On the day and time appointed for the final exam (May 10 from 6 to 7:50 pm), you will be asked to write a 250 word answer to one or two questions of your choice from the list of questions below. (The choice of one or two is also up to you.) You will be asked to work from memory, with no notes or materials. You will also be asked to answer 10 short objective questions. The essay section as a whole will be worth 2/3 of the exam and the objective questions 1/3.

1. Consider the dialogues the *Parmenides*, *Philebus*, and *Sophist*. How do the latter two dialogues address the difficulties with the Forms raised in the first?

2. How does the superiority of the mixed life over either the life of pure pleasure or the life of pure knowledge structure the final ranking of the components (“ideas” or “possessions”) of a human life in the *Philebus*?

3. What do you think is the relation between the beautiful and the good in Diotima’s speech in the *Symposium*?

4. Explicate the myth of the *Phaedrus* (the image of the soul in Socrates’ second speech) with respect to the soul, the forms, the relationship of the soul and the forms, the law of destiny, and the meaning of human erotic love.

5. Keeping in mind that Socrates in the *Cratylus* appears to refute both sides of the question whether correctness of names is by nature or by convention, and that both sides initially assume that the names of things reveal their natures, what do you think is the overall import of the dialogue?

6. In form, the *Theaetetus* is an elenchic dialogue, having no constructive outcome. Furthermore, a lot of the dialogue is spent on a digression from the main question of what knowledge (*episteme*) is, namely on the question of what false opinion is. What is your interpretation of the overall import of the dialogue?

7. Sketch the solution in the *Sophist* to the problem of defining true and false discourse.

8. For the *Euthyphro*, *Apology*, *Statesman*, *Alcibiades* I, *Laches*, *Lysis*, *Meno*, or *Hippias Major*: what do you think is one of the most important points that the reader should come away with after reading the dialogue?

9. For Greek mythology and Plato: expound an important aspect of Plato’s (or Socrates’) use of Greek myth to expound his philosophy.

10. For *Republic* I: For one of Thrasy machus’ assertions (either that justice is the interest of the stronger or that injustice is better than justice) show how Socrates derives a contradiction from the answers elicited from Thrasy machus.

11. For the *Timaeus* and *Critias*: Of course there is much missing from Plato’s account of the great war between Athens and Atlantis. But from the clues Plato has left us in the *Timaeus* and extant fragment of the *Critias*, what do you think is the philosophical point of this story?