

University of Malta

Faculty of Theology

May/June 2010 Session of Assessments

**PHI 1021 Philosophical Anthropology I: Perception/
PHI 1022 Philosophical Anthropology II: Language**

Monday 31st May 2010

Time 6.00-8.00

Section A

1. The essential plant–life functions — assimilation, growth and reproduction, that are proper to all animals, are also found in man. However man remains essentially different from other living organisms. Explain.
2. Jillyn Smith argues that “for most of human history, the senses were our only detection mechanisms for the reality of the external environment.” Discuss.
3. Descartes argued that we cannot rely on the senses for information. On the contrary for him reason is the unique path to knowledge. Kant, eventually, while vindicating the authority of reason, sought to reappraise the role of the senses in the process of gaining knowledge. Explain.

Section B

4. The analysis of a joke, according to Fr. Peter Serracino Inglott, can well serve us to understand the nature of language. Do you agree?
5. Man is endowed with that very special tool which is language. Discuss.
6. Language is not just a matter of convention, but it must also reflect reality. How far is this statement correct?