

PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part IA

Wednesday 28th May 2014

09.00 – 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. 'But how could I know what sort of thing something is, when I don't know what it is?' Critically examine the role this principle plays in the dialogue.
2. Is the 'method of hypothesis' a helpful methodological innovation? Explain your answer.
3. Explain and assess Socrates' distinction between knowledge and true belief.
4. Is virtue a kind of knowledge?

SECTION B: Hume, *Dialogues Concerning Natural Religion*

5. Are Philo's criticisms of the design argument convincing?
6. Can the principle 'like effects, like causes' serve as a basis for natural theology?
7. Is it possible to reconcile the existence of evil with the existence of God?
8. Is Philo right that scepticism is the foundation of all true religion?

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

9. 'Complete liberty of contradicting and disproving our opinion, is the very condition which justifies us in assuming its truth for purposes of action; and on no other terms can a being with human faculties have any rational assurance of being right.' Discuss.
10. 'It is right for government to try and reduce the incidence of smoking, since no one in their right mind would want to smoke.' What would Mill have thought of this claim?
11. Now that we have equality between the sexes, can we assess the natural differences between men and women?
12. What was Mill's ideal form of marriage? Is this view plausible?

END OF PAPER