Introduction to Philosophy

CREDIT
3

LEVEL
LOWER

EXAM CODE 363
CATALOG NUMBER PHIx101

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Before You Choose This UExcel Exam

Uses for the Examination

- Excelsior College, the test developer, recommends granting three (3) semester hours of lower-level credit to students who receive a letter grade of C or higher on this examination. The examination may be used to help fulfill the introductory philosophy core requirement for the Philosophy major, as a Humanities general education course, or as a free elective for all Excelsior College degree programs that allow for free electives.

- Other colleges and universities also recognize this exam as a basis for granting credit or advanced standing.

- Individual institutions set their own policies for the amount of credit awarded and the minimum acceptable grade.

Exam-takers who have applied to Excelsior College should ask their academic advisor where this exam fits within their degree program.

Exam-takers not enrolled in an Excelsior College degree program should check with the institution from which they wish to receive credit to determine whether credit will be granted and/or to find out the minimum grade required for credit. Those who intend to enroll at Excelsior College should ask an admissions counselor where this exam fits within their intended degree program.

Examination Length and Scoring

The examination consists of approximately 110 questions, most of which are multiple choice; for samples of all the item types on this exam, see the sample items in the back of this guide. Some items are unscored, pretest items. The pretest items are embedded throughout the exam and are indistinguishable from the scored items. You will have two (2) hours to complete the examination. Your score will be reported as a letter grade.

UExcel Exam Resources

Excelsior College Bookstore

The Excelsior College Bookstore offers recommended textbooks and other resources to help you prepare for UExcel exams.

The bookstore is available online at (login required): www.excelsior.edu/bookstore

UExcel Practice Exams

The official UExcel practice exams are highly recommended as part of your study plan. Once you register for your UExcel exam, you are eligible to purchase the corresponding practice exam, which can be taken using any computer with a supported Web browser. Each practice exam includes two forms that you may take within a 180-day period.
Excelsior College Library

Enrolled Excelsior College students can access millions of authoritative resources online through the Excelsior College Library. Created through our partnership with the Sheridan Libraries of The Johns Hopkins University, the library provides access to journal articles, books, websites, databases, reference services, and many other resources. Special library pages relate to the nursing degree exams and other selected exams. To access it, visit www.excelsior.edu/library (login is required).

Our library provides:

- 24/7 availability
- The world’s most current authoritative resources
- Help and support from staff librarians

Online Tutoring

Excelsior College offers online tutoring through SMARTTHINKING™ to connect with tutors who have been trained in a variety of academic subjects. To access SMARTTHINKING, go to www.excelsior.edu/smartthinking. Once there, you may download a copy of the SMARTTHINKING Student Handbook as a PDF.

Preparing for UExcel Exams

Take Charge of Your Own Learning

At Excelsior College, independent, self-directed study supported by resources we help you find is not a new concept. We have always stressed to exam takers that they are acting as their own teacher, and that they should spend as much time studying for an exam as they would spend in a classroom and on homework for a corresponding college course in the same subject area.

Begin by studying the content outline contained in this content guide, at its most detailed level. You will see exactly which topics are covered, and where chapters on those topics can be found in the Recommended Resources. You will see exactly where you might need to augment your knowledge or change your approach.

The content outline, along with the Learning Outcomes for this exam and recommended textbooks, will serve as your primary resources.

How Long Will It Take Me to Study?

A UExcel exam enables you to show that you’ve learned material comparable to one or more 15-week college-level courses. As an independent learner, you should study and review as much as you would for a college course. For a 3-credit course in a subject they don’t know, most students would be expected to study nine hours per week for 15 weeks, for a total of 135 hours.

Study Tips

Become an active user of the resource materials. Aim for understanding rather than memorization. The more active you are when you study, the more likely you will be to retain, understand, and apply the information.

The following techniques are generally considered to be active learning:

- **preview or survey** each chapter
- **highlight or underline text** you believe is important
- **write questions or comments** in the margins
- **practice re-stating content** in your own words
- **relate what you are reading** to the chapter title, section headings, and other organizing elements of the textbook
- **find ways to engage** your eyes, your ears, and your muscles, as well as your brain, in your studies
- **study with a partner or a small group** (if you are an enrolled student, search for partners on MyExcelsior Community)
- **prepare your review notes** as flashcards or create recordings that you can use while commuting or exercising

When you feel confident that you understand a content area, review what you have learned. Take a second look at the material to evaluate your understanding. If you have a study partner, the two of you can review by explaining the content to each other or writing test questions for each other to answer. Review questions from textbook chapters may be helpful for partner or individual study, as well.

Using UExcel Practice Exams

We recommend taking the first form of the practice exam when you begin studying, to see how much you already know. After taking the first practice exam,
check your performance on each question and find out why your answer was right or wrong. This feedback will help you improve your knowledge of the subject and identify areas of weakness that you should address before taking the exam. Take the second form of the practice exam after you have finished studying. Analyze your results to identify the areas that you still need to review.

Although there is no guarantee, our research suggests that students who do well on the practice exams are more likely to pass the actual exam than those who do not do well (or do not take advantage of this opportunity).

About Test Preparation Services
Preparation for UExcel® exams and Excelsior College® Examinations, though based on independent study, is supported by Excelsior College with a comprehensive set of exam learning resources and services designed to help you succeed. These learning resources are prepared by Excelsior College so you can be assured that they are current and cover the content you are expected to master for the exams. These resources, and your desire to learn, are usually all that you will need to succeed.

There are test-preparation companies that will offer to help you study for our examinations. Some may imply a relationship with Excelsior College and/or make claims that their products and services are all that you need to prepare for our examinations.

Excelsior College is not affiliated with any test preparation firm and does not endorse the products or services of these companies. No test preparation vendor is authorized to provide admissions counseling or academic advising services, or to collect any payments, on behalf of Excelsior College. Excelsior College does not send authorized representatives to a student’s home nor does it review the materials provided by test preparation companies for content or compatibility with Excelsior College examinations.

To help you become a well-informed consumer, we suggest that before you make any purchase decision regarding study materials provided by organizations other than Excelsior College, you consider the points outlined on our website at www.excelsior.edu/testprep.
Recommended Resources
for the UExcel Exam in
Introduction to Philosophy

The resources and materials listed below were used by the examination development committee to verify all the questions on the exam. Excelsior College recommends you use these resources as the most appropriate information when ordering textbooks from the college’s bookstore (see page 1 of this content guide). You should allow ample time to obtain resources and to study sufficiently before taking the exam, so plan appropriately and systematically.

A word about textbook editions: Textbook editions listed in the UExcel content guides may not be the same as those listed in the bookstore. Textbook editions may not exactly match up in terms of table of contents and organization, depending upon the edition. However, our team of exam developers checks exam content against every new textbook edition to verify that all subject areas tested in the exam are still adequately available in the study materials. If needed, exam developers will list supplemental resources to ensure that all topics in the exam are still sufficiently covered. Public libraries may have the textbooks you need, or may be able to obtain them for you through interlibrary loan to reduce textbook costs. You may also consider financial aid, if you qualify, to further help defray the steep cost of textbooks. A section on OER has been included in this guide to help you locate additional resources to augment your study.

You should allow sufficient time to obtain resources and to study before taking the exam.

Textbook

The textbook and two open educational resources (OER) below were used by the examination development committee to verify all questions on the exam. The textbook may be purchased from the Excelsior College Bookstore (login required).

www.excelsior.edu/bookstore

The two OER are free and open to users on the web.


Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy
plato.stanford.edu

OCL, PHILO 101: Introduction to Philosophy
http://opencourselibrary.org/phil-101-introduction-to-philosophy

Reducing Textbook Costs

Many students know it is less expensive to buy a used textbook, and buying a previous edition is also an option. The Excelsior College bookstore includes a buyback feature and a used book marketplace, as well as the ability to rent digital versions of textbooks for as long as students need them. Students are encouraged to explore these and the many other opportunities available online to help defray textbook costs.

A Word About Open Educational Resources

Open educational resources (OER) are educational materials available for study at no cost on the Web. Some OER are available for anyone to access any time. Others, such as Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs), require sign-up and are only available during certain windows. Please note that some MOOC providers offer certificates of completion or other products or services for a fee. No MOOC or other OER is a complete substitute for the content guide and officially Recommended Resources listed here in this content guide. However, by definition, MOOCs are essentially free of charge and include access to a main body of learning materials that may help you in your learning.

Being an independent learner preparing for credit by exam, you may not need any of the fee-based options that are offered elsewhere online. But if you are looking for a coherent academic course for self-study, lectures on specific topics, or audio or visual materials that fit your learning style better than print materials alone, a MOOC or other type of OER may be your answer. Keep in mind that none of these OER were designed by Excelsior, nor are they guaranteed to match the exam content outlines completely. They are simply another tool available in your study kit.

We highly encourage using the Recommended Resources. In the content outline, you will see that the topics in the exam are referenced to specific portions of recommended textbooks. Using OER alone will not ensure you’ve completely covered the
content in the exam, or it may not cover some topics in sufficient-enough depth without the use of the formal, recommended textbooks.

If the OER course you choose does not include a textbook for reference and you do not have significant practical theory-based experience in the field of study, use a college textbook to ensure adequate preparation for the exam, and use the exam’s content outline as a guide.

Combined with comparable college textbooks, OER provides you with a variety of choices in knowledge sources and learning experiences, to enhance your understanding of the subject matter.

Choosing Open Educational Resources

Most sites for university-based OER can be searched through www.ocwconsortium.org and/or www.oercommons.org.

Sites that specialize in Web courses designed by college professors under contract with the website sponsor, rather than in Web versions of existing college courses, include:

www.education-portal.com
www.opencourselibrary.org (abbreviated as OCL)

We have included specific courses that cover material for one or more UExcel® exams from the sites in the listings above. It’s worth checking these sites frequently to see if new courses have been added that may be more appropriate or may cover an exam topic not currently listed.

In addition, sites like Khan Academy (www.khanacademy.com) and iTunes U feature relatively brief lessons on very specific topics rather than full courses. Full courses are also available on iTunes U (http://www.apple.com/education/ipad/itunes-u/).

We have chosen a few courses and collections for this listing.

Other Online Resources

This section of the OER Guide is provided to allow learners to independently search for resources. Send an e-mail to OER@excelsior.edu if you have questions about a resource’s credibility.

Open Online Textbooks

Boundless open textbooks
https://www.boundless.com/open-textbooks/

BookBoon
http://bookboon.com/en/textbooks-ebooks

Flatworld Knowledge
http://catalog.flatworldknowledge.com/#our-catalog

College Readiness
Khan Academy
http://www.khanacademy.org/

Hippocampus
http://www.hippocampus.org/

Open Course Library
http://opencourselibrary.org/collg-110-college-success-course/

Study Aids
Education Portal
http://education-portal.com/

Khan Academy
http://www.khanacademy.org/

Annenberg Learner
http://www.learner.org/

OpenCourseWare
http://ocwconsortium.org/en/courses/search

OER Commons
http://www.oercommons.org/

Open Course Library
http://www.opencourselibrary.org/
Section Two

Content Outline

General Description of the Examination

The UExcel Introduction to Philosophy examination is based on material typically taught in a one-semester, three-credit, lower-level survey course in introduction to philosophy.

The examination measures knowledge of facts and terminology; understanding of logic, epistemology, metaphysics, ethics, logical reasoning, the history of philosophy, and the different approaches to various philosophical problems.

No prior knowledge of philosophy is required before beginning study for this exam.

Learning Outcomes

After you have successfully worked your way through the recommended study materials, you should be able to demonstrate the following learning outcomes:

1. Identify, comprehend, and apply some common logical principles and fallacies.
2. Identify, comprehend, and apply the major ethical theories.
3. Identify, comprehend, and apply the major metaphysical issues and viewpoints.
4. Identify, comprehend, and apply the major epistemological issues and viewpoints.
Content Outline

The content outline describes the various areas of the test, similar to the way a syllabus outlines a course. To fully prepare requires self-direction and discipline. Study involves careful reading, reflection, and systematic review.

The major content areas on the Introduction to Philosophy examination, the percent of the examination, and the hours to devote to each content area are listed below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Content Area</th>
<th>Percent of the Examination</th>
<th>Hours of Study</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I. The Nature of Philosophy and Logic</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II. Metaphysics</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III. Epistemology</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV. Ethics</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I. The Nature of Philosophy and Logic

**10 PERCENT OF EXAM | 14 HOURS OF STUDY**

Chaffee (2013)

Ch. 1, What Is Philosophy?
Ch. 2, What is the Philosopher's Way?
Ch. 6, What is Real? What is True?

A. What is philosophy?
   1. Definitions
   2. Having a philosophy vs. doing philosophy
   3. Purpose of philosophy
B. Why is philosophy important?
C. Branches of philosophy (for example: metaphysics, ethics, logic, epistemology)
D. Logical reasoning

1. Fallacies (ad hominem, begging the question, equivocation, appeal to popularity, false dilemma, ignorance, post hoc, slippery slope, naturalistic fallacy, denying the antecedent, affirming the consequent)
2. Argument forms (logical laws)
3. Validity
4. Soundness
E. Critical thinking
   1. Point of view
   2. Assumptions
   3. Evidence
   4. Reaching conclusions
F. Socrates
   1. Apology by Plato (Lab)
   2. Socratic method
G. Bertrand Russell—The Problems of Philosophy
II. Metaphysics

35 percent of exam | 48 hours of study

Chaffee

Ch. 3, Who Are You?
Ch. 4, Are You Free?
Ch. 5, How Can We Know the Nature of Reality?
Ch. 7, Is There a Spiritual Reality?

A. God

1. Proofs for God’s existence
   a. Anselm—*Proslogion* (Ch. 2–7)
   b. Aquinas—*Summa Theologica* (third article: Whether God Exists)
   c. David Hume—*Dialogues Concerning Natural Religion*
   d. William Paley—*The Teleological Argument*
   e. Bertrand Russell—*Why I Am Not a Christian*

2. The problem of evil
   a. John Hick—*Philosophy of Religion* (God Can Allow Some Evil)

3. *The Ethics of Belief* by Clifford

4. *The Will to Believe* by James

5. Pascal

6. Kierkegaard
   a. The leap of faith—*Philosophical Fragments*

7. Nietzsche

8. Religion
   a. Buddhism
   b. Christianity
   c. Hinduism—*Bhagavad-Gita*
   d. Islam
   e. Judaism
   f. Taoism
   g. Mary Daly’s feminist view

B. The nature of reality

1. Heraclitus—*Fragments*

2. Aristotle
   a. Four causes
   b. Reality
   c. Forms
   d. *The Politics* (Book I, Book IV)

3. Leibniz

C. Self, mind, and soul

1. Mind-body problem
   a. Materialism
   b. Dualism

2. Descartes—*Meditations on First Philosophy*

3. The soul

4. Locke—*An Essay Concerning Human Understanding* (Book 1, Chapters 1 and 2; Book 2, Chapters 2 and 7; Book 4, Chapter 11)

5. Hume—*An Inquiry Concerning Human Understanding* (selections)

6. Kant—*Fundamental Principles of the Metaphysics of Morals*

7. Other theorists (for example: Freud, Ryle)
   a. *The Concept of Mind*—Ryle

D. Personal identity

1. Memory

2. Body

3. No self

E. Free will and determinism

1. Free will

2. Determinism
   b. *The Will to Believe* by James

3. Existentialism
   a. Sartre—*Existentialism Is a Humanism*
4. Feminist approaches
   a. Grimshaw

F. Causality
   1. Hume—An Inquiry Concerning Human Understanding: Of the Idea of Necessary Connection

G. Plato—Republic—selections
   1. Theory of Forms
   2. Theory of innate ideas
   3. Allegory of the Cave

H. Russell—The Problems of Philosophy (appearance/reality)

I. Eastern approaches
   1. Buddha—Dhammapada

III. Epistemology

| 20 PERCENT OF EXAM | 27 HOURS OF STUDY |

Chaffee
   Ch. 8, Are There Moral Truths?
   Ch. 9, What Are Right Actions?
   Ch. 10, What is Social Justice?

A. Knowledge
B. Truth
C. Science
   1. Kuhn
   2. Popper
   3. Feyerabend
   4. Longino
D. Empiricism
   1. Locke—An Essay Concerning Human Understanding
      a. Tabula rasa
   2. Berkeley—Three Dialogues Between Hylas and Philonous

E. Rationalism
   1. Descartes
      a. Meditations on First Philosophy 1, 2, and 6
   2. Leibniz
   3. Kant
      a. Prolegomena to Any Future Metaphysics
      b. Critique of Pure Reason

F. Skepticism

G. Phenomenology
H. Constructivism
I. Pragmatism
J. Plato
   1. The divided line

K. African American approaches
   1. W.E.B. DuBois—The Souls of Black Folk
   2. Martin Luther King, Jr—Letter from Birmingham Jail

L. Feminist approaches
   1. Jaggar

M. Eastern approaches
   1. Buddhism
   2. Hinduism
      a. The Upanishads
   3. Taoism
      a. Lao Tzu—Tao Te Ching
IV. Ethics

35 PERCENT OF EXAM | 48 HOURS OF STUDY

Chaffee
Ch. 5, How Can We Know the Nature of Reality?
Ch. 6, What Is Real? What Is True?
Ch. 10, What Is Social Justice?

A. Plato
1. Euthyphro

B. Aristotle
1. Nicomachean Ethics

C. Absolutism
1. The Concept of Morals by Stace

D. Egoism
1. Rational egoism
2. The Virtue of Selfishness by Rand
3. Egoism and Moral Skepticism by Rachels

E. Stoicism
1. Marcus Aurelius—Meditations

F. Natural Law

G. Relativism
1. Anthropology and the Abnormal by Benedict

H. Subjectivism

I. Values

J. Utilitarianism
1. Bentham—An Introduction to the Principles of Morality and Legislation
2. Mill
   a. Utilitarianism
   b. On Liberty
3. Epicurus—Letters to Menoeceus

K. Kant—Fundamental Principles of the Metaphysics of Morals
1. Deontology
2. Hypothetical imperative
3. Categorical imperative

L. Existentialism
1. Kierkegaard
2. Nietzsche
3. Sartre
4. De Beauvoir
5. Camus—The Myth of Sisyphus

M. The ethic of care
1. Noddings
2. Gilligan

N. Social justice
1. Plato's political ideas
   a. The Republic
   b. Crito
2. Aristotle
   a. The Politics
3. Hobbes
   a. Leviathan
4. Locke
   a. The Second Treatise of Government
5. Hume
6. Marx—The Communist Manifesto
7. Rawls—A Theory of Justice
8. Okin
9. Wollstonecraft—A Vindication of the Rights of Women (Lab)

O. Religion
1. Divine command theory
Sample Questions

The sample questions give you an idea of the level of knowledge expected in the exam and how questions are typically phrased. They are not representative of the entire content of the exam and are not intended to serve as a practice test.

Rationales for the questions can be found on pages 14–16 of this guide. In that section, the correct answer is identified and each answer is explained. The number in parentheses at the beginning of each rationale refers to the corresponding section of the content outline. For any questions you answer incorrectly, return to that section of the content outline for further study.

1. Which logical fallacy occurs whenever a person categorically assumes what an argument is trying to prove?
   1) post hoc
   2) ad hominem
   3) equivocation
   4) begging the question

2. Which branch of philosophy is devoted to the study of reason and argumentation?
   1) epistemology
   2) ethics
   3) logic
   4) metaphysics

3. Order and apparent purpose are observed in the universe. It is therefore reasonable to assume God has created the universe. This summarizes which argument for the existence of God?
   The argument of
   1) motion
   2) design
   3) levels of being
   4) contingency and necessity

4. Which philosopher coined the term “leap of faith”?
   1) Kierkegaard
   2) Nietzsche
   3) Popper
   4) Russell

5. According to Aristotle, which cause gives shape and purpose to matter?
   1) final cause
   2) formal cause
   3) material cause
   4) efficient cause

6. Which philosophical viewpoint assumes that mind and body are separate and distinct realities or entities?
   1) dualism
   2) empiricism
   3) materialism
   4) rationalism
7. Which statement best explains existentialism?
   1) Scientific progress is based on resistance to attempts to falsify scientific hypothesis.
   2) Scientific progress is made by accumulating evidence in support of general principles.
   3) Humans are determined by causal laws.
   4) Humans create themselves through freedom of choices.

8. According to Epicurus, what is the highest pleasure?
   1) eating
   2) learning
   3) sex
   4) sleeping

9. What ideal did Plato consider to be the essence of everything that exists?
   1) form
   2) golden mean
   3) divided line
   4) body

10. What does John Searle consider to be the hardest question for a philosopher?
    1) “Is the mind distinct from the body?”
    2) “What is the relation of the mind to the rest of the universe?”
    3) “How can enlightenment be achieved through non-attachment?”
    4) “How do consciousness and memory provide the basis for the self?”

11. “To be is to be perceived.” Who stated this philosophy?
    1) Anselm
    2) Berkeley
    3) Descartes
    4) Plato

12. Which philosopher claimed that every belief should be doubted?
    1) René Descartes
    2) Socrates
    3) William James
    4) Aristotle

13. “All things in the world come from being, and being comes from non-being.” Which philosopher said these words?
    1) Lao-Tzu
    2) Confucius
    3) Plato
    4) Thales

14. Which Greek philosopher wrote The Nicomachean Ethics?
    1) Aristotle
    2) Epicurus
    3) Plato
    4) Heraclitus

15. According to Aristotle, which is the way to happiness?
    1) piety
    2) celibacy
    3) a humble life
    4) virtuous living

16. Which statement best characterizes the doctrine of ethical egoism?
    1) “Character is higher than intellect.”
    2) “The unexamined life is not worth living.”
    3) “One has not only a legal but a moral responsibility to obey just laws.”
    4) “The achievement of happiness is a human being’s highest moral purpose.”

17. Which statement best summarizes the philosophy in Paul Henri Thiry, Baron d’Holbach’s The System of Nature?
    1) The natural world is the best of all possible worlds.
    2) Life does not make sense without personal freedoms.
    3) The laws of nature determine human behavior.
    4) When one makes a choice, it is implied that all people make the same choice.
18. What does Jeremy Bentham’s principle of utility assume?
   The principle of utility assumes that
   1) being does not require causation.
   2) knowledge is both rational and empirical.
   3) pain should decrease and pleasure should increase.
   4) nature is the basis of all human behavior.

19. Which term refers to something which can be known only through reason, without the help of empirical verification?
   1) a priori
   2) a posteriori
   3) ex post facto
   4) ex hypothesi

20. What does John Rawls’s “veil of ignorance” best illustrate?
   How human beings
   1) behave in a state of nature
   2) become rational beings
   3) function in society
   4) explain the soul after death
Rationales

1.(ID1)
1) This fallacy occurs when you confuse coincidence with causality.
2) This fallacy occurs when an author attacks the person rather than the argument.
3) This fallacy occurs whenever an argument turns on a crucial shift in the meaning of a significant word or phrase.
*4) This fallacy makes an assertion even though it assumes to ask a question, pointing the listener to a certain position within its own language.

2.(IC)
1) This is the study of knowledge.
2) This is the study of proper behavior.
*3) Logic is concerned with valid inferences and the structure of arguments.
4) This is the study of the nature of reality.

3.(IIA1d)
1) Design precedes movement, although both are attributable to God in this philosophical observation.
*2) This argument assumes that a God designed the universe and its so-called divine order.
3) God is considered to represent the highest degree of reality in this observation, that is, where all levels of being merge into one.
4) In yet a different theory of knowledge, God is both contingent and necessary.

4.(IIA6a)
*1) Kierkegaard believed that there are times when humans must transcend pure rationality and rely instead on faith.
2) See 1).
3) See 1).
4) See 1).

5.(IIB2a)
1) Final cause refers to the ultimate purpose for which something exists.
*2) Formal cause is the embedded form that gives shape and purpose to the matter.
3) Material cause is the actual matter of which something is made.
4) Efficient cause triggers the action that sets a thing in motion.

6.(IIC1b)
*1) Dualism is the belief that experience can be compartmentalized into two entities: the physical and the cognitive.
2) Empiricism holds that all knowledge comes from sensory experience.
3) Materialism holds that matter is the only true reality.
4) Rationalism emphasizes reason as a source of knowledge.
7. (IID4)
1) Existentialism is not a thesis about the nature of science.
2) Existentialism is not a thesis about the nature of science.
3) This is the definition of determinism.
4) This statement is the only explanation among the four of Jean-Paul Sartre's theory of existentialism.

8. (IVD)
1) Eating is a physical pleasure, which Epicurus considered lower than intellectual pursuits.
2) Epicurus believed that intellectual pursuits, such as learning, are higher pleasures than others having to do with maintaining the physical body.
3) See 2).
4) See 2).

9. (IIG)
1) The theory of forms is one of Plato's key metaphysical doctrines.
2) This concept is key to Aristotle's philosophy of ethics.
3) This is a key concept of Plato's epistemology.
4) The body, as a concept, is less real than form, according to Plato.

10. (IIIC1)
1) This is a question first addressed by René Descartes and more recently by Daniel Dennett.
2) Searle is interested in the philosophy of the mind and the relationship between the self and mental phenomena.
3) This is an issue considered in the Buddhist theory of “no-self.”
4) This is a question considered at length by David Hume in A Treatise of Human Nature.

11. (IID2)
1) Perception is irrelevant to St. Anselm's philosophy.
2) Perception is the essence of George Berkeley's philosophy on the nature of being.
3) René Descartes' existential philosophy is based on the idea that “I think, therefore I am.”
4) Plato discussed perception in “The Allegory of the Cave,” but this phrase does not summarize his entire philosophy.

12. (III1Ea)
1) Rene Descartes made this claim in Discourse on Method, which expounded on the doubt inherent in every belief system.
2) See 1).
3) See 1).
4) See 1).

13. (IIIIM3)
1) These transcendent words were written by Lao-Tzu in The Way of Lao-Tzu.
2) See 1).
3) See 1).
4) See 1).

14. (IVB)
1) This is one of many classics written by Aristotle.
2) Epicurus is remembered for the letters he wrote, not books.
3) Plato is perhaps best known for The Republic.
4) Heraclitus was a pre-Socratic who wrote on the nature of reality.

*correct answer
15.(IVB)
1) Piety is not a relevant virtue for Aristotle.
2) To Aristotle, celibacy was a deficiency, as was promiscuity. Monogamy, on the other hand, was a virtue.
3) A humble life is not central to the idea of virtue in Greek philosophical thought.
4) To Aristotle, happiness means living virtuously, that is, balanced between deficiency and excess.

16.(IVD)
1) This quote, by Ralph Waldo Emerson, speaks to the importance of character and the limits of knowledge.
2) This quote, attributed to Socrates and recorded by Plato, speaks to the importance of human reflection on experience.
3) This quote, by Martin Luther King, Jr., speaks to the relationship between law and ethical behavior.
4) This quote best reflects the premise of ethical egoism, as postulated by Ayn Rand.

17.(IIE)
1) This is a position put forward by Pope and Leibniz, and satirized by Voltaire in Candide.
2) This is the idea put forward by William James in The Will to Believe.
3) According to Baron d’Holbach (Thiry), all motives and actions are subject to the immutable laws of nature.
4) This is an idea from Jean-Paul Sartre’s Existentialism Is a Humanism.

18.(IVJ1)
1) The ancient Greek philosopher Parmenides said that being is without cause.
2) This was Immanuel Kant’s position in his Critique of Pure Reason.
3) Bentham’s principle of utility holds that humans will choose the insight of education, which in turn decreases pain and increases pleasure, for the betterment of society as a whole.
4) Nature is the basis of all human behavior, of which utility is but a part.

19.(IVK)
1) A priori means “prior to experience,” and refers to specific knowledge that is true and independent of direct experience.
2) A posteriori refers to a truth which is dependent upon direct experience or empirical verification.
3) Ex post facto refers to doing something retroactively, or after the fact.
4) Ex hypothesi means “from hypothesis.”

20.(IVN8a)
1) Philosophers disagree on how people would behave in a true state of nature. Rawls was building upon a different theory, that of social contract.
2) That humans are rational is a given in Rawls’s thinking.
3) The concept of the “veil of ignorance” levels the playing field among humans, which ensures equal opportunity in the formation of a just society.
4) Rawls was more concerned with justice than with metaphysical subjects such as the soul.
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Excelsior College, the test developer, recommends granting three (3) semester hours of lower-level credit to students who receive a letter grade of C or higher on this examination. The examination may be used to help fulfill the introductory philosophy core requirement for the Philosophy major, as a Humanities general education course, or as a free elective for all Excelsior College degree programs that allow for free electives.

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