

PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part IA

Friday 22 May 2009

13.30 to 16.30

Paper 1

METAPHYSICS AND PHILOSOPHY OF MIND

Answer **three** questions only.

Write the number of the question at the beginning of each answer. If you are answering an either/or question, indicate the letter as well.

STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS

20 Page Answer Book x 1

Rough Work Pad

**You may not start to read the questions
printed on the subsequent pages of this
question paper until instructed that you
may do so by the Invigilator**

- 1 Does the rationality of induction depend on its reliability?
- 2 Can you know that you are answering this question without knowing that you are not a brain in a vat?
- 3 **Either** (a) Is it more implausible that mental states have physical effect than that physical states have physical effects?
Or (b) Can you prove that the desk on which you are writing does not have a mind?
- 4 If the correct criterion of personal identity is a bodily one, must one be a physicalist about the mind?
- 5 What is indeterminism? Is it true?
- 6 Are there any limits to what an omnipotent God can do, or to what a benevolent God can allow?
- 7 'Fatalism is true, since the idea that we can change the past or the future is logically incoherent.' Discuss.
- 8 'The existence of time requires the possibility of change, not actual change.' Discuss.
- 9 **Either** (a) Do objects have causal powers independently of our taking them to do so?
Or (b) In what sense, if any, are causes sufficient for their effects?
- 10 **Either** (a) What has resentment to do with freedom?
Or (b) 'It would be necessary and correct to hold people morally responsible for their actions even if determinism were true.' Discuss.
- 11 Can one doubt the existence of all or some of one's own mental states?

END OF PAPER