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**PRESIDENCY UNIVERSITY**

**Bengaluru**

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| **Ph. D Course Work End Term Examinations –JAN-FEB 2025** |
| **Date:** 30 – 01- 2025 **Time:** 09:30 am – 12:30 pm |

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| **School:** SOE | **Program:** Ph. D | |
| **Course Code:** ENG877 | **Course Name:** Introduction to Nihilism | |
| **Semester**: | **Max Marks**: 100 | **Weightage**: 50% |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **CO - Levels** | **CO1** | **CO2** | **CO3** | **CO4** | **CO5** |
| **Marks** | **10** | **10** | **10** | **40** | **30** |

**Instructions:**

1. *Read all questions carefully and answer accordingly.*
2. *Do not write anything on the question paper other than roll number.*

**Part A**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Answer ALL the Questions. Each question carries 10 marks. 6Q x 10M=60Marks** | | | | |
| **1** | How is Nietzsche’s concept of the anti-cosmos connected to Heidegger’s interpretation of Nietzsche? Examine their relationship by discussing key ideas and supporting your answer with examples from their philosophical works. | **10 Marks** | **L** | **CO2** |
| **2** | What are the defining traits of Cynic Nihilism, and how do they impact individual behavior and societal norms? Analyze its effects with relevant examples. | **10 Marks** | **M** | **CO1** |
| **3** | What are the fundamental principles of existential nihilism? Discuss these principles and illustrate their importance using specific examples. | **10 Marks** | **L** | **CO3** |
| **4** | How does Jean-François Lyotard’s critique of grand narratives disrupt traditional ideas of truth and knowledge in the postmodern era? Discuss the implications of his critique for contemporary society, providing examples. | **10 Marks** | **L** | **CO4** |
| **5** | How does Søren Kierkegaard explore the conflict between faith and nihilistic doubt in his philosophical and theological writings? What approaches does he suggest for resolving this existential crisis? Use examples from his works to support your analysis. | **10 Marks** | **M** | **CO4** |
| **6** | How does Sartre’s concept of anguish, as a core element of the human experience, challenge conventional views on morality and ethical decision-making? Explain with examples from Sartre’s writings. | **10 Marks** | **L** | **CO5** |

**Part B**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| **Answer the Questions. Each question carries 20 marks 2Q x 20 = 40 Marks** | | | | | |
| **7.** |  | How Sartre’s Existentialism does *is a Humanism* present the human condition—as hopeful or pessimistic? Analyze how his focus on individual freedom and responsibility influences our perception of human potential and challenges, using examples from the text. | **20 Marks** | **M** | **CO4** |
|  | | | | | |
| **8.** |  | How does the “Myth of Sisyphus,” as interpreted by Albert Camus and other existentialist thinkers, provide a framework for addressing nihilistic despair and discovering meaning in an absurd existence? Discuss with examples from the philosophical work. | **20 Marks** | **M** | **CO5** |

**\*\*\*\*\* BEST WISHES \*\*\*\*\***