

OLLSCOIL NA hEIREANN
COLAISTE NA hOLLSCOILE
GAILLIMH

SEMESTER 1 EXAMINATIONS 1999/00

SECOND ARTS EXAMINATIONS

PHILOSOPHY

Paper 2: Pi226/Pi211

Professor B. A. Cullen
Professor M.H. Woerner
Professor F.P. O'Gorman

(Time allowed: Three hours)

Answer four questions, two from each Section. Use separate answer-books for each section.

Section A: Pi226 History of Contemporary Philosophy 1
Weighting 1

1. Write a critical essay on the logical positivist search for literal meaning.
2. Discuss Quine's critique of logical positivism.
3. Outline the central themes of Quine's holism.

Section B: Pi211 Topics in Classical Philosophy I

1. Western Philosophy began with Ionian philosophies of nature such as Anaximander's. Explain and discuss this new understanding of the universe and its origin with special reference to Anaximander's "apeiron".
2. What made the teaching of Pythagoras attractive to pioneers of modern science such as Copernicus, Kepler or Galileo? Discuss.
3. "Everything flows" (Heraclitus). Discuss with reference to Heraclitus' Theories of Flux, the Unity of Opposites and of Logos.
4. "A single story of a road is left - that It is". Explain and discuss Parmenides' notion of "Being" and its attributes.

or

Why is Parmenides generally regarded as the "Father of Western Metaphysics"? Explain and discuss.

5. Discuss central elements of the method of discourse used by Socrates and its overall purpose.
6. How good a case does Plato make for the existence of "Forms"? Discuss.
7. Is the soul immortal? How does Plato's "Phaedo" discuss this problem and how convincing do you find his contribution?