

# GENERAL PAPER I

Candidates should answer **THREE** questions

1. Is cooperation or competition the driving force guiding the evolution of society?
2. Discuss a concept in a language other than English that should be more widely known or better understood in the English-speaking world.
3. Should gender- and/or colour-blind casting be the norm in the performing arts?
4. Should NATO's policy in Eastern Europe have been different over the last 30 years?
5. Can a non-religious person fully appreciate religious art or literature?
6. What should children be taught about colonialism?
7. Has Britain become a multilingual society?
8. Can historical wrongs ever be righted?
9. Discuss the use and misuse of statistics.
10. Does it matter if a politician lacks integrity?
11. What can we learn from the study of fashion?
12. Can Formula One motor racing be justified in today's world?
13. Should we attempt to preserve biodiversity?
14. Write in praise of suburbia.
15. What determines if an animal product is ethical?
16. Should calories be declared on menus?
17. What separates superstition and faith?
18. What does it mean for Artificial Intelligence to be free from bias?
19. Discuss the role of improvisation in musical performance.
20. Have any new literary genres emerged in this century?

[OVER]

21. Why have e-books not killed print books?
22. Should we deactivate our social media accounts?
23. Should we colonise Mars?
24. Are we in denial about death?
25. What would the world look like without Einstein?
26. Defend whaling.
27. “I thought there was something wrong with the way the departments and majors were organized. Why were the different branches of literature categorized by geography and language, while sciences were categorized by the level of abstraction, or by the size of the object of study? Why wasn’t literature classified by word count? Why wasn’t science classified by country?” (ELIF BATUMAN). Why indeed?

## GENERAL PAPER II

Candidates should answer **THREE** questions

1. What are the major challenges in cultural heritage protection?
2. 'Fiction does not exist in ancient Greek and Roman literature.' Do you agree?
3. 'Classical Studies is a discipline still in the process of self-defining.' Discuss.
4. Why does the antiquities market still exist?
5. Is studying the history of economics more practically useful than studying the history of chemistry?
6. Do campaigners against inequality care too much about the richest and not enough about the poorest?
7. Does the rapid growth of online meetings and seminars show that their in-person counterparts were over-valued?
8. Is all fiction, or just bad fiction, autobiographical?
9. Can censorship have a beneficial influence on writing?
10. Is tragedy a genre?
11. "Valéry is a petit-bourgeois intellectual, of that there is no doubt. But not every petit-bourgeois intellectual is Paul Valéry" (JEAN-PAUL SARTRE). Discuss.
12. 'The poor are always with us.' Why?
13. Can a society ever be over-educated?
14. Are coastal cities more tolerant than those inland?
15. "And the simple step of a simple courageous man is not to take part in the lie, not to support deceit. Let the lie come into the world, even dominate the world, but not through me" (ALEKSANDR SOLZHENITSYN). Discuss.
16. Should judges be representative of the population?
17. Is the nation-state obsolete?
18. Should a political community be governed in the same way as a family?
19. What is the value in precision?

[OVER]

20. **EITHER:** Does the ability to think presuppose linguistic competence? **OR:** Does linguistic competence presuppose the ability to think?
21. Ought everyone to pursue the most morally valuable career possible for them?
22. “You can’t really change the heart without telling a story” (MARTHA NUSSBAUM). Discuss.
23. Is God gendered?
24. Should universities accept donations from oligarchs?
25. Should strip-searches be banned?
26. Should prisons be abolished?
27. Can a constitution be codified?
28. What is the biggest misconception about your field of study and why does it matter?