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63/1 (SEM-6) CC14/PHLHC 6146

2024

PHILOSOPHY

Paper : PHLHC 6146

***Philosophy of Language (Indian
and Western)***

Full Marks : 80

Pass Marks : 32

Time : Three hours

***The figures in the margin indicate
full marks for the questions.***

1. Choose the correct answer : ***(any six)***

1×6=6

(a) According to Nyaya Philosophy what is the relationship between intention and action ?

(i) Intention and action are identical

(ii) Intention determines action

(iii) Action determines intention

(iv) Intention and action are unrelated

(b) What term did Frege use to refer to linguistic expressions that have the same reference but different senses ?

- (i) Identity
- (ii) Sense
- (iii) Reference
- (iv) Sinn

(c) What is the primary focus of Austin's philosophy of language ?

- (i) Syntax
- (ii) Semantics
- (iii) Pragmatics
- (iv) Phenology

(d) According to Russell's theory of description, the sentence — "The present king of France is bold" is

- (i) meaningless
- (ii) true
- (iii) false
- (iv) indeterminate

(e) In Nyaya philosophy what is the term used to describe the meaning or content conveyed by words ?

- (i) Artha
- (ii) Shabda
- (iii) Pramana
- (iv) Vada

(f) What is Frege's view on the relationship between language and reality ?

- (i) Language constructs reality
- (ii) Language reflects reality accurately
- (iii) Language and reality are unrelated
- (iv) Language shapes reality

(g) What concept did Austin introduce to describe utterances that fail to achieve their intended illocutionary force ?

- (i) Felicity
- (ii) Perlocution
- (iii) Infelicity
- (iv) Constative

(h) What term did Russell introduce to describe phrases that purport to refer to objects that do not exist ?

(i) Incompleteness

(ii) Non-reference

(iii) Vacuousness

(iv) Denoting

(i) Which of the following not one of the main speech act categories identified by Austin ?

(i) Assertives

(ii) Expressive

(iii) Descriptive

(iv) Imperative

(j) In Naya's division of words, what category does the word "dhvani" (Sound) belong to ?

(i) Dravya

(ii) Guna

(iii) Karma

(iv) Samanya

2. Answer the following questions : **(any five)**

2×5=10

(a) What does contiguity mean ?

(b) What is the subject matter of jurisprudence according to Austin ?

(c) How many pramanas are admitted by Nyaya philosophy ?

(d) What is the main concern of Frege ?

(e) What does divisions of words mean in Nyaya's philosophy ?

(f) What is the gist of Austin's 'How to do things with words' ?

(g) What do you mean by verbal knowledge ?

3. Answer the following questions : **(any six)**

5×6=30

(a) According to Nyaya what are the four causes of verbal knowledge ?

(b) Write a short note on implication.

(c) Why does Nyaya School accept verbal testimony as a means of valid knowledge ?

- (d) What are the causes of contiguity? Explain briefly.
- (e) Write a short note on semantic competency.
- (f) What are the criteria within Nyaya philosophy for determining the intention of the speaker?
- (g) What is the relation of language with the world according to Frege?
- (h) What do you mean by denotative function of language?
- (i) What is verbal knowledge? Explain briefly.
- (j) How does Austin differentiate between constative and performative utterances?

4. Answer the following questions: **(any two)**

10×2=20

- (a) Explain Russell's critique of Frege's theory of meaning and reference.
- (b) Discuss Austin's theory of speech acts, including the distinction among locutionary, illocutionary and perlocutionary acts.

- (c) Explain the concept of verbal knowledge in Nyaya philosophy. What role does verbal knowledge play in the acquisition of knowledge?
- (d) What are various functions of language according to Austin?

5. Answer **any one** of the following question :
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- (a) What are various means of knowing the denotative function?
- (b) Discuss Frege's distinction between sense and reference. What are the implications of this distinction for understanding of meaning?
- (c) Explain Russell's theory of description. How does Russell distinguish between definite and indefinite description.