PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS     Part IB

Friday 24th May 2013        13.30 – 16.30

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. Does perceptual experience essentially involve a relationship to a mind-independent object, to a mind-dependent object, or to neither of these? Why does the question matter?

2. Is knowledge analysable into believing truly and some further conditions?

3. ‘Sceptical scenarios threaten knowledge only in the seminar room.’ Discuss.

4. EITHER: a) Can my belief be justified by factors that are cognitively inaccessible to me?

   OR: b) Are externalists in a better position to respond to sceptical arguments?

5. Can functionalists account for mental causation?

6. Could a Martian – with a physical make-up completely different from ours – feel pain?

7. EITHER: a) ‘It is in principle impossible to explain how pain arises from purely physical properties and processes. Therefore, pain is not identical to any such properties or processes.’ Discuss.

   OR: b) What is the best argument against physicalism? Does it succeed?

8. EITHER: a) If we answer ‘yes’ to the question ‘Are there ways things might have been?’ are we committed to modal realism?

   OR: b) Why should anyone care what happens in other possible worlds?

9. ‘There are no primary qualities.’ Could this be true?

10. ‘We may know matters of fact a priori.’ Discuss.

END OF PAPER