

PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part IA

Wednesday 26 May 2010

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 the 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 Is Socrates' demand for a definition of virtue reasonable?
- 2 Is the discussion of a geometrical example really relevant to a basically ethical enquiry?
- 3 Is Socrates right to think that virtue can be taught only if it is a form of knowledge?
- 4 Can one really account for the slave boy's knowledge of a geometrical proposition by asserting that he has 'remembered' something he learned before?

SECTION B Hume, *Dialogues Concerning Natural Religion*

- 5 In Section XII Philo urges that the difference between theism and atheism is merely verbal. What did he mean, and is he right?
- 6 The argument to design is often described as an argument by analogy. What does this mean, and is it a problem for Cleanthes?
- 7 Is the problem of evil the same for Demea and Cleanthes — or different in what ways? Does either have an adequate response to it?
- 8 Can Hume's doctrine of 'natural belief' be used to rescue the theist's position?

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

- 9 'The principle which regulates the existing social relations between the two sexes — the legal subordination of one sex to the other — is wrong itself, and now one of the chief hindrances to human improvement.' Discuss.
- 10 'It is good to have laws requiring the use of seat belts and forbidding the use of dangerous drugs. Therefore Mill's harm principle is wrong.' Discuss.

- 11 **Either** (a) Is Mill right to place so high a value on individuality?
 Or (b) Is Mill right to be so suspicious of custom?
- 12 What is the most fundamental value in Mill's work: liberty, utility, progress, equality, or something else?

END OF PAPER