

PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part IA

Wednesday 01 June 2011

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 If virtue is knowledge and Socrates claims to know nothing, he cannot be a teacher of virtue.
Discuss.
- 2 Does the slave boy learn geometry without being taught?
- 3 If Meno's paradox is not a paradox, what is it?
- 4 Has Socrates proved that the soul existed before birth?

SECTION B Hume, *Dialogues Concerning Natural Religion*

- 5 'But allowing that we were to take the operations of one part of nature upon another for the foundation of our judgment concerning the whole (which can never be admitted) ...' (part II) Why not?
- 6 'None but we mystics, as you are pleased to call us, can account for this strange mixture of phenomena.' (part X) Why?
- 7 Why do none of the words 'atheist', 'agnostic', or 'deist' quite fit Philo?
- 8 At the end does Pamphilus award victory to the right participant in the *Dialogues*?

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

- 9 'Mill's distinction between self- and other-regarding actions fails since there is no such thing as a purely self-regarding action.'
Discuss.
- 10 **Either** (a) Is Mill right to suggest that there is nothing valuable about custom?
Or (b) Is Mill right to suggest that we cannot learn from others' experience?

11 **Either** (a) 'The moral training of mankind will never be adapted to the conditions of the life for which all other human progress is a preparation, until they practise in the family the same moral rule which is adapted to the normal constitution of human society.' (Mill)
Discuss.

Or (b) 'I deny that anyone knows, or can know, the nature of the two sexes, as long as they have only been seen in their present relation to one another.' (Mill)
Discuss this claim and its relevance to Mill's general position.

12 Does liberty require that freedom of speech is absolute?

END OF PAPER