

QP CODE

H1019

Enrollment Number:

Name:

B.A DEGREE EXAMINATIONS, FEBRUARY 2026
Fourth Semester
B.A Philosophy
B21PH04DC – Contemporary Debates in Philosophy
(2023 July admissions)

Time: 3 Hours

Max Marks: 70

Section A

Answer any ten of the following questions in a word or sentence each. Each question carries 1 mark.

1. What is Foucault's method of analyzing historical discourse called?
2. Which type of being is conscious according to Sartre?
3. Identity politics gives voice to which groups?
4. What method does Popper oppose to falsification?
5. Who is the author of 'The Origin of the Family, Private Property and the State'?
6. What is language as a system shared by a community called?
7. Who popularized Practical Vedanta?
8. What term denotes consciousness always being conscious of something?
9. Which economic system produces alienation according to Marx?
10. Which movement rejected metaphysics as meaningless?
11. What was the main tool of knowledge during the enlightenment period?
12. Derrida is associated with which philosophical approach?
13. Which religion did Dr. B. R. Ambedkar adopt in 1956?
14. Who is known as the father of modern hermeneutics?
15. What term describes distrust toward universal theories?

(1X10=10)

Section B

Answer any ten of the following questions in two or three sentences each. Each question carries 2 marks.

16. What does Saussure mean by synchronic study of language?
17. Why did enlightenment reject the dominance of religion over knowledge?
18. Describe the status of women during the time of Mary Wollstonecraft.
19. In what way do language-games show that meaning depend on use?
20. What role does choice play in existentialist philosophy?

21. Elaborate on humanism as an important feature of modern Indian philosophy.
22. How does the concept of trace challenge the idea of fixed meaning?
23. To what extent do Ideological State Apparatuses function through interpellation?
24. Discuss any two challenges faced by Indian federalism.
25. State the purpose of epoche in Husserl's phenomenological method.
26. What is standpoint theory in feminist epistemology?
27. Shed light on the relation between biopower and populations.
28. Describe the nature of consciousness in the Gnostic Being.
29. What is meant by the hermeneutic circle?
30. Give any two examples of metanarratives.

(2X10=20)

Section C

Answer any five of the following questions in a paragraph each. Each question carries 4 marks.

31. Elucidate the statement: "Existence precedes essence".
32. Discuss how logocentrism shapes philosophical thinking and why Derrida seeks to challenge it.
33. Explain the main concerns of the waves of feminism.
34. Analyze the limitations of the Verification Principle.
35. Clarify how communicative rationality differs from instrumental rationality.
36. Explicate how Judith Butler challenges the idea of a fixed or natural gender identity.
37. Discuss Saussure's view that meaning is produced through differences between signs within a language system.
38. Highlight Dr. B. R. Ambedkar's efforts to uplift the depressed classes.
39. Outline how does the fusion of horizons occur during interpretation.
40. Assess Popper's view of scientific method as conjectures and refutations.

(4X5=20)

Section D

Answer any two of the following questions in two pages each. Each question carries 10 marks.

41. Evaluate the different types of feminism in understanding women's oppression and struggles for equality.
42. Critically assess the aims and features of Swami Vivekananda's concept of Universal Religion.
43. Reflect on Ludwig Wittgenstein's early philosophy as presented in the Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus.
44. Investigate how Jacob T. Levy's classification of multicultural accommodation policies helps manage cultural diversity.

(10X2=20)