



STRATHMORE INSTITUTE

DIPLOMA IN BUSINESS CREATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP DIPLOMA IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATION

DE/DIR 1103: INTRODUCTION TO CRITICAL THINKING

Date: 9th August 2024

Time: 15.30-17.30

INSTRUCTIONS

- a) This examination consists of **FIVE** questions.
- b) Answer **Question ONE (COMPULSORY)** and any other **TWO** questions.

SECTION A: COMPULSORY QUESTION

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

Read the text below and answer the questions that follow:

The value of a humanities education has been heavily debated, especially in today's competitive job market. Critics argue that this type of education is impractical and a poor use of time and resources. I couldn't agree more. Many proponents of humanities education are absent-minded professors who have spent their lives in an academic bubble, detached from the realities of the job market. Studying the humanities today is like recess; it's enjoyable but not productive. My own niece, who minored in Art, has been unemployed for the last ten years! Do we really want to continue seeing our children burdened by college debt from studying impractical subjects? The fact that some universities do not offer humanities courses to students is quite telling. Clearly, it is a waste of time because it doesn't prepare students for jobs. Why do we continue to fund an educational system that fails to prepare students for real jobs? I am usually very candid with high schoolers: I tell them that they can either take humanities classes and be unemployed or choose practical courses in college and get a job. It is time to shift our educational priorities towards cheaper short term technical training. By doing so, we can better equip the next generation to meet the demands of a rapidly evolving job market.

Required:

- a) State two premises and one conclusion from the argument in the text above. **(3 marks)**
- b) Using examples from the text, state and explain three different fallacies of relevance. **(9 marks)**
- c) Using examples from the text, state and explain two different fallacies of weak induction. **(4 marks)**
- d) Using examples from the text, state and explain two different fallacies of presumption. **(4 marks)**

- e) Using examples from the text, state and explain three elements or parts of thinking **(6 marks)**
- f) Evaluate any two elements or parts of thinking you have identified in the above question using an appropriate intellectual standard or tool of evaluation. **(4 marks)**

QUESTION TWO (15 MARKS)

Write an essay about any three functions and three principles of universities. Give an example for each point. Your essay should have an introduction **(2 marks)**; body **(12 marks)** and a conclusion **(1 mark)**.

QUESTION THREE (15 MARKS)

- a) Using examples, state and explain four advantages of studying critical thinking. **(8 marks)**
- b) Define philosophy (1 mark); state and explain three attributes of philosophy. **(6 marks)**

QUESTION FOUR (15 MARKS)

Write an essay about any six intellectual traits or tools of transformation. Give an example of how each trait is useful in overcoming a different obstacle or barrier to critical thinking. Your essay should have an introduction **(2 marks)**; body **(12 marks)** and a conclusion **(1 mark)**.