



Strathmore
UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES
BACHELOR OF ARTS IN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES AND PHILOSOPHY
SPECIAL EXAMINATION
BDP 3201: HISTORY OF CONTEMPORARY PHILOSOPHY

Date: 3rd June 2022

Time: 08:00 – 10:00

Instructions

This examination consists of six questions.

Answer **Question 1** (compulsory) worth 30 marks and **any other three** questions worth 10 marks each, to total 60 marks.

Question 1 (30 marks)

There are several different movements within contemporary philosophy. Briefly expound on any five of them, and name at least one proponent of each. (6 marks for each)

Question 2 (10 marks)

In his idea of the world as will and representation, Arthur Schopenhauer advocated for the engagement in art and music. Why did he do so and what problem was he trying to address?

Question 3 (10 marks)

What is the value of the **face** and the **other** according to Emmanuel Levinas, and what would be the consequence of a 'faceless' society as happened with the wearing of masks during the recent pandemic?

Question 4 (10 marks)

In his book 'Being and Having,' Gabriel Marcel describes the world as divided between Problem and Mystery. What did he mean by these terminologies, and what examples are there in real life?

Question 5 (10 marks)

Explain why Jacques Derrida came up with the post-modern concept of deconstruction, and discuss some of its downfalls.

Question 6 (10 marks)

Simone de Beauvoir is famous for her book 'The Second Sex.' How did she develop the idea of woman as *the second sex* and what did she mean by the statement, 'One is not born, but rather becomes, woman.'?