

PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part IA

Wednesday 27 May 2009

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.

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, if anything, does the slave boy demonstration prove?
- 2 What materials does Plato in the *Meno* offer for thinking that knowledge is preferable to true opinion?
- 3 Explain the role of Socrates' account of the non-virtuous sons of the virtuous father in the main argument of the *Meno*.
- 4 Is Socrates a teacher of virtue? If so, has he taught Meno?

SECTION B Hume, *Dialogues Concerning Natural Religion*

- 5 'It was especially artful of Hume to play Cleanthes off against Demea.' Discuss.
- 6 'Hume presents no defensible version of the argument from design.' Discuss.
- 7 What, in your view, is the best explanation of Philo's concessions in Part XII of the *Dialogues*?
- 8 What role, if any, does Hume's empiricist account of causation play in Philo's scepticism?

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

- 9 What is Mill's harm principle and what limits does it place on the state?
- 10 Is Mill's defence of liberty in tension with his commitment to equality between the sexes?
- 11 'Mill should have recommended abolishing the family, not reforming it.' Discuss.
- 12 According to Mill, should we be free to choose our own poison?

END OF PAPER