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# Philosophy Higher level Paper 1

21 October 2024

Zone A afternoon | Zone B afternoon | Zone C afternoon

2 hours 30 minutes

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## Instructions to candidates

- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Section A: answer one question.
- Section B: answer two questions, each chosen from a different optional theme.
- The maximum mark for this examination paper is **[75 marks]**.

## Section A

Answer **one** question from this section. Each question in this section is worth [25 marks].

### Core theme: Being human

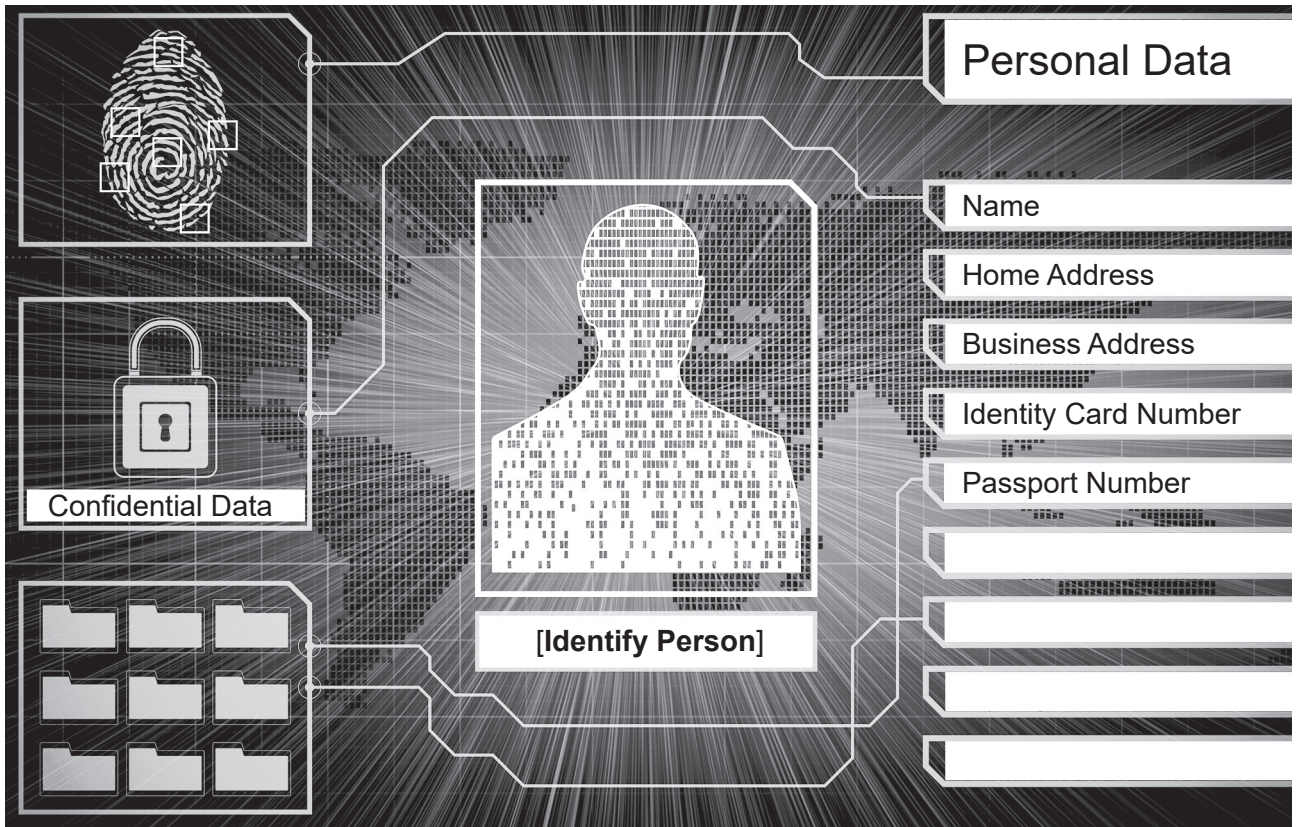
1. Read the following text and develop your response as indicated below.

“To be a self is to be able to give an account of a self through a narrative of who one has been, who one will become, and who one is now. To tell this narrative of oneself is to become oneself. Self-identity is not at all some given, unchangeable entity. It has to be told and retold, and it changes each time it is retold.”

[Source: Svendsen, L., 2012. *Fashion: a philosophy*. Copyright © Universitets Forlaget.  
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With explicit reference to the stimulus and your own knowledge, discuss a philosophical issue related to the question of what it means to be human.

2. Look at the following image and develop your response as indicated below.



With explicit reference to the stimulus and your own knowledge, discuss a philosophical issue related to the question of what it means to be human.

## Section B

Answer **two** questions from this section, each chosen from a different optional theme. Each question in this section is worth [25 marks].

### Optional theme 1: Aesthetics

3. Evaluate the claim that a work of art is above all an adventure of the mind.
4. Evaluate the claim that “the big secret about art is that no one wants it to be true”.

### Optional theme 2: Epistemology

5. To what extent can beliefs be justified through reason alone?
6. To what extent do technologies promote the spreading of knowledge?

### Optional theme 3: Ethics

7. Explain and discuss the foundation of moral judgments.
8. To what extent should the principle of autonomy guide ethical decision making?

### Optional theme 4: Philosophy and contemporary society

9. Evaluate the view that technology shapes its users into tools of the technology, not the other way around.
10. Evaluate the view that there can be no rights without responsibilities.

### Optional theme 5: Philosophy of religion

11. Evaluate the view that for God/god(s) to exist in reality would be greater than for God/god(s) to exist in the mind alone.
12. Explain and discuss the use of prayer as a way of experiencing God/god(s).

**Optional theme 6: Philosophy of science**

13. Evaluate the claim that modern physics describes the world as it really is.
14. Evaluate the claim that scientific research should not be driven by society's needs.

**Optional theme 7: Political philosophy**

15. Explain and discuss how the government derives its power over the individual in the state.
  16. Evaluate the view that justice is about what is right, not what is good.
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**References:**

1. Svendsen, L., 2012. *Fashion: a philosophy*. Copyright © Universitets Forlaget. Reproduced with permission of the Licensor through PLSclear.
2. Vertigo3d, n.d. *Security concept*. [image online] Available at: <https://www.gettyimages.co.uk/detail/photo/security-concept-royalty-free-image/166419812?adppopup=true> [Accessed 11 January 2023]. Source adapted.