

ROLL NO:



**PRESIDENCY UNIVERSITY  
BENGALURU**

**Department of Languages (English)**

**MID-TERM EXAMINATION – AUGUST 2024**

**Odd Semester:** 2023-24

**Course Code:** ENG877

**Course Name:** Introduction to Nihilism

**Department:** English (Languages)

**Date:** 13-08-2024

**Time:** 02.00pm to 03:30pm

**Max Marks:** 50

**Weightage:** 25%

**Instructions:**

- (i) *Read the question properly and answer accordingly.*
  - (ii) *Question paper consists of 3 parts.*
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**PART A (THOUGHT PROVOKING)**

**Answer all the Questions. Each question carries 5 marks. (4Qx 5M= 20M)**

1. Discuss the concept of nihilism and its historical context. (CO:01 BL: Remember)
2. Explain Foucault's interpretation of Cynicism, particularly in relation to the concept of Apolis and the practice of negation. (CO:02 BL: Understand)
3. How does Joyce address the challenges of ethical skepticism, and what solutions or alternatives does he propose? (CO:03 BL: Understand)
4. Explain the core principles of existential nihilism. (CO:03 BL: Understand)

**PART B (PROBLEM SOLVING)**

**Answer all the Questions. Each question carries 10 marks. (3Qx 10M= 30M)**

5. Discuss the relationship between Nietzsche's concept of the anti-cosmos and Heidegger's interpretation of Nietzsche. (CO:01 BL: Apply)
6. Analyze the concept of Cynic Nihilism and its key characteristics. How does this form of nihilism compare to other forms, and what are its implications for individual behavior and societal norms? (CO:02 BL: Analyze)
7. Analyze the relationship between radical skepticism and epistemological nihilism in Sextus Empiricus' "Outlines of Pyrrhonism." How does Sextus Empiricus address the challenges of certainty and truth, and what does he propose as the practical outcomes of adopting a skeptical approach? (CO:03 BL Analyze)