**Philosophy Assessment: Epistemology**

**Complete this assessment within one hour. If you don’t complete all of the questions in that time then don’t worry about it. You may use your books but do not overthink stuff. If you have good knowledge of the specification you will be able to answer these questions without reference to anything.**

**The boxes show how much you should be writing for each question (in calibri size 11).**

**There is no pressure for this assessment. Just try your best.**

1. Which of the following categories does the statement “I doubt that Doris will be on time for breakfast” fit into? Explain why you have selected your answer(s) and why the statement does not fit into the other categories **(3)**
   1. Philosophical scepticism
   2. Normal incredulity
   3. Local scepticism
   4. Global scepticism
2. Give an example of local philosophical scepticism and explain why it is not normal incredulity and why it is not global scepticism **(3)**
3. Which of the three issues with Berkeley’s idealism do you think is the strongest and why? **(3)**
4. Explain why someone would agree with direct realism **(2)**
5. What does Zagzebski mean when she says that the JTB will always leave a gap between the justification and the truth? **(2)**
6. How does virtue epistemology attempt to overcome the issue raised in question 4? **(2)**
7. Read the following exam answer

*Outline the argument that indirect realism leads to scepticism about mind-independent objects and explain one response to it. (9)*

*Indirect realism states that material objects exist independently of the mind but we perceive them indirectly. When we perceive an object like a chair we are perceiving an actual mind-independent chair but we do so indirectly via sense data. Sense data are the immediate objects of perception which are mind dependent but they represent mind independent things. Therefore, we do not actually perceive objects like chairs directly, only indirectly via sense data. Locke says that it is primary qualities which resemble the actual object because these are inseparable from the object. On the other hand, secondary qualities, such as colour, do not resemble the actual object. Many think this view can lead to scepticism.*

*However, Locke argues against this and says that indirect realism still stands because our sense data are predictable. For example, we know that when we write something on paper marks will appear when we touch pen to paper. This shows that we do not need to be sceptical about mind independent objects. They do exist and we do perceive them. However, Locke doesn’t outright prove this to be the case. He gives evidence against scepticism but cannot fully rule it out because we cannot get behind the veil of perception. In conclusion I think that indirect realism does inevitably lead to scepticism.*



1. Suggest a mark for the above answer using the mark scheme **(1)**
2. Outline 3 WWWs and 3 EBIs with the answer above **(6)**
3. Write an answer to the following exam questions:
4. Explain a reliabilist response to the challenge of scepticism **(5)**
5. Explain the argument from illusion **(5)**

1. Create a detailed plan for the following 15 mark question. Make sure you show how the different components link together and how they link to your line of argument. **(6)**

*Can we know the existence of God a priori?*

Out of 38