

BIRLA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY & SCIENCE, PILANI
Second Semester 2022-23
Introductory Philosophy HSS F235
Comprehensive Examination (Closed Book)

Date: 08-05-2023

Max Marks 40.0
Duration 3 Hours

Note: Attempt all questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. Taking Heidegger's notion of *Dasein* (being-in-the-world) and Sartre's notions of *en soi* (being-in-itself) and *pour soi* (being-for-itself), explain how human existence has been analyzed by these two existentialist thinkers.
2. What are the difficulties Sankhya faces in explaining evolution through Prakrti and Purusa which are intrinsically different in nature? Discuss.
3. Discuss Buddhism as an ethical practice by analyzing the cause of suffering (theory of dependent origination) and cessation of suffering by a noble path.
4. Considering a situation of ethical dilemma, critically analyze the role of deontological and utilitarian theories in ethical decision making.
5. Discuss and explain the complementing nature of Anekantavada and Syadvada as theories of reality and knowledge in Jainism.
6. "Identity is always qualified by difference" & "Knowledge always points to an object which exists really and outside of it". In the light of these statements, analyze Ramanuja's criticisms against Shankara's theory advaitavada.
7. Explain the categories of 'Action'(karma) and 'Non-existence'(Abhava). What is the need of these categories in Vaishesika? Discuss.
8. Taking Locke's view of 'tabula rasa' and Berkeley's view 'to be is to be perceived', explain the nature of knowledge.