



STRATHMORE INSTITUTE

DIPLOMA IN BUSINESS CREATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

DIPLOMA IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATION

DE 1102: DIR 1103: INTRODUCTION TO CRITICAL THINKING

Date: 8th April 2024

Time: 10.30-12.30

INSTRUCTIONS

1. This examination consists of **FIVE** questions.
2. Answer **Question ONE (COMPULSORY)** and any other **TWO** questions: **ONE from SECTION B and ANOTHER ONE from SECTION C.**
3. Answer each new question on a fresh page.

SECTION A: COMPULSORY QUESTION

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

Read the fictional text below and answer the questions that follow:

I strongly urge everyone to support the implementation of mandatory vaccination in public schools. The close proximity among students in these educational institutions fosters the spread of contagious diseases. A recent study conducted in Wakanda shows that vaccination is the sole effective measure to prevent the transmission of these diseases. It is crucial to safeguard students' health and prevent potential outbreaks that could impact the broader community. Consider the emotional burden our children will bear if, due to contracting COVID-91 at school, they cause their grandparents' illness or demise. In addition, failure to implement mandatory vaccination will undoubtedly lead to the collapse of public health systems, economic downturns, and, inevitably, societal chaos. Parents who oppose mandatory vaccination are not just insensitive, paranoid individuals, but are paving the way for a catastrophic domino effect. In addition, neighboring nations have reported a significant decrease in sick days taken by students after the introduction of mandatory vaccination. The improvement in school attendance is obviously owed to mandatory vaccination! Furthermore, all MECOSA member states have adopted the strategy. It would be totally unreasonable for us not to follow suit.

Required:

- a) State at least two premises and one conclusion to the main argument in the text; explain whether the argument is valid or invalid. **(4 marks)**
- b) Citing examples from the text, state and explain three different fallacies of relevance, showing why each is an instance of bad reasoning. **(9 marks)**
- c) Citing examples from the text, state and explain three different fallacies of weak induction showing why each is an instance of bad reasoning. **(9 marks)**
- d) Using examples from the text, state and explain two elements or parts of thinking **(4 marks)**
- e) Evaluate each of the two elements or parts of thinking you have identified in the above question using an appropriate intellectual standard or tool of evaluation. **(4 marks)**

SECTION B: CHOOSE ONE QUESTION BETWEEN QUESTION TWO AND THREE

QUESTION TWO (15 MARKS)

- a) Using examples, discuss four ways in which universities foster critical thinking. **(8 marks)**
- b) Support the dress code at Strathmore University using ethos appeal **(2 marks)**; pathos appeal **(3 marks)**; and logos appeal **(2 marks)**.

QUESTION THREE (15 MARKS)

- a) Using examples, distinguish philosophy from any other two types of human knowledge. **(7 marks)**
- b) Using examples, discuss any four errors pertaining to truth and knowledge **(8 marks)**

SECTION C: CHOOSE ONE QUESTION BETWEEN QUESTION FOUR AND FIVE

QUESTION FOUR (15 MARKS)

Write an essay that demonstrates how any six intellectual traits or tools of transformation are useful in overcoming six different obstacles or barriers to critical thinking. Your essay should include the following: an introduction **(2 marks)**; body **(12 marks)** and a conclusion **(1 mark)**.

QUESTION FIVE (15 MARKS)

Write an essay about six different ways in which critical thinking enhances self-evaluation and development. Your essay should include the following: an introduction **(2 marks)**; body **(12 marks)** and a conclusion **(1 mark)**.