

## U.G. / P.G. ENTRANCE EXAMINATION, APRIL 2021

## PHILOSOPHY

Time : Two Hours

Maximum : 100 Marks

1. Read the following extract from Kant's essay and answer the questions given below to it :

Enlightenment is man's emergence from his self-imposed immaturity. Immaturity is the inability to use one's understanding without guidance from another. This immaturity is self-imposed when its cause lies not in lack of understanding, but in lack of resolve and courage to use it without guidance from another. *Sapere Aude !* [dare to know] "Have courage to use your own understanding !" — that is the motto of enlightenment.

Laziness and cowardice are the reasons why so great a proportion of men, long after nature has released them from alien guidance (*natura-liter maiorennnes*), nonetheless gladly remain in lifelong immaturity, and why it is so easy for others to establish themselves as their guardians. It is so easy to be immature. If I have a book to serve as my understanding, a pastor to serve as my conscience a physician to determine my diet for me, and so on, I need not exert myself at all. I need not think, if only I can pay: others will readily undertake the irksome work for me.

It is difficult for any individual man to work himself out of the immaturity that has all but become his nature. He has even become fond of this state and or the time being is actually incapable of using his own understanding, for no one has ever allowed him to attempt it. Rules and formulas, those mechanical aids to the rational use, or rather misuse, of his natural gifts, are the shackles of a permanent immaturity. Whoever threw them off would still make only an uncertain leap over the smallest ditch, since he is unaccustomed to this kind of free movement. Consequently, only a few have succeeded, by cultivating their own minds, in freeing themselves from immaturity and pursuing a secure course.

1. How do men to overcome immaturity ?
2. Why immaturity is said to be self-imposed ?
3. What are the causes of immaturity ?
4. What is depicted here as enlightenment ?

(20 marks)

Turn over

2. Precis writing, summarise the meaning of the following passage in few sentences of your own :

Can the truth be learned? With this question we shall begin. It was a Socratic question or became that by way of the Socratic question whether virtue can be taught—for virtue in turn was defined as insight (see Protagoras, Gorgias, Meno, Euthydemus). Insofar as the truth is to be learned, it of course must be assumed not to be—consequently, because it is to be learned, it is sought. Here we encounter the difficulty that Socrates calls attention to in the *Meno* (80, near the end) as a “pugnacious proposition”: a person cannot possibly seek what he knows, and, just as impossibly, he cannot seek what he does not know, for what he knows he cannot seek, since he knows it, and what he does not know he cannot seek, because, after all, he does not even know what he is supposed to seek. Socrates thinks through the difficulty by means [of the principle] that all learning and seeking are but recollecting. Thus the ignorant person merely needs to be reminded in order, by himself, to call to mind what he knows. The truth is not introduced into him but was in him. Socrates elaborates on this idea, and in it the Greek pathos is in fact concentrated, since it becomes a demonstration for the immortality of the soul—retrogressively please note—or a demonstration for the pre-existence of the soul.

(20 marks)

3. Write short notes on the following :

- (1) Existentialism.
- (2) Humanism.
- (3) Good and evil.
- (4) Human rights in India.

(20 marks)

4. Explain the following briefly :

- (1) ‘One cannot step into the same river twice’.
- (2) ‘Virtue is knowledge’.
- (3) “*Sarvam dukham*”.
- (4) ‘*Nishkama karma*’.

(20 marks)

5. Write two short essays :

- (1) Explain how the study of logic becomes relevant today.
- (2) How globalization is going to affect the life and culture of indigenous people ?

(20 marks)