

PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part IB

Friday 23rd May 2014

09.00 – 12.00

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 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**

1. Can we learn anything about the nature of reality from thinking about the nature of perceptual experience?
2. 'Anyone who sees must see something.' Discuss.
3. EITHER (a) Is there a defensible distinction between primary and secondary qualities?

OR (b) 'Material objects are not really coloured and hence ordinary discourse about colour involves widespread systematic falsehood.'
Discuss.
4. Can you be a modal realist without believing in concrete possible worlds?
5. What is counterpart theory? What reasons are there for and against it?
6. Do all sceptical arguments beg the question?
7. Is knowledge a natural kind, a social kind, or neither?
8. 'There is no epistemically significant distinction between a priori and a posteriori knowledge.' Discuss.
9. Is a brain in a vat justified in believing that it has hands?
10. When someone accepts a speaker's testimony, must they have positive reasons for thinking the testimony to be reliable?

END OF PAPER