

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 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**

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