

Q.No.2

I INTRODUCTION.

Philosophy is a broad subject that includes the study of questions relating to mind, reason, knowledge, existence etc. It is a greek word that translates into 'love for wisdom'. philosophy is deep inquisitiveness of human mind that aims primarily at knowledge. It is one of the oldest method of gaining knowledge, that is co-existence with human civilisation. The scope of philosophy is quite vast. It includes subjects of pure theory like Metaphysics, epistemology, aesthetics. It also encompasses subject of practical nature like ethics and political science. Philosophy is a broad subject, with its scope ranging over multiple areas of study.

II Philosophy:

II.a. Defination:

Philosophy deals with general questions that relates to various fundamental subjects.

It can be defined as "the study of general and fundamental questions, such as those about existence, reason, knowledge, values, mind and language."

— Stanford encyclopedia of philosophy.

II.b. Literal meaning of word:

The word philosophy has been derived from greek words 'philos' and 'sophia'. Philos means love and sophia means wisdom. The subject implies love for wisdom.

II.c. Nature of philosophy:

Philosophy is the expression of deep inquisitiveness of human mind. Its proponents have an eager mind to learn about various fundamental subjects. As plato has said:

Philosophy deals with the knowledge of eternal, of the essential nature of things."

— plato

II.d. Aim of philosophy:

As the nature suggests, the aim of philosophy is to inquire ^{into} nature. By inquiring the deeper nature of things, it aims to assemble knowledge regarding them.

Bernard Russell defines this best, "Philosophy, like all other studies, aims primarily at knowledge."

— Bernard Russell.

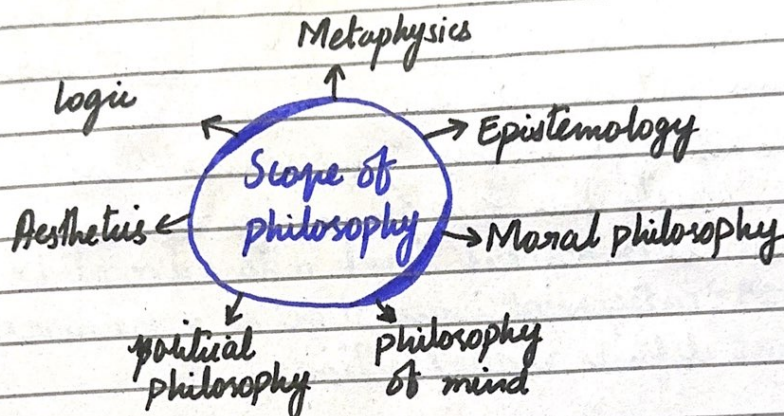
Oldest method of study:

philosophy is one of the oldest method of study. It is co-existence with human civilisation. One found works of philosophy by various ancient civilisation. It is

one of the oldest method of study. Philosophy can be called mother of all subjects.

"Philosophy is the science of sciences."
— Auguste Comte

III. SCOPE OF PHILOSOPHY:-



III.a. Metaphysics:

Metaphysics deals with the fundamental nature of reality, existence and universe. It is one of the most common subject dealt with in philosophy. Many ancient and medieval philosophy discussed metaphysics in their work. For example, Aristotle's first philosophy which examines the concept of being, nature of objects and their properties.

III.b. Epistemology:

Epistemology deals with nature and scope of knowledge. As the aim of philosophy is to acquire knowledge, epistemology is a significant field of study. Various philosophy

have their own conception regarding knowledge. For instance, Plato defined knowledge as 'justified true belief'.

III.c. Moral philosophy:

Moral philosophy explores the question of human conduct and morality. The international human rights law and justice are built upon ethics. Without this subject, human societies cannot operate. Some philosopher have dealt with this subject and famous among them is Immanuel Kant, who advocated for 'categorical imperative' as a framework that defines moral action.

III.d. Logic:

Logic is significant field of study, dominant in modern times. It studies the principles of valid argumentation and reasoning. For instance, Aristotle's theory of Syllogism, which developed the formal logic.

III.e. Aesthetics:

Aesthetics deals with beauty and art. It explores why and how one finds the thing beautiful. It has been significant field of study in medieval times. Even in modern times, art is often studied field. Immanuel Kant in 'critique of judgement' explore the concept of sublime and beauty in nature and art.

III.f. Political philosophy:

Political science, much studied study, is derived from political philosophy. Its contents are considered important not just to ancient societies but for today's states as well. It deals with study of nature of governance, authority, human rights and justice. John Locke, advocated for natural rights and social contract, profoundly influencing modern thought.

III.g. Philosophy of mind:

Philosophy of mind investigates the nature of mind, consciousness and its relation with the body. As famous philosophy has said

"Philosophy is science and criticism of cognition" — Immanuel Kant

IV CONCLUSION:

To sum up, Philosophy is defined as subject that deals with general questions related to various fundamental subjects. The scope of philosophy is far extended. It deals with every subject of academia. Although it became a separate field of study now but all other fields of study are derived from philosophy.

Q.No. 3

I. INTRODUCTION:

Dialectical method is a well known method of famous philosopher Hegel. This method is a triadic structure that consists of thesis, antithesis and synthesis. The initial idea is thesis, which contain inherent contradiction. In response to this contradiction arises antithesis. Resultantly, synthesis is formed from the resolution of contradiction. This method has been applied to history, arguing that the history progress through this method. However, it has been criticized for number of reasons. It is complex and obscure, lacking the empirical evidence. It ignore the material factors, emphasizing alot on ideas. Furthermore it implies historical determinism. Dialectical method is a famous method but there has been much criticisms to it.

II. DIALECTICAL METHOD:-

II.a. Thesis: Initial Idea:

The dialectical process starts with the thesis. Thesis is an initial ideas possessing inherent contradictions. This is the stage where ~~the~~ moment is stable, though idea possess inherent contradictions.

II.b. Antithesis: Development of contradiction.

Antithesis arises in response to contradiction in Thesis. This drives the dialectical process forward. It reacts to the contradiction in Thesis, preserving some of its contents and negating others.

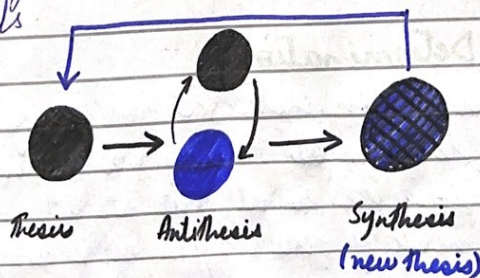
II.c. Synthesis: transformation of contradiction:

The conflict between thesis and antithesis is resolved after their contact. This resolution results in new idea called synthesis. Synthesis is idea of higher level that incorporates the truth of both thesis and antithesis.

Example

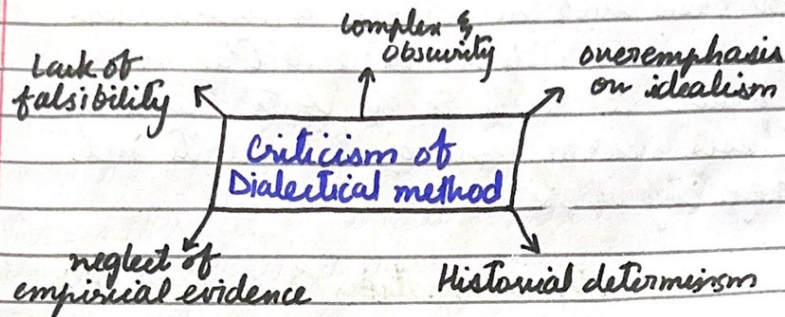
II.d. ~~Example~~ of this method:-

Hegel in his book 'Phenomenology of Spirit' explains the example of this method by **Master slave relationship**. The initial stage is thesis where master dominates the slave. In response to this antithesis is formed, where labourer desire recognition from his master. This leads to synthesis where both recognise each other as equals.



Hegel's Dialectic

III CRITICISM:-



III.a. Complex & Obscurity:

The most common criticism to dialectical method is complex writing and obscure ideas. It is difficult for readers to understand and grasp the concept. Resultantly, the idea couldn't be applied.

III.b. Neglect of empirical evidence:

Critics contend that theory lacks any form of empirical evidence, relying solely on idealism. This limits the application of theory, in natural sciences specifically, where empirical evidence is needed to progress research forward.

III.c. Historical Determination:

It has also been criticised for being historical determinist. It does not account for unexpected events that would result in history, providing a more simplified view of history.

III.d. Overemphasis on idealism:

Marx has criticized it for overlooking material conditions. It relies heavily on idealism, arguing that the ideas drive the history forward. It completely ignores the material conditions that play role in the development of history.

III.e. Lack of Falsifiability:

In science, the credibility of any theory can be proven by falsifiability. The dialectic theory of Hegel is not subject to falsifiability. Thus, science discredit such theory at once.

IV CONCLUSION:

To conclude the discussion, Hegel dialectic method is triad structure with formation of synthesis, by interacting of thesis and antithesis. Though, his theory has gained popularity but it has been criticized for various factors largely on basis of its dependence on idealism.