

M.A. Examination, 2016
Semester-I
Philosophy
Course – IV
Epistemology (Western)

Time: 3 Hours

Full Marks: 40

Questions are of value as indicated in the margin.

Answer *any four* questions.

1. Discuss how the sceptics used the infinite regress of justification to support the view that we can never really have any justified true belief. Do all our beliefs require justification in terms of other beliefs? (5+5)
 2. In what sense is epistemology justificatory? Explicate in detail. (10)
 3. a) How do we reach “basic beliefs”? Make an assessment of Foundations theory in its light. (10)
or
b) Give an account of the tripartite theory of (propositional) knowledge. Explain, in this connection, why each of the three parts is individually necessary to knowing. (5+5)
 4. a) What is the coherentist theory of epistemic justification? Discuss in detail. (10)
or
b) What is a Gettier case and what do such cases show? Explain in detail. (10)
 5. How does Pollock defend direct realism? Discuss in detail. (10)
 6. a) Critically examine the presuppositions on which Gettier’s argument is based. (10)
or
b) Give an account of the reliabilist theory of epistemic justification. (10)
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