

ETHICS AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES

PAPER 1

1 hour 45 minutes (8:30 - 10:15)

This paper must be answered in English

INSTRUCTIONS

1. This paper consists of two parts:

Part A
Normative Ethics: Answer THREE out of four questions.

Part B
Personal and Social Issues: Answer TWO out of four questions.
2. Write your answers in the answer book. Start each question (not part of a question) on a new page.

Not to be taken away before the end of the examination session

Part A Normative Ethics

Answer 3 out of 4 questions

1. Give ONE limitation of using moral rules to make moral judgement. Explain your answer. (5 marks)
2. Give ONE limitation of Act-utilitarianism. (5 marks)
3. Use the concept of instrumental value to explain the importance of “loyalty”. (5 marks)
4. Give ONE example of how “self-confidence” and “humility” do not always coexist. (5 marks)

Part B Personal and Social Issues

Answer 2 out of 4 questions

5. In a foreign country, it was reported that a well-known person had to pay a fine due to frequent illegal parking and suggested that his employer should take disciplinary action on him. There are two different views regarding the incident. On one hand, some point out that illegal parking is a matter of private life and is not related to his work, and he has already paid the fine, so his employer should handle the case in a low profile. On the other hand, some believe that illegal parking is unethical, showing his low law-abiding awareness and questionable moral conduct. His employer should impose strict penalties on him and be accountable to the public.

Discuss the above two viewpoints from **the perspective of ethics** and state your position and arguments. (20 marks)

6. According to a newspaper, a major chain store required its shopkeepers to sign contracts on a "self-employment" basis due to a significant drop in sales amid poor economic environment. After the employees complained to the media, the chain store switched back to a new direct employment contract with all employees.

Does the major chain store fulfill its moral responsibilities in the above incident? Justify your answer from **the perspective of business ethics**. (20 marks)

* "Self-employment" means that the employer requires the employee to sign a contract of employment as a self-employed person in lieu of a formal contract of employment. A formal employment contract usually sets out the benefits to which the employee is entitled, such as wages, paid leave, sickness allowance and long service payment.

7. Nowadays, there are still many people who like to eat "wild game" (wild animals), for example, Spanish people like to eat rabbit meat, Hokkaido people like to eat bear meat, while Finnish people like to eat deer meat, etc. Do you support eating wild animals?

Discuss the topic of eating wild animals and justify your answer from **the perspective of environmental ethics**. (20 marks)

8. In 2021, a single father, who was in debt, feared that his family could not sustain a living and his 2-year-old son would be left alone. As a result, he committed suicide with his son by charcoal burning. Their bodies were found by the police at the suicide scene. The autopsy showed that the son had taken sleeping pills a few hours before he died of poisoning.

Do you agree with the single father's decision of committing suicide with his son? Justify your answer from **the perspective of life and death ethics**. (20 marks)

END OF PAPER