PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part IA

Wednesday 30 May 2007 09.00 to 12.00

Paper 4

SET TEXTS

Answer three questions only, which must be chosen from at least two sections.

Write the number of the question at the beginning of each answer. If you are answering an either/or questions, 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
SECTION A  Plato, *Meno*

1. What kind of answer is Socrates after when he asks 'What is virtue?'? Why does he conceive the quest as he does?

2. What is Meno's paradox, and how is the theory of recollection meant to solve it?

3. 'Can virtue be taught?' Critically discuss Socrates's answer.

4. How is Plato's use of the dialogue form in the *Meno* related to the philosophical content of the work?

SECTION B  Hume, *Dialogues Concerning Natural Religion*

5. Why do you think Philo sounds so concessive to the argument to a designer in the final part of the *Dialogues*?

6. What response is made to Cleanthes's comparison of the order and design in the world to the existence of a library in part 3? Is the response adequate?

7. 'Our experience, so imperfect in itself, and so limited both in extent and duration, can afford us no probable conjecture concerning the whole of things.' Discuss.

8. **Either** (a) What is Philo's account of the source of evils in the world? Is it defensible?

   **Or** (b) Why does 'the problem of evil' take a more pointed form for Cleanthes than for Demea?

SECTION C  Mill, *On Liberty* and *The Subjection of Women*

9. Is Mill right that freedom of speech is necessary for truth?

10. **Either** (a) Does Mill's harm principle exclude legitimate paternalism?

    **Or** (b) How, according to Mill, is the family relevant to sex equality? Are his arguments convincing?

11. 'There are no means of finding what one person or many can do, but by trying.' Discuss with reference to either *On Liberty* or *The Subjection of Women*, or both.

12. Critically assess Mill's attitude to custom and opinion. Answer with reference to either *On Liberty* or *The Subjection of Women*, or both.

END OF PAPER