

**PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part IB**

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Friday 30 May 2003

9 to 12

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Paper 6

PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE

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.*

**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 Are scientific theories anything more than predictive instruments?
- 2 Does it matter if there is no sharp distinction between observation and theory?
- 3 What determines whether a predicate is projectible?
- 4 Could observing a white rose ever help confirm that all ravens are black?
- 5 Is Popper's anti-inductivism too extreme?
- 6 Is Lakatos' 'methodology of scientific research programmes' a methodology?
- 7 'On Kuhn's view, new scientific theories get adherents by an irrational conversion process.' Discuss.
- 8 **Either** (a) Can the deductive-nomological theory of explanation be defended?  
**Or** (b) Is explanation simply the citing of causes?
- 9 What is the relation between laws and correlations?
- 10 Are probabilities objective or subjective?

END OF PAPER