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**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS
2022/2023 ACADEMIC YEAR
FIRST YEAR FIRST SEMESTER
MAIN EXAMINATION**

**FOR THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION**

COURSE CODE: PBC 911 COURSE TITLE: CRITICAL THINKING

DATE: 03/08/2023

TIME: 8.00Am-11.00Am

INSTRUCTION TO CANDIDATES

- 1) Answer question **ONE** (Compulsory) and **ANY OTHER TWO** Questions
- 2) Candidates must hand in their answer booklets to the invigilator while in the examination room.
- 3) Credit is given for legibility, clarity and use of relevant examples
- 4) Question **ONE** is **40 marks** while question **2-5** carry **20 marks each**.
- 5) Clearly write your **Registration Number** on each answer sheet used

TIME:3 Hours

QUESTION ONE (40 MARKS)

- a) Fallacies are pitfalls into which any of us may tumble in our reasoning. Suggest how you can avoid the fallacies related to relevance and fallacies related to ambiguity in any argument. (10Marks)
- b) It is commonly true, that many problems are never solved because they are not recognized soon enough or not recognized at all. Propose the general procedure for applying critical thinking to identify an appropriate problem facing Sugar Companies in Kenya. (10 marks.)
- c) In the 1950s, Benjamin Bloom developed action verbs that demonstrate critical thinking that is still helpful to date. With examples, reflect on your daily work in the past one Month and identify specific circumstances where you applied each of the Blooms taxonomy verbs. (10 Marks.)
- d) **Classify the following statements as deductive or inductive?**
 - i. Based on a survey of 2200 randomly selected likely voters, 56.2% indicate that they will vote for the incumbent in the upcoming election. Therefore, approximately 56% of the votes in the upcoming election will be for the incumbent. (2 Marks)
 - ii. The majority rules in the House of Representatives. Either the Democrats or the Republicans will control the House of Representatives. As there are an odd number of representatives in the House, it follows that there is no way there will be a tie in the House of Representatives. (2 Marks)
 - iii. On a National Geographic map, no two adjacent nations appear shaded with the same color. Brazil is shaded green on this map, and it is a National Geographic map. Only two nations in South America are not adjacent to Brazil. So at most three South American nations on this map are shaded green. (2 Marks)
 - iv. No book in English begins numbering its pages on a left-hand page. This is a book in English, therefore it will begin its numbering on a right-hand page. (2 Marks)
 - v. It usually takes 2–3 days for a delivery to ship from the warehouse to your door via most major shipping services. You ordered on Tuesday morning, so it's safe to assume your package will arrive Thursday or Friday. (2 Marks)

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

- a) The popularity of the term critical thinking can be illustrated by a survey of college professors, in the United States Universities in 2022. The survey results indicated that 89 percent of them were teaching critical thinking as one of their primary objectives. With examples, discuss the characteristics of critical thinking (10 MKS)
- b) The ability to think, reason, and argue well is a developmental process from childhood to adulthood. Discuss the statement with examples (10 MKS)

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

- a) Barnes (1992) rightly observed that Man is the only animal that uses meanings to make sense of things and to understand. At the same time, man is the only animal whose thinking is often imprecise, vague, inaccurate, irrelevant, superficial, trivial, and biased. Discuss some of the barriers that affect man's critical and creative thinking abilities. 10 (Marks.)
- b) As Makau and Marty (2001) emphasized, "Whether within families, organizations, or nation-states, efforts to suppress or otherwise avoid addressing disagreements almost inevitably lead to even greater conflict". Suggest the multiple benefits that may motivate you to improve your arguing skills. (10 MKS)

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

- a) A worldwide study shows that there are behavioral shifts among consumers. 41% said that they are "increasingly looking for ways to save money." Consumers are largely brand-loyal but shop around for the best prices. Only 12% of consumers have traded-down to buy cheaper brands (such as bottled water), with 11% trading up (with products such as cosmetics). There has been a big shift towards online shopping. Proposed inference: Not all consumer behavior is concerned with saving money. Elaborate your answer whether it's True, Probably true, Insufficient data, probably false or False. (10 MKS)
- b) With examples, discuss how inductive reasoning is applied by individuals in in daily life. (10MKS)

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

- a) Critical thinkers face numerous biases. To make the right judgment, they have to combat source bias in several ways. Propose some of the strategies that you can apply to counter source base (10 MKS)
- b) Depending on issues facing critical thinkers, they may opt to employ deductive reasoning as one of the approaches to arrive at reliable solutions. With examples, discuss how deductive reasoning is applied. (10 MKS)

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