

Candidate 1 evidence

SECTION 1 — ARGUMENTS IN ACTION — 20 marks

Attempt ALL questions

1. (a) The following list contains both arguments and statements.

4

Tick (✓) the four arguments.

He loves her and he has promised to marry her. That means he should marry her.

I have never liked Max. He is friendly with some people I know and he used to go out with my best friend. But I don't like him.

The cookie jar is empty because the children ate all the cookies.

The standards for the Most Amazing Dog prize at the village fete are agility, loyalty, cuteness and wagginess of tail. The prize is a year's worth of luxury dog food, a top-of-the-range dog bed and a dog grooming voucher.

The sewing machine needs electricity. So, because it is not plugged in, it will not work.

Storm clouds are coming in this direction, so it is definitely going to rain today.

I love going to the cinema with my friends. I also enjoy skateboarding and swimming but the cinema is my favourite.

All horses have four legs. Cloppy is a horse. Therefore, Cloppy has four legs.

(c) Put the following argument into standard form.

2

Eight out of ten people report having smoother and softer skin after using 'Smooth and Soft' skin cream for thirty days. Therefore, 'Smooth and Soft' skin cream actually makes skin smoother and softer. Buy it!

Buy it! Eight out of ten people report having smoother and softer skin after using 'Smooth and Soft' skin cream for thirty days. Therefore, 'Smooth and Soft' skin cream actually makes skin smoother and softer.

1. (continued)

(d) Explain what a fallacy is.

1

A fallacy is a statement or argument which can be true or false to come to a certain outcome or conclusion.

1. (e) (continued)

- (ii) Either you support the bombing of Syria or you support the terrorists. So, since you don't support the bombing of Syria, you must support the terrorists.

Name the fallacy ~~Attacking the person~~ 1
False dilemma

Describe the fallacy This fallacy is when it 1
is said that there are only two
possible outcomes when really, there
are other possible outcomes for
the argument.

Explain, with reference to the above argument, why you think it is a fallacy. 1

It is a fallacy as it is giving an
argument which can be answered
in more ways than entailed in
the conclusion.

1. (e) (continued)

- (iii) I'm against lowering the voting age to 16. This will only lead to further demands to lower it to 14. Then it will be 12, and before we know it, 5-year-old children will be allowed to vote. That would be ridiculous! The voting age has to remain at 18.

Name the fallacy Slippery Slope 1

Describe the fallacy This fallacy is when one situation will inevitably lead to another, usually worse, situation. 1

Explain, with reference to the above argument, why you think it is a fallacy. 1

It is a fallacy as it is an argument which is presuming bad situations could come from changing the voting age.

2. (a) Explain why sceptics think that it is impossible to know anything for certain.

4

Sceptics think it is impossible to know anything for certain as certain knowledge cannot be proven, as we can't test it.

2. (continued)

- (b) What is the difference between 'knowing how' and 'knowing that'?

2

'Knowing how' is the simple knowledge that we think we are able to achieve something without knowing for sure. 'Knowing that' is being certain that we know something without doubt.

2. (continued)

- (c) (i) Describe how Locke uses a blank sheet of paper to show how we acquire knowledge.

3

Locke uses a blank sheet of paper to show that our minds are born blank without knowledge, and that knowledge is something we must acquire through experience.

- (ii) Describe how Leibniz uses a block of veined marble to show how we acquire knowledge.

3

Leibniz uses a block of veined marble to show that our minds are born with some knowledge, in which we just need to increase this knowledge as we learn new things, which will add onto our minds as we get older.

2. (continued)

(d) What was Descartes aiming to achieve in his search for knowledge?

4

Descartes was aiming to achieve certain knowledge. He was also aiming to prove that all thinking things exist. Descartes tries to find this knowledge by putting all of his doubts into foundational categories, which he will then set aside if a category contains a piece of uncertain knowledge.

(e) After doubting the existence of everything, Descartes asks, 'Is it then the case that I too do not exist?'

Explain how Descartes arrives at the answer, 'I am, I exist'.

2

Descartes arrives at this answer through his Cogito. This is where he finds out that, "All thinking things exist, I am a thinking thing, therefore I exist."

2. (continued)

- (f) Explain why Descartes thinks 'I am, I exist' is a truth he knows for certain.

2

It is a truth he knows for certain as he can prove that, he is a thinking thing and all thinking things exist.

- (g) Explain two weaknesses of Descartes' Cogito.

4

Descartes can't prove that all thinking things exist as, to do that he would need to test every single ~~thinking~~ creature in the world, which would be impossible.

2. (continued)

(h) How does Hume think we acquire knowledge?

1

Hume thinks we acquire knowledge by first having an object, which gives us an idea, and then gives us an impression.

(i) According to Hume, what are simple ideas copies of?

1

Simple ideas are a faint copy from our memory of past ~~expts~~ experience.

(j) According to Hume, how is it possible for us to imagine things that do not exist, such as unicorns?

4

We can imagine unicorns as, we can imagine a horse as we have an impression of a horse, we can imagine a horn as we have an impression of it. We can put these two ideas together to imagine a unicorn, as our minds have an idea that a unicorn looks like a horse with a horn.

3. (continued)

(c) Read the following statement:

'Some supermarkets throw out food which is still edible, rather than donating it to people in need.'

Explain why a Utilitarian might consider this to be morally wrong. You should support your answer by referring to the key features of Utilitarianism.

6

A Utilitarian would consider this to be morally wrong as, they would follow the Greatest Happiness Principle. This entails that they should try and guarantee the greatest amount of happiness for the greatest number of people. They would also follow the Equity Principle, this is to ensure that no one person counts more than anyone else in the outcome. Utilitarians would donate the food to people in need as it will give those people happiness, whereas if they food was thrown out, it would not bring anyone happiness, this will be morally right to them as they will be bringing the most amount of happiness possible in the situation.

3. (continued)

- (e) You have studied another moral theory as well as Utilitarianism.

Describe the key features of your other moral theory.

4

Another moral theory is Kantianism. Kantianism is a normative, duty based theory, in which they focus on act before consequences. Although it is not their main concern, they still consider consequences, in decision making.