E 6128

B.A. DEGREE (C.B.C.S.S.) EXAMINATION, SEPTEMBER 2024

Sixth Semester

B.A. Philosophy

Core Course—RECENT TRENDS IN WESTERN PHILOSOPHY

(Prior to 2013 Admissions)

Time : Three Hours

Maximum Weight : 25

Part A (Multiple Choice)

Answer **all** *questions.*

Each bunch of **four** *questions carries a weight of* 1.

I. 1 ——————— refers to an intellectual group of philosophically minded scientists and scientifically oriented philosophers.

    a) Phenomenologists.
    b) Cartesians.

    c) Vienna Circle.
    d) Hermeneutic Circle.

2 ——————— is a logical positivist.

    a) Carnap.
    b) Moritz Schlick.

    c) A. J. Ayer.
    d) All these.

3 Analyzing the very roots of our understanding of thought and reality in language is the function of ———————.

    a) Logical positivism .
    b) Existentialism.

    c) Linguistic philosophy.
    d) Phenomenology.

4 ——————— is concerned with the use of language as the key to meaning.

    a) Semantics.
    b) Pragmatics.

    c) Both a) and b).
    d) Neither a) nor b).

Turn over

II.   5 —————————— is the author of 'Language, Truth and Logic'.

     a) Wittgenstein.   b) Russell.

     c) A. J. Ayer.   d) None of these.

6 Early Wittgenstein's theory of language is known as ——————————.

     a) Picture theory.   b) Language game.

     c) Structuralism.   d) Logical atomism.

7 —————————— rejects all foundational concerns in philosophy.

     a) Existentialists.   b) Rationalists.

     c) Positivists.   d) Postmodernists.

8 "There is no direct experience of reality without interpretation ; and all interpretation is in some sense corrupted by the cultural and personal prejudices or prejudgments of the interpreter." This is the position of ——————————.

     a) Logical atomists.   b) Existentialists.

     c) Poststructuralists.   d) Logical positivists.

III.   9 The etymological meaning of the term 'hermeneutics' is to ——————————.

     a) Translate.   b) Interpret.

     c) Both a) and b).   d) Neither a) nor b).

10 —————————— is not a hermeneutic philosopher.

     a) Nietzsche.   b) Heidegger.

     c) Gadamer.   d) Dilthey.

11 *Mystery of Being* is the work of ——————————.

     a) Kierkegaard.   b) Sartre.

     c) Heidegger.   d) G. Marcel.

12 'Being and Time' is the work of ——————————.

     a) Sartre.   b) Husserl.

     c) Heidegger.   d) None of these.

IV. 13 Find out the best matching items for those in List A from List B.

List A   List B

1 Logical positivism   1 Feyerabend.

2 Existentialism   2 Frege.

3 Postmodernism   3 G. Marcel.

4 Language philosophy   4 Rudolf Carnap.

a) 1, 4, 3 ,2.   b) 2, 1, 3, 4.

c) 4, 3, 1, 2.   d) 2, 1, 4, 3.

14 Pick the odd one out :

a) Frege.   b) Russell.

c) J. L. Austin.   d) Sartre.

15 According to ——————, language is a system of signs.

a) Postmodernism.   b) Poststructuralism.

c) Atomism.   d) None of these.

16 The distinction of synchronic and diachronic linguistics was introduced by ——————.

a) Feyerabend.   b) Richard Rorty.

c) Saussure.   d) Derrida.

(4 × 1 = 4)

Part B (Short Answer Questions)

Answer any **five** *questions.*
Each question carries a weight of 1.

17 Intentionality.

18 Linguistic turn.

19 Semantic theory of meaning.

20 Verificationism.

Turn over

21 Language game.

22 Transcendence of Being.

23 Dasein.

24 Antifoundationalism.

(5 × 1 = 5)

Part C (Short Essay Questions)

Answer any **four** *questions.*
Each question carries a weight of 2.

25 Bring out the logical positivist argument for the elimination of metaphysics.

26 Summarize the features of hermeneutic philosophy.

27 Describe the theistic position in existentialism with special reference to G. Marcel.

28 Demonstrate the procedure and aim of phenomenological method.

29 Give a comparative account of structuralism and poststructuralism.

30 Write a note on the notion of indeterminism in philosophy.

(4 × 2 = 8)

Part D (Essay Questions)

Answer any **two** *questions.*
Each question carries a weight of 4.

31 'Man exists and makes himself develop into what he wants to be'. With reference to this statement discuss the characteristics of existentialism.

32 Bring out the characteristics of the philosophy of language.

33 Discuss the impact of postmodernism on the conventional understanding of meaning and truth.

(2 × 4 = 8)