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PHILOSOPHY 201: INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY

SECTION 1: PROF. E.S. KASSAB

Final Examination: Wednesday, February 7, 1996

at 2:00 p.m. in W.H.C.R.

TIME LIMIT: TWO HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: Write an essay on **ONE** of the following topics.

- I. (a) Rorty says that pragmatism "*is the doctrine that there are no constraints on inquiry save conversational ones.*" Explain this statement and relate it to the other main ideas of Rorty's pragmatism.
- (b) Which common view to Rorty and Rawls does this statement represent? Discuss.
- (c) Would you like to think of yourself in Rortyan terms? Explain.
- II. (a) What is the function of philosophy and what is the function of language in philosophy according to James, Russell, Carnap, Wittgenstein and Rorty?
- (b) Present their view(s) of truth, compare it (them) to other theories of truth and say which one of these views you find most acceptable. Explain why.
- III. (a) What is Trebilcot's evaluation of the argument from nature in the debate around communal values?
- (b) What is Rorty's stand on this matter? Explain fully.
- (c) What is your own view?