



STRATHMORE INSTITUTE
DIPLOMA IN BUSINESS MANAGEMENT, INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, PUBLIC
RELATIONS, ENTREPRENEURSHIP, JOURNALISM AND NEWS MEDIA
END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATION
DBM 1104; DIR 1103; DPR 1103, DE 1102; DJNM 1104: INTRODUCTION TO
CRITICAL THINKING (FT)

DATE: 16th August 2019

Time: 2 Hours

Instructions

1. This examination consists of **FIVE** questions.
2. **Answer ALL Question1, (COMPULSORY) and any other TWO questions. Write the correct question number for the questions attempted.**
3. **Do not write on the question paper**

Question 1 (30 marks)

Read the following article and answer question 1 a, b, and c which follow.

Some Kenyan Teachers are weaker than their pupils in a class, a new U.N. report shows. The Unesco survey says that most primary school teachers lack complete mastery of the subjects they teach.

In a global monitoring report released on Tuesday, the U.N agency says that millions of Kenyan children are failing to learn the basics despite much improved primary education. Teacher training is weak in Kenya, the report found, citing a 2010 survey of primary schools in which class six teachers scored an average of only 61% in maths tests designed for their pupils. "None of the teachers had complete mastery of the subject," Unesco observed.

Teacher education institutions in Kenya often fail to upgrade weak subject knowledge, partly because trainees are overloaded with learning demands, the report suggested. They are required to take up to 10 subjects and participate in teaching practice in the first year. Moreover, the educators expected to impart skills to trainees have themselves received no instruction in training teachers for basic education.

In addition, about 30% of Kenyan learners who complete four years of schooling are unable to read, the report added. Among the causes of this lag in literacy, Unesco said, are poor quality of teaching, lack of textbooks, increasing class sizes, and sharp disparities in education in various parts of the country.

Universal access to primary education has resulted in a shortage of teachers, the report added. The ratio students to teachers rose by 45% between 1999 and 2009 reaching an average of 47 pupils for every teacher. “Absenteeism exacerbates the problem of teacher shortage,” the report said.

(Daily Nation 30th January 2014)

- a) What is the main argument in this article that the writer wants you to accept? (2 marks)
- b) What is the conclusion that is being pushed? (2 marks)
- c) Outline the arguments given to support the conclusion (6 marks)
- d) The news media is often said to be the least reliable source of information hence, a person needs to consider certain factors in evaluation the truth of a report. Explain five such factors. (10 marks).
- e) Philosophical inquiry aims at discovering the truth in all reality by use of reason. Discuss whether reason contradicts the faith (10 marks)

Question 2 (15 marks)

- a) Definitions are important and enable people to discuss issues and understand each other. Explain any four rules for defining concepts (4 marks)
- b) Identify the definiendum and the definiens in the statement below. Which rule is it breaking? (3 marks)

“God is real because the Bible says so and the Bible is infallible—because it’s the word of God”
- c) Discuss four source of knowledge explaining how we learn through those sources (8 marks)

Question 3 (15 marks)

The human reasoning process follows a certain order. This order follows intellectual thought and is a result of the operation of the mind. This is called logical or rational order.

- a) Define logic. (2 marks)
- b) Differentiate between an argument as used in logic and argument as used in daily language. (3 marks)
- c) Give five reasons to show the importance of logic (5 marks)
- d) Discuss five benefits of critical thinking (5 marks)

Question 4 (15 marks)

- a) Rewrite the following arguments as standard form categorical syllogisms. (3 marks each)
 - i) No stubborn individuals who never admit a mistake are good teachers, so, since some well-informed people are stubborn individuals who never admit a mistake, some good teachers are not well-informed people.
 - ii) No sports cars are vehicles intended to be driven at moderate speeds, but all automobiles designed for family use are vehicles intended to be driven at moderate speeds, from which it follows that no sports cars are automobiles designed for family use.
- b) Define a fallacy (1 mark)
- c) Identify the fallacies of relevance in the following arguments (2 marks each)
 - i) An elder said to a young man: “You shut up! Whatever you’ve said about women and children cannot be true. You are unmarried and you have no children. What can you teach me about women and children? Even your father was a pauper!”
 - i) A commercial claims that a specific brand of cereal is the best way to start the day because athlete Michael Jordan says that it is what he eats every day for breakfast.
 - ii) You can believe what Professor X says about the importance of higher salaries for teachers. As a teacher himself, he would naturally be in favor of increasing teacher’s pay.
 - iii) That new student says I am his favorite professor. And he must be telling the truth for no student would be lying about his professor.

Question 5 (15 marks)

- a) Discuss the material object and formal object of philosophy. (4 marks)
- b) Explain any five significance of philosophical study. (5 marks)
- c) Von Humboldt suggested that a university should approach knowledge scientifically. It should produce knowledge, not reproduce it. In order to do this, it follows three principles. Discuss the three principles of the university. (6 marks)
 - i) Universality (2 marks)
 - ii) Academic freedom (2 marks)
 - iii) Autonomy (2 marks)