

**PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part IA**

**PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION FOR PART IB OF THE PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS**

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Wednesday 30 May 2001

9 to 12

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Paper 4

SET TEXTS

*Candidates must answer **four** questions, which must be chosen from **at least two** sections.*

*Write the number of the question at the beginning of each answer.*

**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

- 1 Is Meno's paradox a serious philosophical problem or merely a trite sophism?
- 2 Critically discuss Socrates' argument for **one** of the following claims:
  - (a) no one desires bad things (77–78);
  - (b) virtue is knowledge (87–89).
- 3 How successfully does Socrates distinguish knowledge from true belief in the *Meno*, and why does he introduce the distinction into the dialogue?
- 4 'The whole of searching and knowing is recollection.' Does Socrates provide a successful defence of this claim in the *Meno*?

SECTION B

- 5 Why is the existence of evil a problem for Cleanthes? Does he deal with it adequately?
- 6 Expound and evaluate the strongest criticism of the argument from design that can be found in Hume's *Dialogues Concerning Natural Religion*.
- 7 '... the question can never be concerning the *being*, but only the *nature* of the Deity' (PHILO, *Dialogues Concerning Natural Religion*). Discuss.
- 8 'So dangerous it is to introduce this idea of necessity into the present question! And so naturally does it afford an inference directly opposite to the religious hypothesis!' (PHILO, *Dialogues Concerning Natural Religion*). Discuss.

SECTION C

- 9 Does Mill succeed in making a clear, persuasive distinction between self-regarding and other-regarding actions?
- 10 Are there any circumstances in which the government would be justified in forcing individuals 'for their own good' to do something they did not wish to do?
- 11 Is utilitarianism compatible with liberty?
- 12 Why, according to Mill, should a society encourage a plurality of lifestyles? Is Mill right?

END OF PAPER