

**PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part IB**

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Friday 27 May 2011

09.00 to 12.00

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Paper 1

METAPHYSICS AND EPISTEMOLOGY

*Answer **three** questions only.*

*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**

- 1 'Since all perceptual experience involves psychological and physiological processing, it makes no sense to regard perception as "direct"'. Discuss.
- 2 'A Belief is justified if formed by a reliable method.' Discuss.
- 3 **Either** (a) Could truth be a form of correspondence?  
**Or** (b) Does a deflationary theory account for the normativity of truth?
- 4 **Either** (a) 'The definitive characteristic of any sort of experience as such is its causal role. But these causal roles which belong by analytic necessity to experiences are occupied in fact by certain physical states.' Discuss.  
**Or** (b) 'Pain might have been distinct from C-fibre stimulation. Pain might not have been distinct from pain. Therefore pain is distinct from C-fibre stimulation.' Discuss.
- 5 'A computer could never have a mind because a computer could never have experiences and experiences are essential to having a mind.' Discuss.
- 6 'All qualities are dispositions to produce experiences of some kind; therefore there is no clear primary/secondary quality distinction.' Discuss.
- 7 Can you coherently believe that eliminativism about beliefs is true?
- 8 What is a priori knowledge? Is there any?
- 9 Is there a compelling reason for thinking that either foundationalism or coherentism about justification must be true?
- 10 Is it a scandal to philosophy that nobody has proved that the external world exists?

END OF PAPER