

PART - II:Q - NO - 2:INTRODUCTION:

Since the beginning of civilization humans had the quest to discover new things. They tried to know that reality was actually. Different sources were used to discover reality and ethics. Different methods had been employed to reach the ultimate reality. The methods evolved with time from rationalist school of thought to post modernist school of thought. Different philosophers used different methods, some tried to use religion and rational thinking, while others preferred the knowledge from senses as the true knowledge. Similarly, morality, ethics, and logic are also some of the prominent ~~components~~ components of philosophy.

# \* Different sources of knowledge

being consulted in the past:

In the past the following sources of knowledge were consulted:

⇒ Mythology:

It consisted of different myths, folklores and stories especially related to God or some supernatural power. It was not a reliable source of knowledge.

⇒ Religion:

Religion was the unquestionable source of knowledge that guided humanity in various aspects. As it was unquestionable, so people started to look for other sources, where reason could also be employed.

⇒ Philosophy:

Philosophy was considered the main source of knowledge earlier, as people utilized their reason, experiments, and several other things & as well in it.

=> Science:

It evolved from philosophy and focused on discovering descriptive laws of nature.

## \* PHILOSOPHY:

Philosophy originated from the root words philo which means love, and from sophy which means wisdom. In short, it means love for wisdom. It includes discovering the various realities of life. It deals with methods of discovering truth. It deals with morality and ethics. Finally, it comprises of the logic as well.

## \* BRANCHES OF PHILOSOPHY:

There are four main branches of philosophy which are being existed below:

=> Meta physics:

This branch of philosophy deals with the cosmos, discovering the outer world, and helps in finding the ultimately reality.

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⇒ Epistemology:

Epistemology deals with knowledge. It discovers the true knowledge, and also questions the existing knowledge.

⇒ Axiology:

Axiology deals with morality and ethics. It helps in finding moral values, and also tells about how to act morally in various circumstances.

⇒ Logic:

The logic part of philosophy deals with systematic arrangement of arguments and premises, in order to reach a valid conclusion.

## \* SCOPE OF PHILOSOPHY:

The scope of philosophy has widened to the extent that covers almost every aspect of life. Some of the main areas that philosophy deal with are being listed below:

## \* Cosmology:

Philosophy covers the areas of cosmology as well. It helps in discovering the outer atmosphere and Universe. It helps us getting knowledge related to God. It also helps us in discovering that from where and from which from this universe emerged, how it evolved with time, and what will be its ultimate fate.

## \* Reality:

It also helps in understanding realities of life. Like if a ~~person~~ <sup>person</sup> sees a tree outside a moving train, ~~the person~~ <sup>the person</sup> would think that the tree is moving rather than the train, but it is this philosophy which helps us understand that actually the train moves relative to ~~the~~ tree.

## \* True knowledge:

Philosophy also helps in getting the true knowledge. Earlier, people believed in rationality to reach the real truth. Then came empiricism, transcendentalism, intuition, and so on. In a nutshell, philosophy covers the various

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sources of knowledge as well.

\* Beauty:

Philosophy also helps and covers the field of beauty as well. It helps in recognizing what beauty is, why a thing is beautiful, and why does it appeal to individuals.

\* Ethics:

Philosophy also covers the areas of ethics and moralities. It helps in discovering real moral values, and it also covers the various sources of morality. It clearly distinguishes between right and wrong, and a what person ought to do in various circumstances.

\* Logic:

It also covers the area of logic. It is through logic that people reach a valid conclusion, by systematic arrangement of arguments and premises.

## \* CONCLUSION:

In a nutshell, philosophy is love for wisdom and knowledge. There had been several sources of knowledge but philosophy had prevailed over all of them because of its scope. It not only covers cosmology, but it also covers the reality as well. Additionally, it helps in discovering true knowledge, beauty and ethics. Finally, it also covers the logic part as well.

Q-NO-3

## \* INTRODUCTION:

Through out the course of history, different philosophers have employed different methods to discover the true knowledge. In the start, Socrates used the Socratic method which involved breaking things into parts and questioning things in order to reach reality.

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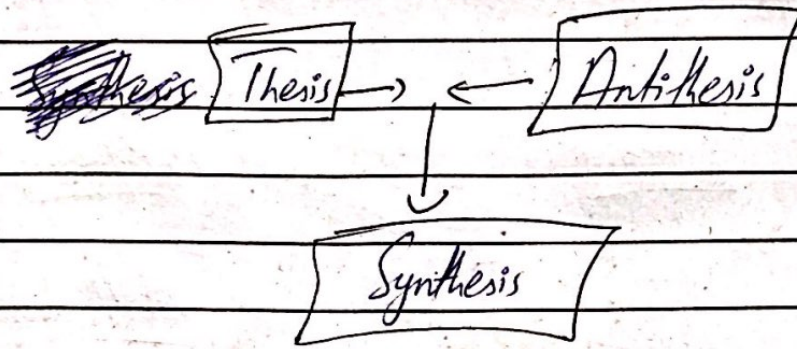
Then, came Plato, who used inductive method which generalized things from specific to general in order to reach the truth. Similarly, Aristotle used Deductive method which generalized things from general to specific, in order to reach a conclusion. Then came dialectical method of Hegel, in which various arguments are being exchanged in order to reach a final correct conclusion. So, various methods had been employed in history to discover the truth, but here ~~we~~ ~~at~~ the dialectical method of Hegel will be discussed.

## \* DIALECTICAL METHOD:

Dialectical method of Hegel involves exchanging arguments, and negating ideas in order to reach a valid conclusion. According to Hegel, first a thesis is being proposed by someone, then it is negated by an anti-thesis, and finally, the positive points of both are combined to form a synthesis.



## \* Diagrammatic Sketch of Dialectical Method:

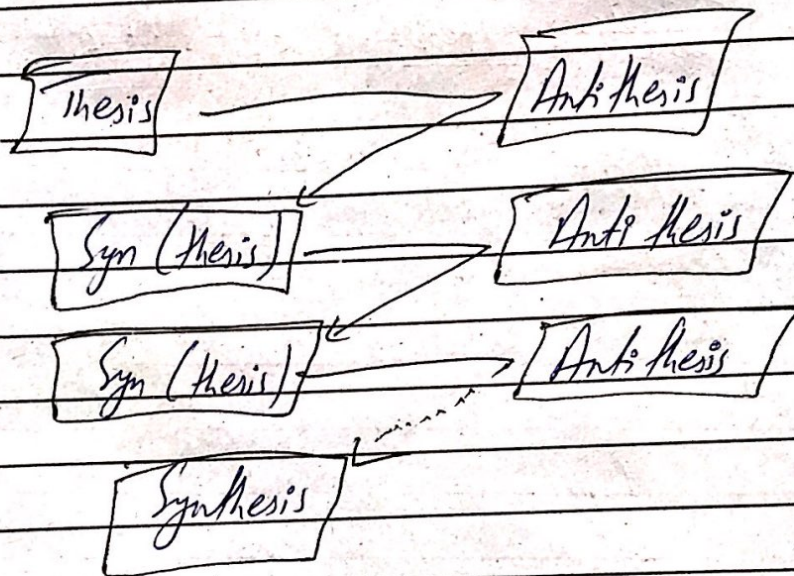


## \* Binarism in Dialectical Method:

Hegel proposed that human mind can understand things better, if it being divided into <sup>two</sup> parts. ~~unity~~ This division of things to parts was also proposed by Socrates and Aristotle as well. Hegel thought that when these two competing ideas compete with each other, it will lead to more refined idea. Thus according to him, an idea get refined only after being passed through the process of negation. He further told, that this refined idea will act as a thesis again, for another antithesis in future and the cycle will continue for ever.

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According to Hegel, this cycle will reach an end when a finally refined idea is being reached, which is being agreed by all, and it will not have any anti-thesis further.



## ★ Relevance with the world:

According to Hegel, the world has progressed so far because of <sup>clash of</sup> ideas. According to him, different thesis had struck with various anti-thesis in order to reach a refined version of ideas. This is further exemplified through the below sketch:

capitalism → ← Communism  
↓  
capitalism

democracy → ← monarchy  
↓

democracy → ← <sup>taxism</sup> democracy  
democracy

This in a way a justification of war.  
Hegel said that these clashes are  
necessary in order to reach a better and  
refined idea.

## \* Draws backs in Dialectical Method.

The various drawbacks in dialectical  
method are being entitled below:

### \* Justifies war:

Dialectical method justifies war  
in order to create new ideas. This is  
in a way posing threat to humanity.

### \* Was fought on material basis rather than ideas:

Karl Marx criticized Hegel that  
in the world, war are fought on  
the basis of material desires rather

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than

↑ difference of ideas.

\* Everything not necessarily divisible into two:

There are various things and ideas that ~~are~~ can not be divided into two parts easily.

\* Explains past rather than future:

Hegel's dialectical method helps in discovering things from past, but does not tell any thing about the future.

\* Does not tell, how to act in a certain dilemma:

It even lacks the required knowledge of how to act in certain situations. It also discovers previous clashes.

\* CONCLUSION:

In a nutshell, Hegel's dialectical method had given a new perspective to the world. It was really amazing for the world to discover that newer and refined

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④

ideas emerged from the clash of two competing ideas. He depicted the world in true sense, and discussed how capitalism and democracy evolved out, after clashing with several anti-thesis. Finally, like every other methods, it ~~has~~ also has some shortcomings. However, ~~due to its limited~~ <sup>having a few</sup> shortcomings, does not mean that people would not appreciate the great efforts of Hegel in discovering this method.

Q - No - 4.

## INTRODUCTION:

Through out the course of history, several methods had been proposed to act morally. Different philosophers had defined morality differently. They distinguished the right acts from wrong acts based on different criterias. Kant tried to link moral acts based on good

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intention and good will. Kant proposed deontological ethics. Similarly, Bentham proposed Utilitarian ethics based on Act utilitarianism. However, Mill preferred rule utilitarianism over act utilitarianism of Bentham. Here, utilitarianism of Bentham and Mill will be discussed. Additionally, the various points on which Mill criticized Bentham will also be discussed.

## Bentham's concept of Act

### Utilitarianism:

Bentham considered all those acts as moral and morally justified which resulted in good results. It is also called as Consequentialist theory. It does not cater for the intentions or the situation; the only thing that matters according to it, are the results. If the results are good, then the action is morally justified, and if the

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results are bad, then it means <sup>that</sup> the actions are not morally justified.

Example:

Suppose, a person is helping an old man in crossing the road. If he had successfully helped him in crossing the road, then only in that case, his action would be morally right. In every other condition, his action would be considered morally wrong, no matter what his intentions were or how much effort did he put in it.

## Mill's concept of Rule

### Utilitarianism:

Mill preferred, <sup>acting</sup> according to certain rules as more ~~more~~ preferable and morally right, as compare to seeing the consequences of actions. According to him, only those actions are morally justifiable which are in accordance with certain rules of a

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country or an area. Whereas, the actions taken against certain rules ~~are~~ considered as morally wrong by Mill.

\* Examples  
If a person stops on red traffic signal, then this act is morally right as it is in accordance with the rules of the country. Every other action then that is considered as morally wrong by Mill.

\* Points on which Mill agrees with Bentham.

The various points on which Mill agrees with Bentham are being enlisted below:

\* Maximizing Benefit for all:

Mill agrees with Bentham on the point that morally right actions are those which results in maximum benefit for maximum people.

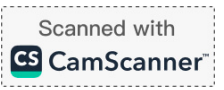


\* Reducing pain for maximum people:  
 Mill also agrees with Bentham on this point that morally right actions shall reduce the pain for maximum people.

\* Points on which Mill has disagreed with Bentham

The several points on which Mill disagreed with Bentham are being enlisted below:

\* Justifying actions based on Results:  
 Mill criticized Bentham on this point of his Act Utilitarianism, that actions should be based on results. Mill says that several actions might not be successful, and resultantly might not result in good results, but still that does not mean that those actions are morally wrong. Example of this could be, a man trying to help another old man in crossing the road, but due to certain reasons he



would be successful in it and the old man met with accident. Mill says that this doesn't mean that his helping action was morally wrong.

\* Results could justify wrong acts:  
 Mill criticized Bentham that due to results, a person would act immoral and only due to its better results, his action would be justified. Example of this could be a man robbing a bank and distributing that money in poor. Although it is resulting in benefit of poor, but this doesn't justify his action.

## \* Conclusion:

In a nutshell, every theory has certain positive and certain negative points. Similarly, the theories of both these philosophers have various plus points and certain negative points. Bentham tried to justify an act based on its good results, while Mill advocated to follow certain rules. The ultimate synthesis of this would be that best

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The rules of a country are being developed based on its consequences, and then it shall be made compulsory for all to follow, in order to ensure maximum benefit for all.

Q-NO-6:

## \* INTRODUCTION.

Different philosophers had tried to define morality in different ways. Based on their circumstances and background, every philosopher tried to define different criterias for morality. Some considered intention as basis for justifying morally correct actions. Others preferred consequences to define morally justified actions. However, Hume focused more on seeing the content in order to defined a morally justified action. For him morality is nothing.

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but subjective and contextual in nature.

## \* BACKGROUND:

Faust, Kant used to prefer deontological ethics. He preferred good intentions as a sole criteria to justify morally right and wrong actions. Then came Bentham, who proposed act utilitarianism, and preferred the results as the sole criteria to justify an act as morally right. Similarly, Mill proposed rule utilitarianism, in which he considered only those actions as morally right, which were in accordance to certain rules of a country. All these theories, had several advantages and disadvantages. However, the theory being proposed by Hume, considered morality as subjective and context dependent.

## \* How morality is subjective according to Hume:

According to Hume, the human feelings are being influenced by various reasons, due to which it sees actions differently. A person believing in religion will consider different actions as morally, whereas an atheist would prefer different actions as morally right. Similarly, if an action results in a bad result or consequences for a person, he might consider it as wrong; but that similarly action which is resulting in benefit for the other person, would be morally justified for the person who is benefitting from it.

## \* How morality depends on

### Content:

Seeing the content and background information is very important for Hume,

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as it helps in reaching the right decision. It helps in better understanding of morally right or wrong act. For example, a person is running in front of Ali, suddenly a police fires at him and kill him. Ali would definitely that police had done injustice with that person, and would consider the action of police as morally wrong as everyone has the right to live. However, if Ali is informed about the various injustices that person had done, and then tried to escape the police as well, then surely Ali would consider that action of police as morally justified. Hence, for Hume, ~~the~~ same action can be morally right for some people and morally wrong for others, depending on the content.

## \* Conclusion.

In a nutshell, Hume had tried to explain morality like several other philosophers. For Hume, morality is subjective and content dependent. It depends on the mood,

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school of thought, and several other things of a person, which affects his decision of making an action right or wrong morally. Similarly, without knowing the content of situations, people might fail in correctly deciding and declaring an action as morally right or wrong.