was given for recognising that in the example it is possible that the person could get lemonade somewhere else, 1 mark was given for the general explanation that even because P didn't happen doesn't mean that Q can't happen.

**Question 10**

The candidate was awarded **1/2 marks**.

## Section 2 — Knowledge and Doubt

**Question 11**

The candidate was awarded **1/2 marks**. 1 mark for the claim that there cannot be thoughts without a thinker.

**Question 12**

The candidate was awarded **1/2 marks**. 1 mark for it 'is so obvious in his mind that it cannot be confused with anything else'.

**Question 13**

The candidate was awarded **1/2 marks**. 1 mark was given for claiming that 'Because clear and distinct perceptions cannot be confused with anything else, they cannot be confused for anything false'.

#### **Question 14**

The candidate was awarded **4/4 marks**. 1 mark was given for claiming that Descartes doesn't doubt the claim that 'whatever I perceive very clearly and distinctly is true'. 1 mark was given for expanding on this point to say that he is not sticking to the rules he set for himself. 1 mark was given for saying he doesn't doubt his own language. 1 mark was given for developing this point with the possibility that the evil genius could be deceiving him into thinking it makes sense when it does not.

### **Section 3 — Moral Philosophy**

#### **Question 15**

The candidate was awarded **1/1 mark** for correctly distinguishing between higher and lower pleasures.

#### **Question 16**

The candidate was awarded **0/2 marks**.

**(1 mark was given for reference to the marking instruction quote 'it is better to be a human being dissatisfied than a pig satisfied' but was added to the mark for Question 17)**

#### **Question 17**

The candidate was awarded **3/4 marks**. 1 mark was given for recognising that Mill believed that everybody would prefer higher to lower pleasures when given the option because higher pleasures expand our intellect and broaden our horizons. 1 mark was given for the expansion of this claim using the examples of reading a book and fast food to explain the point.

1 mark was given for reference to the marking instruction quote 'it is better to be a human being dissatisfied than a pig satisfied' was added from the answer to Question 16.

#### **Question 18**

The candidate was awarded **0/3 marks**.