

This exam has four sections: (1) Chronology; (2) Greek Philosophical Terms; (3) Logical terms; (4) Essay on Plato's *Republic*; (5) General Essay.

1. Chronology (5 minutes)

List in chronological order, from most ancient to most recent, the following philosophers: Aristotle, Cicero, Epicurus, Plato, Boethius, Parmenides, Augustine, Plotinus, Socrates, Sextus Empiricus.

- i. _____
- ii. _____
- iii. _____
- iv. _____
- v. _____
- vi. _____
- vii. _____
- viii. _____
- ix. _____
- x. _____

2. Greek Philosophical Terms (10 minutes)

For each of the three Greek philosophical terms below, in your exam booklet provide a few English approximations of the term. Then, in a few sentences, discuss the term's philosophical significance, mentioning one or more of the authors to whom it is relevant and the role it plays in their philosophy.

1. ψυχή

2. φύσις

3. ἀγαθόν

3. Logical Terms (10 minutes)

From the short lists of logical terms accompanying each passage of ancient philosophy, identify in your exam booklet the term most relevant to it, explaining your choice.

1. “There is this to be said for the many: each of them by himself may not be of a good quality; but when they all come to gether it is possible that they may surpass—collectively and as a body, although not individually—the quality of the few best, in much the same way that feasts to which many contribute may excel those provided by at one person’s expense.”

Smokescreen
Pedantry
Affirming the consequent
Denying the consequent
Proof by ignorance
Analogy, arguments from
Ockham’s razor
Emotive language

2. “In the Ceramicus at Athens there is a statue of Chrysippus sitting with an outstretched hand, that hand symbolizing the delight Chrysippus took in the following little piece of argument: ‘Does your hand, in its present condition, want anything?’ ‘Not at all.’ ‘But if pleasure were a good, it would be wanting it.’ ‘I suppose so.’ ‘Therefore pleasure is not a good.’

Smokescreen
Pedantry
Affirming the consequent
Denying the consequent
Proof by ignorance
Analogy, arguments from
Ockham’s razor
Knock-down argument
Emotive language

4. Essay on Plato’s *Republic* (40 minutes)

Answer one of the following questions:

- i. What is Plato’s best argument, in Book 4, that the soul has three parts? This argument begins with the Principle of Opposites (or Contraries). What is this principle, and to what sort of circumstances does Socrates apply it to generate a tripartite soul? Later, in Book 10, how does he apply the same principle to different circumstances to produce an apparently different division of the soul? Are the two psychological accounts consistent? Whether or not they are, Plato is not sure that they represent the soul as it really is. Why not?
- ii. Plato’s *Republic* is a masterwork not only of philosophy but also of literary art. Nevertheless, it concludes with three criticisms of (imitative) art. What are these criticisms, and how effective are they against art—including the art of Plato himself? What do these criticisms say about Plato’s own philosophical writing?

5. General Essay (55 minutes)

Answer one of the following questions:

- i. *Is there a perfect constitution?* Herodotus reports a debate among Persian noblemen about the best constitution, according to which each constitution is flawed. What are these constitutions, and what are their flaws? Plato describes a decline of constitutions, each one worse than its predecessor, but at the beginning of this decline he describes a perfect constitution. What is this utopia, *kallipolis*, and why does it decline? Recount the subsequent stages of decline, concentrating especially on democracy. Are all constitutions flawed and thus doomed to failure? Or is there an alternative to nightmarish utopias and real dystopias? Present and evaluate Polybius's solution to the constitutional problem.
- ii. *What is philosophy, and what is its value?* Begin by describing Plato's answer to this question from Books 5–7 of *Republic*. What debt does this answer owe to Parmenides? Moreover, how does Parmenides' poem echo through not just Plato's answer but also those of Aristotle, the Stoics, and Plotinus? Contrast these views of philosophy with those of Epicurus and Sextus Empiricus. Describe each of these understandings of philosophy with as much detail as time permits, but allow yourself a few minutes to inform me of your own understanding. Has it changed thanks to your encounter with the ancients?

Ἴδου ἡ παρθένος ἐν γαστρὶ ἔξει καὶ τέξεται υἱόν, καὶ καλέσουσιν τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ Ἐμμανουήλ, ὃ ἐστὶν μεθερμηνευόμενον Μεθ' ἡμῶν ὁ θεός.

KATA ΜΑΘΘΑΙΟΝ 1.23