

This exam has two sections: (I) Greek Philosophical Terms, and (II) Essays. Please write all answers in the exam booklets provided.

I. Greek Philosophical Terms (15 minutes total; 5 minutes each)

Provide some English approximation(s) of each term below. Then, in a paragraph, discuss their significance: that is, mention the Aristotelian context in which they occur, draw precise distinctions between them and neighboring terms, briefly show how they function in major Aristotelian arguments, provide some illustrative examples, where appropriate, and so on:

1. εἶδος, γένος, διαφορά

2. σχῆμα

3. τέλος

II. Essay Questions (60 minutes total; 30 minutes each)

Answer each of the two questions below. Endeavor to write clearly and legibly, providing sufficient details to demonstrate the depth of your understanding of Aristotle's philosophy. These details will often include distinctions and arguments, examples and analogies. Also, do not fail whenever called for to place the question in a wider context. What is its philosophical significance—for Aristotle, and for philosophy more generally?

1. What are first principles, and what distinguishes them from ordinary deductive premises? How did Aristotle think scientists achieve understanding of first principles, and how should science operate, according to him, once it has achieved this understanding? What paramount role does demonstration thus play in science? That said, what dilemma arises if one assume that all premises must be demonstrated? How does Aristotle resolve this dilemma? Be sure not only to distinguish induction, deduction, and demonstration, but also to discuss a scientific example, even if it is a caricature of scientific practice, just as Aristotle himself does.
2. The subject of the *Physics* is natural objects, and thus change. What is this relationship—i.e., between natural objects and change—according to Aristotle? Why was change considered a problem in Greek philosophy before Aristotle, especially thanks to Parmenides? Generally speaking, how does Aristotle propose to solve this problem? You should recall or introduce at least the following concepts: form versus matter, actuality versus potentiality, substance versus accident. Taking his own examples, what does Aristotle think to be the nature of a bed? Or an animal, such as a raccoon? What is the difference between these 'natures,' and what is his reason for drawing this supremely important distinction?