

BIRLA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY & SCIENCE, PILANI
Second Semester - 2021-2022
Applied Philosophy
HSS F343 (Close Book)
Mid Semester Examination

Room No. 6103/6104/6108
Date: 9.3.2022

Max Marks 30
Duration: 90 Minutes

- Attempt All Three Questions.
 - All Questions Carry Equal Marks.
1. State and analyze in brief the philosophical ideas of David Hume with a special reference to his saying, “To hate, to love, to think, to feel, to see; all this is nothing but to perceive.” You may conclude the answer with your own critical assessment.
 2. Define deductive argument and inductive argument. State and discuss the similarities and differences between deductive argument and inductive argument. You may use examples to elaborate your answer.
 3. In 1962 the Atlantic Cement Company began operating a cement plant outside Albany, New York. The Company employed over 300 local residents and by 1970 had invested \$45 million in the plant. The plant emitted large amounts of pollution, however, as well as causing constant vibrations and loud noise. Local residents filed suit against the Company, claiming that the loud noise and the vibrations were harming their health and property. The suit asked that the court issue an injunction that would close down the plant until the pollution and vibrations could be eliminated. The Company was already using the best available technology, which meant that the suit was asking that the plant be closed down indefinitely. The court refused to issue the injunction, reasoning that the costs of closing the plant outweighed the benefits to be gained by the residents. Instead of closing the plant, the court ruled that the cement company should pay residents a one-time fee to compensate them for ongoing harms. This fee was calculated to be a fair market price for what the residents would receive if they were inclined and able to rent their property. Was the decision of the court in this case fair? Answer the question in the light of your understanding of ethical perspective(s). You may conclude the answer with your own assessment.