

Perception

Direct realism

P1:	All objects are composed of matter, which gives them properties such as size, shape, texture, smell, taste and colour.
P2:	We use our senses to perceive these objects directly.
C:	The external world is as we perceive it.

Argument from perceptual variation

P1:	There are variations in perception.
P2:	Our perception varies without corresponding changes in the physical objects we perceive.
C1:	Properties physical objects have and the properties they appear to have are not identical.
C2:	What we are immediately aware of in perception is <u>not</u> exactly the same as what exists independently of our minds.
C3:	We do not perceive physical objects directly.

Argument from illusion

P1:	We perceive something having some property, F
P2:	When we perceive something having some property F, then there is something that has this property.
P3:	In an illusion, the physical object does not have the property F
C	Therefore, what has the property F is something mental, a sense-datum.

Argument from hallucination

P1	In a hallucination, we perceive something having some property F.
P2:	When we perceive something having some property F, then there is something that has this property.
P3:	In hallucinations we don't perceive a physical object at all
C:	Therefore, what we perceive must be mental – sense-data.

The time lag argument

P1:	It takes time for light waves, or sound waves, or smells, to get from physical objects to our sense organs.
P2:	We can perceive something even after it ceases to exist (e.g. distant stars).
C:	We aren't perceiving physical objects directly.

Indirect realism

P1:	We perceive physical objects which are mind-independent.
P2:	But we do so via, or in virtue of, perceiving mind-dependent sense-data.
P3:	Sense-data are caused by and represent physical objects.
C:	We perceive sense-data immediately, and physical objects indirectly.

The external world as the best hypothesis. Russell

P1	Either physical objects exist and cause my sense-data or physical objects do not exist nor cause my sense-data.
P2:	I can't prove either claim is true or false.
C1:	I have to treat both claims as hypotheses.
P3:	The hypothesis that physical objects exist and cause my sense-data is better.
C2:	Physical objects exist and cause my sense-data

Idealism

P1:	Each sense perceives particular types of qualities.
P2:	When we perceive physical objects, we don't perceive anything in addition to primary or secondary qualities.
P3:	Everything we perceive is either a primary or secondary quality.
P4:	Both primary and secondary qualities are mind-dependent.
C:	Nothing that we perceive exists independently of our mind: the objects of perception are entirely mind-dependent.

Master argument

P1:	We cannot conceive of a mind-dependent object.
P2	To conceive of a mind-dependent involves thinking about it, and therefore it becomes mind-dependent.
C1:	The idea of a mind-independent object is contradictory
C2:	Any thought of an object outside of any mind can only take place in the mind.
C3:	Only mind-dependent objects exist.

What is direct realism? What is indirect realism? What is perceptual variation? What is a Primary quality?

What is a Secondary quality? What is perceptual variation? 3 marks

Outline and explain Berkeley's idealism and explain how it leads to solipsism. 5 marks

Explain the distinction between primary and secondary qualities. 5 marks.

Briefly explain direct realism AND Explain how the 'argument from illusion' can be used to argue against this view. 5 Marks.

Explain why for Locke extension is a primary quality. 5 marks Briefly explain Berkeley's master argument. 5 marks

Briefly explain direct realism AND explain how the 'argument from hallucination' can be used to argue against this view 12 Marks.

Are direct realists right to claim that the immediate objects of perception are mind-independent? 25 marks

Are indirect realists right to claim that immediate objects of perception are mind-dependent? 25 marks

Is Berkeley right in claiming the immediate objects of perception are mind-dependent? 25 marks

Is Russell right in claiming that the external world is the best hypothesis? 25 marks

**Possible
exam
questions**